

Chicago Clean Power Coalition

American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago, Illinois Environmental Council, Illinois Public Interest Research Group, Little Village Environmental Justice Organization, Mercury Free Illinois, Pilsen/Southwest Side local of the Green Party, Sierra Club, and various citizens of Chicago.

Dear Pollution Control Board members,

PC-25

I am writing to urge you to support the IEPA mercury rule to reduce power plant mercury emissions by 90% by 2009.

Mercury is a known neurotoxin that already contaminates fish in all Illinois waters—and its main source is coal-fired power plants. Studies have shown that mercury exposure harms the human brain, heart, and immune system. Developing fetuses and children are especially at risk as even low-level mercury exposure can cause learning disabilities, developmental delay and decreased IQ.

Modern, inexpensive pollution controls can capture 90% of the mercury from power plants. IEPA's rule would simply require Illinois coal-fired power plants to use this technology. Please support the rule to make it clear that putting our children at risk for brain damage is not an acceptable cost of doing business in Illinois.

Sincerely,

PC 325.101

CLERK'S OFFICE

MAY - 8 2006

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