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OPEN LETTER

Pollution Control Board  
100 West Randolph Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

May 11, 2006

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Dear Board Members:

A birth announcement from my grandniece from Jackson County Illinois arrived in the mail about the same time as a Sierra Club article stating that one out of five women of childbearing age in the US had high levels of mercury. My concern is that my grandniece may have been eating bass from their farm pond only a stone's throw from Kinkaid Lake. where for years fisherman have been cautioned about the high level of mercury in bass. .

An article in the Saturday, April 29 issue of the Chicago Tribune citing mercury poisoning from coal-powered electric plants in the US says that Illinois is high in contributing toward this problem with Chicago being a "hot spot." And in the listing of the five highest mercury contributing plants in Illinois, the Dynergy Midwest plant at Baldwin (upwind from Jackson County and Kinkaid Lake) has the highest output of mercury.

Your board is being presented with a proposal from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to reduce mercury by 90% in our coal fired power plants. While Governor Blagojevich's support of this measure may be political, my own is personal, and I am sharing this letter with the newspapers in hopes that other concerned citizens of Illinois will e-mail that concern to you at [www.IPCB.state.il.us](http://www.IPCB.state.il.us).

I know that power companies will be fighting his plan, but I urge you to consider the environmental health as well as the economy of our state.

Sincerely

  
Ray Hoffmann

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