

January 23, 2013

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

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

JAN 25 2013

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Pct# 516

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

Dear Mr. Therriault:

As Executive Director of the Three Rivers Manufacturers' Association (TRMA), I am writing to register my support for Midwest Generation's request for temporary relief from certain State of Illinois air pollution control requirements. TRMA serves the needs of local manufacturers throughout Will and Grundy counties, including Midwest Generation's Joliet and Will County generating stations. TRMA is committed to protecting the economic wellbeing of the communities served by our members and the jobs of area residents who work at our facilities.

Midwest Generation's request is for a small amount of regulatory flexibility that can greatly benefit local economies and jobs. The company operates its Illinois plants safely and with integrity and is committed to supporting local communities surrounding its plants. It always does an excellent job of explaining its environmental responsibilities and compliance with state and federal regulations.

Obviously health and safety considerations come first and Midwest Generation has demonstrated time and again it understands its role as an engaged corporate citizen of our community. And like all communities across Illinois, we need business to provide jobs and contribute dollars to our economies and government budgets.

Like others in its industry, Midwest Generation is going through a tough time financially due to depressed energy prices at the same time it's required to make additional capital investments to meet new air quality regulations.

The temporary relief requested by Midwest Generation is intended to help the company manage through a period of financial hardship and hopefully avoid plants closings and layoffs. The Joliet and Will County generating stations provides 400 good jobs for local residents and much-needed tax dollars for government services and schools. It invests time, energy and dollars in our communities.

I urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to approve Midwest Generation's request.

Thank you for considering and registering my comment.

Sincerely,



Gerald Caamano
Executive Director
Three Rivers Manufacturers' Association