

January 29, 2019

PO Box 324
302 E. Cole St.
Heyworth, IL 61745

Mr. Don Brown, Clerk of the Board, don.brown@illinois.org
Case Number R2018-20
IL EPA,
1021 N Grand Ave E, Springfield, IL

Dear Mr. Brown:

This letter is regarding case number R2018-20.

After several hearings before the Illinois Pollution Control Board (PCB) and a multitude of public comments in opposition to the pollution bailout, the PCB rejected former Governor Rauner's and Vistra's original draft rule. The PCB modified the draft to create a new proposal that has some improvements but still allows Dynegy-Vistra to increase its pollution in Illinois by 40%. With new leadership, I hope PCB and IEPA will reject this pollution bailout and instead move us forward with cleaner air and clean energy.

- The PCB's current proposal, although an important check to Governor Rauner's gutting of the original MPS protections, **still allows Dynegy-Vistra to increase its dangerous coal pollution by 40%. The MPS rate-based standard should be kept in place.**
- The PCB's current proposal contains important improvements, but it still weakens the MPS. With new state leadership, Illinois should be leading in environmental health protections for our residents by strengthening existing rules like the MPS to require polluting coal plants to install modern pollution controls.
- No Illinois community should be left with uncontrolled plants to be a sacrifice zone.

- These changes deliver a vital check to the Rauner/Messina backroom coal bailout.
- The new proposal can still lead to thousands of more tons of pollution than the original standard allowed for people in Peoria, and other locations where low income or minority communities live near power plants.
- The decision from the still allows for over a **40% increase** in sulfur dioxide pollution from what Dynegy-Vistra emitted in 2017.
- Instead of weakening air pollution rules for Texas-based corporations, Illinois needs to double-down on creating new jobs in our expanding clean energy economy, diversifying local economies in Central and Southern Illinois, and protecting the air we breathe.
- I stand with citizens and communities, like the Peoria/Pekin metro area, which have high asthma rates with the Edwards coal plant pollution hitting poor and minority neighborhoods the hardest, so any decision that allows the Edwards un-scrubbed plant to run more means more people will really suffer.
- This is very much an environmental justice issue that will have many, many years of harmful effects. We fear that what the Pollution Control Board proposed today will still lead to an increase in air pollution here.

Please take citizens' health more seriously than corporate profits.

Sincerely,

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From: [Haynes, Thomas](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#)
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Attachments: [IEPA Hearing testimony about Dynegy Vistra Air.docx](#)
