

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE OF ILLINOIS

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- ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY
- HEALTH CARE LICENSES
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- VETERANS AFFAIRS



BRANDON W. PHELPS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
118TH DISTRICT

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DISTRICT OFFICE:
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HARRISBURG, IL 62946
618/253-4189
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January 24, 2013

Mr. John Therriault, Assistant Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601-3218

Mr. Therriault:

Re: Support for Midwest Generation's Requested Variance, Docket No. PCB 13-24

I would like to be on record with the Illinois Pollution Control Board as strongly supporting Midwest Generation in its request for short-term relief from state regulations governing emissions at its coal-fired power plants.

Midwest Generation is a major provider of jobs in Illinois; both at its plants and through the supplies and services it procures from Illinois companies. Of its 850 employees statewide, nearly 65 percent are union members. Additionally, hundreds of additional union members in the building and construction trades work on special projects in the plants, often installing new pollution controls.

As Chairman of the Illinois House Committee on Environment and Energy, I understand the need to protect the environment and work hard to do so everyday. Since acquiring the plants in Illinois in 1999, Midwest Generation has been committed to investing in environmental improvements – sometimes even before new government rules were in place.

Midwest Generation has requested permission for this variance to temporarily invest less in pollution controls than it otherwise would have during this two year period of the 12-year state emissions reduction program. The company is trying to manage through its financial restructuring and protect jobs and revenues.

It is important to note that even if granted the variance, Midwest Generation would still hit the state-mandated emissions targets by the end of the program in 2019. And, its emissions from 2013-16 would be less than projected when current state regulations were adopted.

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CLERK'S OFFICE

JAN 25 2013

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC#513

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I respectfully request that the Illinois Pollution Control Board grant Midwest Generation the time it needs to complete its corporate restructuring. Thank you for considering and registering my comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brandon".

Brandon Phelps

State Representative - 118th District

Member, Illinois House Committee on Environment and Energy