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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control BoardAttn: Mercury Rule  
100 W. Randolph St, 11-  
Chicago, IL 60601

Sierra Club, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board

PC#237

Nationally, forty-five states have health warnings for eating locally-caught fish due to mercury, these warnings include all fish and all waters. We call on you to address, by all means possible, the mercury pollution problem we face today.

One in six women of child-bearing age - over 630,000 - have blood mercury levels that can develop child.

Nationally, estimates on the economic impacts to taxpayers for the effects of mercury poison as \$43.8 billion dollars per year.

Technology exists that would protect the health and safety of our communities by reducing mercury from coal-fired power plants by 90% or more, and

Alternatives exist for most mercury-containing products or purposeful uses.

We need swift, comprehensive action to effectively deal with mercury pollution. We call upon actions to address this problem at all levels.

Respectfully yours,

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