

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Edward Naureckas <enaureck@uchicago.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:09 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 15, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

As health professionals living and working in Illinois, we support the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007. By controlling power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and mercury, the CPS helps protect the air we breathe, the local fish we eat, and the wildlife and natural spaces we love from harmful pollution. We are concerned by the present effort to weaken the CPS before the Illinois Pollution Control Board. We urge you to vote against any action eroding requirements of the CPS standards.

Nationally, coal-fired power plants are the largest sources of SO₂ and mercury emissions, and are among the largest single source emitters of NO_x. Emissions of these air pollutants impact human and ecosystem health in a number of ways. High levels of SO₂ and NO_x can exacerbate respiratory symptoms in at-risk individuals (including children and the elderly), including asthma and COPD attacks. Exposure to mercury, a potent neurotoxin, can result in developmental delays (e.g. speech, motor, and memory skills) in children, and cause nervous system damage in adults. Wildlife and plant species are also impacted by the toxic effects of these pollutants, (e.g. reproductive impacts of mercury to wildlife, SO₂-derived acid rain damage to foliage).

In addition to the health impacts of directly regulated chemicals, SO₂ and NO_x are also precursors to other harmful pollutants such as fine particulate matter and ground-level ozone. Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles, and a very large proportion of measured PM_{2.5} results from the chemical transformation of SO₂ and various NO_x molecules in the atmosphere.

Numerous scientific studies and authoritative panels have identified PM_{2.5} as harmful to human health, with causal linkages found between short- and long-term exposures and premature mortality and cardiovascular effects. According to a 2010 report by the National Research Council, in 2005 alone, the annual health and related damages from particulate, NO_x, and SO₂ cost the public \$62 billion (2007 USD).

The vast majority (\$53 billion) of these costs were due to health damages associated with the transformation of SO₂ into PM_{2.5}.

As it stands, the CPS is designed to require substantial reductions in the emission rates of SO₂, NO_x, and mercury. These reductions will allow for substantial gains in the public health of our state and surrounding regions, particularly for vulnerable populations and areas that do not meet federal air quality standards. Notably, two coal-fired power plants regulated by the CPS are in areas that the Illinois EPA has identified as not attaining federal SO₂ standards. By maintaining the present CPS emission rate requirements for each of the pollutants, you will ensure that the health improvements behind the spirit of the law remain intact, and that the public does not bear the costs of polluter non-compliance. We applaud you for your decision to put the CPS in place six years ago, and we ask that you continue to show your support for this standard by voting against any effort to weaken its protective power.

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

FEB 19 2013

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC#5729

Sincerely,

Dr. Edward Naureckas
5841 S Maryland Ave
Chicago, IL 60637-1447
(773) 834-1750

Therriault, John

From: Wayne Howard <howardwayne@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:02 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

DO# 5730

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Wayne Howard
3725 Mustang Rd
Joliet, IL 60435-8811

Therriault, John

From: Laura Urbaszewski <lsurba@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:10 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Laura Urbaszewski
2940 N Kenneth Ave
Chicago, IL 60641-5335

PC# 5731

Therriault, John

From: Cheryl Lombardo <slombardo3@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:15 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5732

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Lombardo
4022 N Hamlin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618-2106

Therriault, John

From: William Weller <billweller28@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:37 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PCB#5733

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
William Weller
3838 W 124th Street
Apt. 2W
Alsip, IL 60803-1346

Therriault, John

From: Chip Perkins <wmspj@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:43 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5734

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Chip Perkins
2318 West Winnemac Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625-1818

Therriault, John

From: Laura Starr <lciresi@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 2:54 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PCB#5735

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Laura Starr
4001 Deyo Ave
Brookfield, IL 60513-1832

Therriault, John

From: Deedee Smith <rosett5smith@netscape.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 3:15 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5736

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Deedee Smith
1229 Superior Avenue
Apt. 2B
Calumet City, IL 60409-5737

Therriault, John

From: Howard Stein <hstein@uchicago.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 3:25 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PCB# 5737

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Howard Stein
5000 S East End Ave
Apt. B23
Chicago, IL 60615-3175

Therriault, John

From: Bradley Beilfuss <bbeilfuss@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 3:38 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5738

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Bradley Beilfuss
665 Seminary Dr
Dyer, IN 46311-4010

Therriault, John

From: Patti Helfand <pattihfish@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 3:47 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Doc# 5739

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Patti Helfand
5101 N Wolcott Avenue
Chicago, IL 60640-2612

Therriault, John

From: Sierra Club <information@sierraclub.org> on behalf of April Galarza <aprilwriter@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 4:13 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Feb 15, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board

Dear Control Board,

I object to Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance, Docket No. PCB 2013-024.

The Midwest Generation coal plants are some of the biggest emitters of sulfur dioxide in Illinois. Sulfur dioxide poses a serious threat to our health and our environment by contributing to asthma attacks, chronic pulmonary disease, and respiratory hospitalizations.

Granting these delays for Midwest Generation does not ensure the long-term stability of their workers' jobs and the company has provided no clear plan for how it will stay in compliance with the changes they have asked for. Like Ameren, they may well abandon operations in the near future.

The Illinois Pollution Control Board has an obligation to protect the health of Illinois residents and should uphold the agreement that was made in 2007 to reduce harmful pollution from Illinois' aging coal plants. This is critical for my health and our environment and I respectfully ask that you deny Midwest Generation's variance request.

Sincerely,

April Galarza
5516 W Higgins Ave
Chicago, IL 60630-2122

PC#5740

Therriault, John

From: Maureen Headington <moeteam@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 4:16 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

TWO MORE YEARS?? TOO MANY YEARS!!!

How many years should "We the People" of Illinois patiently wait for the full enforcement of the air quality standards to which we are entitled?

DO YOUR JOB - CONTROL POLLUTION!

SAY "NO!" to Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Maureen K. Headington
6760 County Line Lane
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
630-323-6891
moeteam@comcast.net

Sincerely,
Maureen Headington
6760 County Line Lane
Burr Ridge, IL 60527-5746

PC#5741

Therriault, John

From: Julie Newman <jbubly6@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 4:24 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC #5742

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Julie Newman
626 Dunsten Circle
Northbrook, IL 60062-2613

Therriault, John

From: Larry Didier <ldidier@wchd.org>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 4:26 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5743

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

As a person who works in a public health department, I am well aware of how important it is to keep our air as clean as possible. Allowing coal-fired plants to continue polluting the air puts everyone in northern Illinois at higher risk for respiratory and other health problems.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Larry Didier
414 S 1st St
Apt 2
Rockford, IL 61104-2003

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PC# 5744

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

Allowing a variance for MWG in Waukegan will not solve any of their financial problems and thus they would continue to operate an old, out-dated, polluting coal plant. A variance would only allow MWG to run plants without sulfur dioxide controls for 2 more years at which point they would more than likely choose to shut their doors. We can not afford 2 more years of significant air pollution that pose serious health problems.

Waukegan and surrounding communities need to think beyond the coal plant and plan for the redevelopment and remediation of these sites. They do not want to get caught off guard when the plant closes and jobs are lost. Public officials need to talk about and plan for lost tax revenue and job retraining.

Sincerely,

John W. Massman
John W. Massman
Antioch, IL 60002

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PC#5745

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

My wife and I are opposed to granting a variance to MWA to meet pollution control requirements. My wife has asthma and a variance puts her health and that of so many others at risk.

What would be the logic for the variance? Due to the financial condition of MWA and the bankruptcy there is no likely situation that this plant will be ever able to upgrade and operate profitably in the future so the variance would only perpetuate a bad pollution source for two more years. Let's stop the pollution NOW!

Let's work now to decommission the plant and transition the employees to new jobs.

Sincerely,

CHARLES E. FRANK + DEBORAH L. FRANK
25 Lakeview Terrace
Highland Park, IL 60035
ZSF@earthlink.net

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PC# 5746

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

It's now time to keep
Midwest Generation & responsible
for its actions and comply with
requirements that must be
met for the safety and well-being
of residents in this area.

My second-grade students
in Waukegan are paying the price
and their future depends on your
actions now.

Sincerely,

Lana Winnett
2435 W. Ridgeland
Waukegan IL 60085

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PC#5147

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I AM A WAUKESHA RESIDENT + HAVE LIVED WITH THE EFFECTS OF THE COM ED (NOW MIDWEST GENERATION) FACILITY ALL MY LIFE. THIS PLANT IS LONG OVERDUE TO BE UPGRADED AND NO MORE VARIANCES, EXTENSIONS OR TIME ALLOWED.

PLEASE, ON BEHALF OF OUR COMMUNITY, HOLD MIDWEST TO THE DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 2014 - ENOUGH IS ENOUGH...

Sincerely, Linda Ryckman
LINDA RYCKMAN
420 LAWN CT.
WAUKESHA, IL 60085

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PC#5748

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I am writing to you in regards to Midwest Generation's request for a variance to continue polluting the local Waukegan Illinois neighborhood past the 2013/2014 date that they had agreed to comply with pollution laws.

As a medical practitioner I ~~now~~ see a continued incidence of asthma that is directly linked to particulates, NO₂, ozone, etc that come out of the smoke stacks. The coal ash pile continues to pollute the groundwater and will after Midwest is bankrupt.

Please don't grant the variance to Midwest Generation.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Marcus M.D.

Jeffrey J. Marcus M.D.

389 Center St

Graylake, IL 60030

847 223-9180

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PCT#5749

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I teach the most vulnerable citizens of Waukegan in Waukegan Public Schools. Asthma impacts my classroom daily. Even on air alert days these children are outside to deal with daily requirements. Attendance in school is affected.

Be decent to the people in Lake County and Waukegan to deny any variance! Be a beacon for cleaner energy that is safe for our citizens.

No variance → full compliance by the agreed on date!

Sincerely,

Diane Ower
2nd grade teacher
Waukegan, IL

February 9, 2013

PC# 5750

IL Pollution Control Board

~~James R. Thompson Center~~

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I am 8 years old and I
have asthma. I take my
inhalor twice a day. I have
had this problem all my life.
Your power plant must
clean up its act. It makes my
life very scary sometimes.

Sincerely,

Izaiah.D

February 9, 2013

IL Pollution Control Board

James R. Thompson Center

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500

Chicago, IL 60601

Docket No. PCB 2013-024

PC#5151

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I am 8 years old and I have about once a month it is scary, I feel like a fish without water. We all need clean air, it's just wrong to keep sending out the bad air pollution, We need clean energy.

Sincerely, Edwin S. Second grade student at Oakdale.

February 18, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board
c/o John Therriault
Assistant Clerk of the Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601

PC#5752

Re: Docket No. PCB 2013-024

Dear Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board:

As health professionals living and working in Illinois, we support the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007. By controlling power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and mercury, the CPS helps protect the air we breathe, the local fish we eat, and the wildlife and natural spaces we love from harmful pollution. We are concerned by the present effort to weaken the CPS before the Illinois Pollution Control Board. We urge you to vote against any action eroding requirements of the CPS standards.

Nationally, coal-fired power plants are the largest sources of SO₂ and mercury emissions, and are among the largest single source emitters of NO_x. Emissions of these air pollutants impact human and ecosystem health in a number of ways. High levels of SO₂ and NO_x can exacerbate respiratory symptoms in at-risk individuals (including children and the elderly), including asthma and COPD attacks. Exposure to mercury, a potent neurotoxin, can result in developmental delays (e.g. speech, motor, and memory skills) in children, and cause nervous system damage in adults. Wildlife and plant species are also impacted by the toxic effects of these pollutants, (e.g. reproductive impacts of mercury to wildlife, SO₂-derived acid rain damage to foliage).

In addition to the health impacts of directly regulated chemicals, SO₂ and NO_x are also precursors to other harmful pollutants such as fine particulate matter and ground-level ozone. Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles, and a very large proportion of measured PM_{2.5} results from the chemical transformation of SO₂ and various NO_x molecules in the atmosphere. Numerous scientific studies and authoritative panels have identified PM_{2.5} as harmful to human health, with causal linkages found between short- and long-term exposures and premature mortality and cardiovascular effects. According to a 2010 report by the National Research Council, in 2005 alone, the annual health and related damages from particulate, NO_x, and SO₂ cost the public \$62 billion (2007 USD). The vast majority (\$53

billion) of these costs were due to health damages associated with the transformation of SO₂ into PM_{2.5}.

As it stands, the CPS is designed to require substantial reductions in the emission rates of SO₂, NO_x, and mercury. These reductions will allow for substantial gains in the public health of our state and surrounding regions, particularly for vulnerable populations and areas that do not meet federal air quality standards. Notably, two coal-fired power plants regulated by the CPS are in areas that the Illinois EPA has identified as not attaining federal SO₂ standards. By maintaining the present CPS emission rate requirements for each of the pollutants, you will ensure that the health improvements behind the spirit of the law remain intact, and that the public does not bear the costs of polluter non-compliance. We applaud you for your decision to put the CPS in place six years ago, and we ask that you continue to show your support for this standard by voting against any effort to weaken its protective power.

Sincerely*,

Dr. Robert Cohen, MD, FCCP
Director
Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Cook County Health and Hospitals System

Dr. Cynthia Barnes-Boyd, PhD, FAAN
Director, Office of Community Engagement and
Neighborhood Health
Partnerships Associate Clinical Professor,
Community Health Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago

Dr. Susan Buchanan, MD, MPH
Director
Great Lakes Center for Children's
Environmental Health
University of Illinois at Chicago School of
Public Health

Dr. Samuel Dorevitch, MD, MPH
Associate Professor
Division of Environmental and Occupational
Health Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago School of
Public Health

Dr. Aida L Giachello, PhD
Professor
Dept of Preventive Medicine & Institute for
Public Health & Medicine
Northwestern University
Dr. Peter Orris, MD, MPH
Professor and Chief of Service
Occupational and Environmental Medicine
University of Illinois at Chicago School of
Public Health

Dr. Nancy Quesada, MD
Director
Ambulatory Pulmonary Medicine and
Rehabilitation
Stroger Hospital of Cook County

Dr. Peter H. S. Sporn, MD
Professor of Medicine and Cell and Molecular
Biology
Director, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Fellowship Program
Northwestern University Feinberg School of
Medicine

*Affiliation for information only. Not to imply institutional endorsement.

Dr. Colleen Andreoni
Assistant Professor
Loyola University Chicago

Dr. Eric Bollinger
Professor
Eastern Illinois University

Mr. Paul Boskey
Lake in the Hills, IL

Dr. Paul Brandt-Rauf
Skokie, IL

Dr. Richard Brazee
Urbana, IL

Dr. Yong Cao
Stream Ecologist
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Rowland Chang
Professor of Preventive Medicine
Northwestern University

Dr. Regina Conway-Phillips
Assistant Professor
Loyola University Chicago

Dr. John Cronan
Professor and Head
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. David Cugell
*Bazely Professor of Pulmonary Disease -
Emeritus*
Northwestern University

Dr. Willard Fry
Professor Emeritus of Clinical Surgery
Northwestern University

Dr. Godfrey Getz
Professor
University of Chicago

Dr. Ron Graf
Associate Clinical Professor
DePaul University School of Nursing

Dr. Diana Hackbarth
Professor of Nursing
Loyola University Chicago School of
Nursing

Dr. Paula Kagan
Associate Professor
DePaul University

Dr. Audrey Klopp
Assistant Professor
Loyola University Chicago

Dr. Brian Klubek
Murphysboro, IL

Dr. Ming Kuo
Associate Professor
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Richard Lenhardt
Chicago, IL

Dr. An Li
Professor
University of Illinois at Chicago, School of
Public Health

Dr. Sarah Lovinger
Adjunct Lecturer in Climate Change
Northwestern University

Mrs. Janet McCarron
Evanston, IL

Dr. James Miller
Savoy, IL

Dr. Edward Naureckas
Professor of Medicine
University of Chicago

Dr. Aaron Packman
Professor
Northwestern University

Dr. Lucy Park
Associate Professor
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Victoria Persky

Chicago, IL

Dr. Eric Ribbens

Full Professor

Western Illinois University

Dr. Laurie Ruggiero

Professor

University of Illinois at Chicago

Dr. Karen Saban

Associate Professor

Loyola University Chicago

Dr. MaryMargaret Sharp-Pucci

Assistant Professor

Loyola University Chicago

Dr. Lewis Smith

Professor of Medicine

Northwestern University

Dr. Sandy Tenfield

Assistant Professor

Loyola University Chicago

Ms. Lisa Torrescano

Evanston, IL

Dr. Bernard Turnock

*Clinical Professor of Community Health
Sciences*

University of Illinois at Chicago, School of
Public Health

Dr. Barbara Velsor-Friedrich

Professor

Loyola University Chicago



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Heart of Illinois Group



P.O. Box 3593, Peoria, IL 61612
<http://illinois.sierraclub.org/hoi>

February 18, 2013

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

PC# 5753

RE: Case Number PCB 2013-024
Midwest Generation LLC vs. IEPA
Variance - Air

Public Comment

To the Illinois Pollution Control Board:

On behalf of myself and the members of Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club, who live, work, and breathe in the Illinois River Valley with winds blowing toward us from the Midwest Generation Powerton plant south of Pekin, please deny the request for this variance which will delay sulfur dioxide (SO₂) pollution controls.

We respectfully ask your consideration that local communities will be adversely impacted by this proposed variance. The Midwest Generation Powerton plant has already caused the township in which it is located to be in nonattainment with federal and state clean air regulations. Bordering the township containing the Powerton plant to the north is another township that is in nonattainment already with clean air regulations. While it is difficult for area citizens to understand how nonattainment areas can so neatly fit into township boundaries, please note that the township boundary north of the Powerton actually skirts the E.D. Edwards Ameren power plant directly across the Illinois River (maps on following pages). The Illinois Pollution Control Board has already granted Ameren a variance in SO₂ regulations without what appears to us to be fair consideration for what the lack of improved SO₂ controls will mean to local communities near these plants. We ask specifically that the Illinois Pollution Control Board please consider that the Midwest Generation Powerton plant has already caused the township it is in to be a nonattainment designation for the SO₂ National Ambient Air Quality Standard and that our SO₂ levels in the Pekin area are grossly above other levels in this state.

Appended to the end of this letter is a copy of the May 20, 2011, Pekin Times newspaper article titled "IEPA Officials Discuss Sulfur Dioxide Pollution Problem." The article points out that SO₂ levels in Pekin were measured at 235 ppb, the worst in the state, and that the new EPA standard is 75 ppb. We do not understand how you can consider granting additional time for this power generation company to wait to address the serious air pollution it is causing in our region in what appears to us to be some kind of "shell game" where promises are made to lower pollution levels at some point but

local communities by plants like Powerton are left with no air improvements for years and years.

Prevailing winds bring pollution from the Powerton plant and the E.D. Edwards plant up the Illinois River valley to the greater Peoria and East Peoria metro region. The first neighborhoods in Peoria to be affected by the pollutant plumes are in south Peoria and are predominantly minority and disadvantaged residents. Your decision regarding this variance is an environmental justice issue. We respectfully wish to point out that by giving state-wide variances such as what you have done for Ameren and what you are considering for Midwest Generation, it appears to us that the Illinois Pollution Control Board is ignoring the pollution impacts on local communities and particularly on hard-hit local disadvantaged populations.

A Midwest Energy News article, posted 11/02/2012, titled "Investor Call Fuels Doubts About Illinois Coal Plant's Future," states that the Powerton and Joliet Midwest Generation plants are operated in a sale-leaseback agreement where other investors own the land and the physical power plants. While this may be of no concern to the Pollution Control Board, it further makes local residents wonder if the variance request has any likelihood of ever being put right. The shaky financial condition and bankruptcy filing of Midwest Generation does not appear to us to offer any confidence the company will ever bring these plants up to current regulations. The Powerton plant has polluted groundwater, as have other Midwest Generation plants, and it has a long history of thousands of air permit violations going back over time. It is difficult for the public to understand how such repeated and repeated environmental regulation violators can be awarded with the proposed variance. The fact that Midwest Generation has no proper plan for coming into compliance at each plant causes us great further concern and we respectfully point out this should be reason to deny the variance request.

Following this page are pages with maps illustrating the proximity of the Powerton plant township nonattainment area to the next township to the north which is also in nonattainment and is directly across the Illinois River from the E.D. Edwards power plant. The pages are from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Air Pollution Control, "Technical Support Document: Recommended Attainment/Nonattainment Designations in Illinois for the 2010 Revised Primary 1-Hour SO₂ National Ambient Air Quality Standard, June 2, 2011."

We request that the Illinois Pollution Control Board deny the Midwest Generation variance request for SO₂.

Sincerely,



Joyce Blumenshine
Chair, Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club
2419 E. Reservoir
Peoria, IL 61614-8029

Attach:

- 1) "IEPA Officials Discuss Sulfur Dioxide Pollution Problem," Pekin Daily Times, May 20, 2011
- 2) Technical Support Document: Recommended Attainment/Nonattainment Designations in Illinois for the 2010 Revised Primary 1-Hour SO₂ National Ambient Air Quality Standard", AQPSTR 11-02, June 2, 2011, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Technical Support Document:
Recommended Attainment/Nonattainment Designations
in Illinois for the 2010 Revised Primary 1-Hour SO₂
National Ambient Air Quality Standard

AQPSTR 11-02

June 2, 2011

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Air Pollution Control
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

www.epa.state.il.us

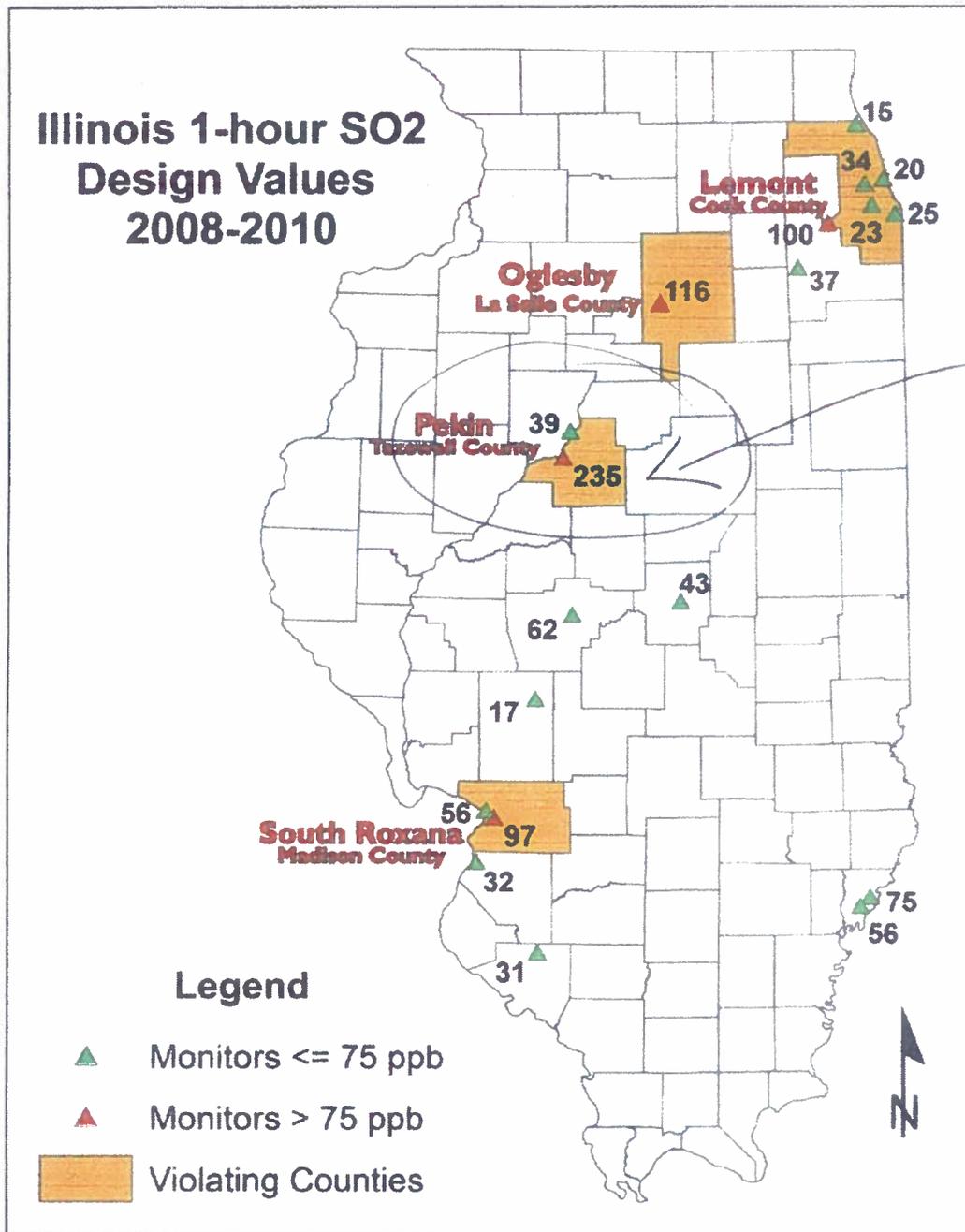
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Table 1
2008-2010 Illinois SO₂ Design Values (ppb)

AQS Code	County	Site	Annual 99 th Percentiles			Design Value
			2008	2009	2010	
170310050	Cook	Chicago - SE Police	35	19	21	25
170310063	Cook	Chicago - CTA	26	21	14	20
170310076	Cook	Chicago - Com Ed	26	24	20	23
170311601	Cook	Lemont	97	114	90	100
170314002	Cook	Cicero	43	29	31	34
170314201	Cook	Northbrook	13	17	15	15
170990007	La Salle	Oglesby	326	8	14	116
171150013	Macon	Decatur	44	36	49	43
171170002	Macoupin	Nilwood	20	16	15	17
171191010	Madison	South Roxana	152	81	57	97
171193007	Madison	Wood River WTP	67	46	54	56
171430024	Peoria	Peoria	52	21	43	39
171570001	Randolph	Houston	35	26	31	31
171630010	St. Clair	East St. Louis	35	30	31	32
171670006	Sangamon	Springfield	131	24	31	62
171790004	Tazewell	Pekin	243	233	228	235
171850001	Wabash	Mount Carmel	90	69	66	75
171851001	Wabash	Rural Wabash Co.	57	53	59	56
171970013	Will	Joliet	56	32	24	37

Figure 1



Illinois 5 Factor Analysis

The U.S. EPA recommends that states consider the following five factors in assessing whether to depart from county boundaries as the designated nonattainment area boundary. As previously mentioned, Illinois has four counties where monitored violations of the revised SO₂ NAAQS are occurring. The information in the following sections provides boundary recommendations based on the five factors outlined in U.S. EPA guidance within each violating county or adjacent county.

Tazewell County

Air Quality

There are two SO₂ monitors in the Peoria area. The first monitor is located west of the Illinois River in Peoria, while the second monitor is located east of the Illinois River in Pekin (see Figure 2). Monitoring data for both sites is listed below in Table 2. The 2008-2010 design value for the Peoria monitor is below the revised 1-hour NAAQS, while the design value for the Pekin monitor is well above the revised 1-hour NAAQS. The 2008 through 2010 annual 99th percentiles show a small decrease at the Peoria site and consistently high values at the Pekin site.

Table 2 – Peoria Area Air Quality Data for 2008-2010 (ppb)

AQS Code	County	Site	Annual 99 th Percentiles			Design Value
			2008	2009	2010	
171430024	Peoria	Peoria	52	21	43	39
171790004	Tazewell	Pekin	243	233	228	235

Emissions

Table 3 lists the major SO₂ emission sources (reported SO₂ emissions over 100 tons per year for at least one of the years from 2007 through 2009) within both Tazewell and Peoria counties. The locations of these sources are shown in Figure 2. From Figure 2, there are two sources in the vicinity of the violating monitor in Pekin: Aventine Renewable Energy, and Midwest Generation – Powerton. Overall, there has been a small decrease in SO₂ emissions within the Peoria area

during the period, however Aventine and Midwest Generation-Powerton, have shown either steady or increasing emissions trends during this period.

Table 3 – Tazewell and Peoria County Reported SO₂ Emissions for 2007-2009

County	ID Number	Facility Name	Reported SO ₂ Emissions (Tons per Year)		
			2007	2008	2009
Tazewell	179060ACR	Aventine Renewable Energy Inc	12239.93	11830.31	11819.57
Tazewell	179801AAA	Midwest Generation – Powerton	20543.67	22355.08	22125.00
Peoria	143065AJE	Archer Daniels Midland Co	3140.00	3049.00	2587.00
Peoria	143805AAG	Ameren – Edwards	14535.90	11224.10	11734.40
Peoria	143808AAA	Keystone Steel & Wire Co	109.26	137.53	86.61

Figure 2 – Location of Major SO₂ Emission Sources in Tazewell and Peoria Counties

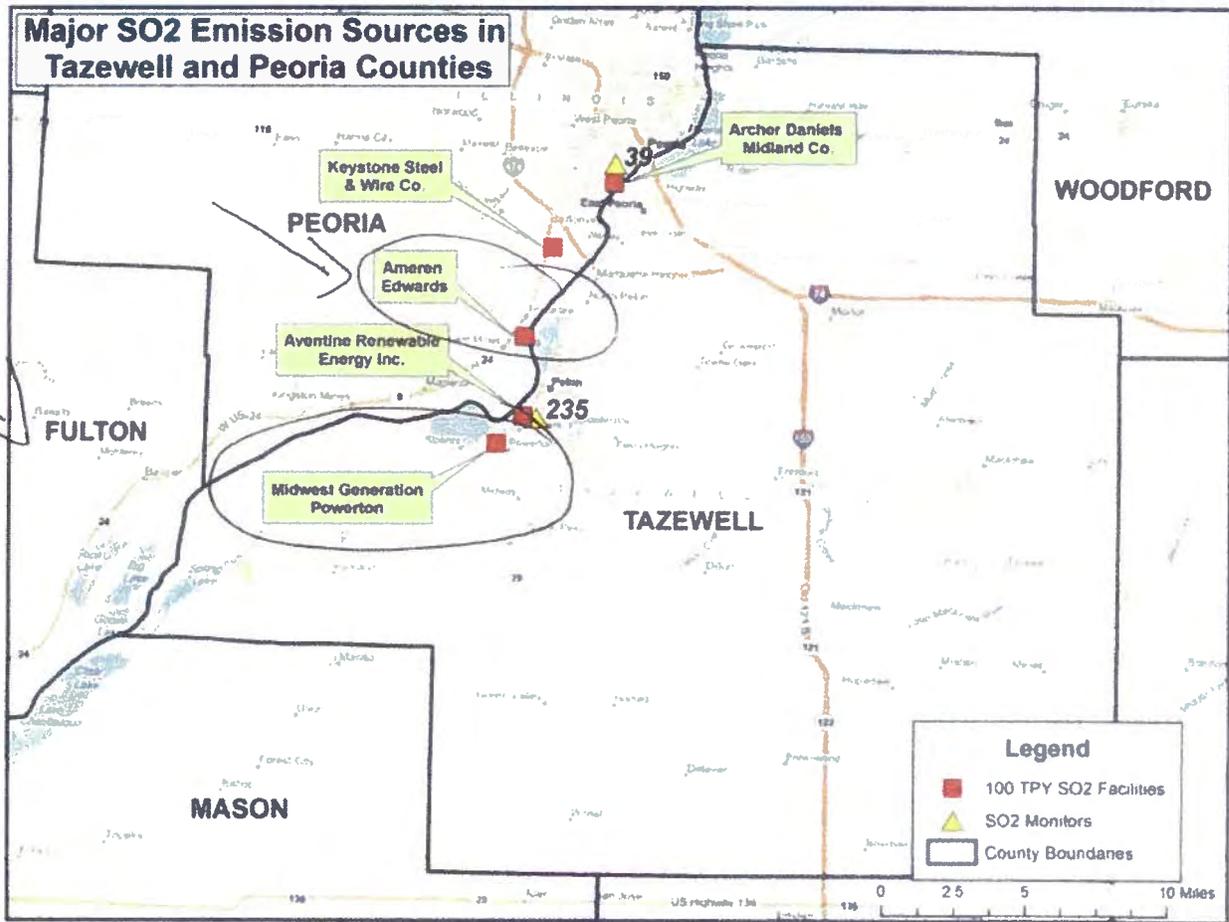


Figure 5 - Aerial Photo of the Pekin Monitor and nearby Facilities



Since the Pekin monitor is at a slightly higher elevation than the two facilities to the west-southwest, IEPA believes that the high concentrations that are occurring at this monitor are primarily due to emissions from these local sources.

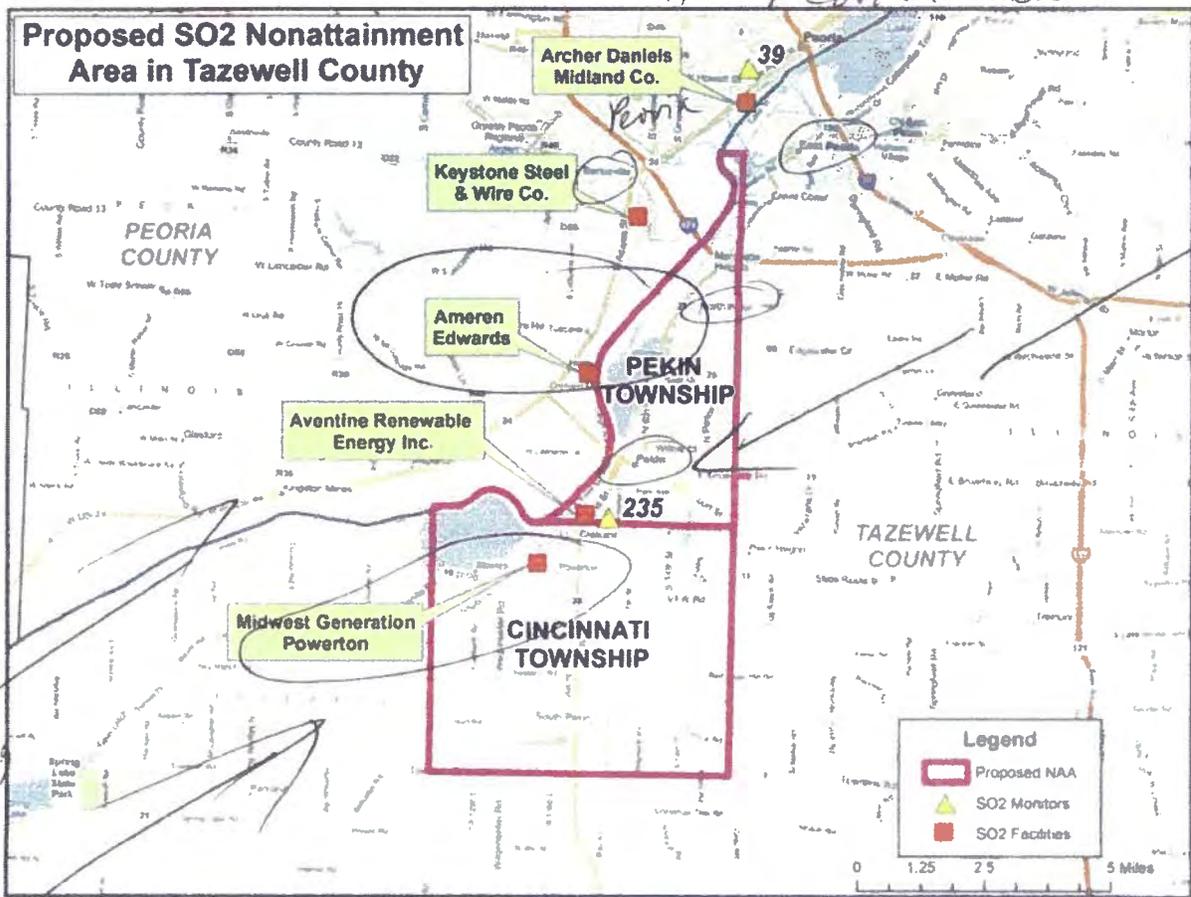
Jurisdictional Boundaries

The Illinois EPA is responsible for air quality regulatory programs for every county in the state. Jurisdictional boundaries considered in this analysis are consistent with recommended geographic boundaries, or “presumptive boundary” definitions, outlined in U.S. EPA’s guidance documentation. Boundaries in this study reflect the 2009 political township boundaries provided by the Property Tax Division of the Illinois Department of Revenue. Based on the geographic location of Pekin and the individual sources, it is expected that the coordination of planning activities required to address the nonattainment designation can be carried out in a cohesive manner.

Recommendation

Based on the factors discussed above, Illinois recommends that Pekin and Cincinnati Townships in Tazewell County be designated as nonattainment for the 2010 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS (see Figure 6). These two townships contain both the violating monitor and the two most culpable emission sources.

Figure 6 – Proposed SO₂ Nonattainment Area Boundary for Tazewell County



Prevailing winds from South/Southwest

Notice
Non-attainment Boundary

Why do local citizens have to go more years with these pollution variances? ¹⁶ Please take into consideration impacts of what you are doing on local towns and people!

By Ed McMEnamin

May 20, 2011 12:01AM

IEPA officials discuss sulfur dioxide pollution problem

▲ Concerned residents and city leaders attended a meeting led by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Thursday to address Pekin's sulfur dioxide air pollution problem.

Concerned residents and city leaders attended a meeting led by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Thursday to address Pekin's sulfur dioxide air pollution problem.

The IEPA is recommending to the federal EPA that Pekin and Cincinnati townships be designated as a "nonattainment" area because it does not meet the new, stricter sulfur dioxide pollution standard. The new level, 75 parts per billion, was set by the EPA last June. Pekin's level has been measured at 235 parts per billion, the worst in the state.

"We're not a little bit over, we're a lot over (the standard)," said Rob Kaleel, manager of air quality planning at IEPA, adding that Pekin barely met the previous, looser standard. Peoria was measured at 39 parts per billion, well under the standard.

The designation is the first step that, if approved, would require the IEPA to show a plan to bring Pekin back into compliance by 2017. The plan would likely look to require heavy industry to find ways to limit emissions, possibly through the use of natural gas instead of coal, or using coal with less sulfur content, among other options. The approval or denial of the "nonattainment" designation would take about a year.

If Pekin is labeled as a nonattainment area, it will become more difficult for SO₂-emitting businesses to expand operations or build new plants until the problem is resolved and Pekin is relabeled as "attainment," Kaleel said. He said businesses would have to offset any increases to the current SO₂ levels, or otherwise show they aren't adding to the problem in order to acquire the necessary permits.

Interim Pekin City Manager Frank Mackaman said that won't likely impact the city's economic development goals, because it is not seeking heavy industry that emits SO₂ — such as ethanol producers or power plants — for the Riverway Business Park.

Exposure to sulfur dioxide, which is released when fossil fuels like coal and oil are burned, causes respiratory problems for children, the elderly and those with asthma or other respiratory illnesses, according to the IEPA. It narrows airways, leading to difficulty breathing.

“We know this has a huge health cost,” said Joyce Blumenshine of the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club, who attended the meeting. “And the citizens, the children, people with health problems, are paying that.

“The fact that Pekin appears to be nonattainment is something that should be dealt with, and it’s high time. Industry has known for a long time that these regulations would be coming.”

The Pekin and Cincinnati township area is one of four areas in the state that previously met federal EPA standards but do not any more, said IEPA Communications Relations Coordinator Brad Frost. Other townships exceeding the new standard are in Madison, Will and LaSalle counties.

Big SO₂ emitters in the area include Aventine, the Ameren-Edwards power plant, Midwest Generation’s Powerton plant, and Archer Daniels Midland in Peoria. Using a preliminary wind study, Kaleel said the EPA believes Aventine is the major contributor. Aventine is currently in compliance with IEPA standards, but the IEPA’s plan to lower SO₂ levels will likely result in Aventine being forced to reduce its emissions.

Midwest Generation is currently updating its machinery to reduce emissions because of an agreement signed with the IEPA several years ago, Kaleel said. He said he does not know if those improvements will now be enough, in light of the new SO₂ standard. Midwest Generation is also being sued by U.S. and the state of Illinois for alleged Clean Air Act violations related to particulate matter. The suit is still ongoing and alleges that Midwest Generation made modifications to its plants in Illinois without also installing the required pollution control equipment.

Pekin’s SO₂ monitoring station is at the Derby Street fire station.

According to the EPA, the “background” sources of SO₂ — such as motor vehicles — account for about 14 parts per billion of SO₂ in the air sample.

<http://www.pekintimes.com/article/20110520/NEWS/305209976>

Print Page



**Citizens
Against
Ruining the
Environment**

P.O. Box 536
Lockport, IL 60441
carelockport@usa.com
willcountycare.org

2/14/2013

John Therriault
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11-500
Chicago IL 60601
Case Number: PCB 2013-024 – Midwest Generation SO 2 Public Hearing

PC#5754

I live in the shadows of the Romeoville faculty. It is a fact Clean Air is a fundamental right and I feel that our rights are being compromised with toxic pollution such as SO₂ & NO_x spewing from Midwest Generation's coal stacks.

In 1989 we were excited to find the perfect site to build our home and raise our children. From my kitchen window we were aware of the coal fired power plant with the 4 tall stacks but didn't think much about it prior to purchasing our land. I had contacted the EPA, Environmental Protection Agency and was told it would be closed with ten years.

In 1993 we had our 5th child. When she was 8 weeks old, Marsha, was hospitalized due to an upper respiratory infection. This was followed by years of bronchitis, wheezing and repeated respiratory issues. From one Doctor to another, I was told it was either environmental or food allergies that were the cause of her respiratory distress. She lived daily with medications, nebulizer and an air purifier her first 10 years.

Within time I had noticed the white chairs on our deck were covered with black soot then noticed some of the neighbors' rooftops and driveways were covered with the same black substance. My neighbors and I began to realize that not only was this covering our homes but this is what we are breathing.

After Midwest Generation purchased the coal plants the black clouds of pollution not only increased but we began living in fear of explosions from this facility.

In 2000 we began contacting the EPA as we were frightened by the EXTREMELY loud noises and releases that were, and are, still coming out of the Romeoville coal fired power plant. We found that the equipment is too antiquated to handle the capacity they are trying to put

out. So the additional pressure blows their relief valves. When the valves are blown, the machinery is being pushed to the limit and beyond.

This is an example of what neighbors and I have to contend with:

Just recently while taking a bath I flew out of the tub, when a *deafening roar that sounded like a jet was going to crash into my home!*

I immediately called Midwest Generation and was told that one of the units “tripped” and multiple valves were releasing steam. Once again the same lame answer. Relief valves and malfunctions! We are not being protected if we are within the “fall out” area from untreated “fugitive chemical releases” during their malfunctions. We know that it has been established particulate matter coming from coal burning is dangerous to our health and that fugitive releases are untreated as they have escaped emission controls. This facility has minimal to no pollution controls!

We don't believe them when they insist that it is just steam being released as we have been in litigation with them for 10 years due to their thousands of illegal pollution releases. People here in around this facility breathe the soot, are kept awake by the noise, are told not to eat the fish due to the polluted waters, during the summer there are smoldering fires in the coal and we worry about fires and explosions from this 24/7 operation. Then in 2006 we heard ambulances – 5 Midwest Generation workers injured .. 3 Critical! This is a dangerous operation and we worry about our health & safety.

Two years ago my husband, Ron was forced to go on disability due to chronic respiratory illness. He uses daily medications – Advair, Spirva and Flomase for his COPD chronic obstructive disease. Pulmonologists, ear, nose and throat, lung function tests, CT scans, the list goes on. One ENT from Joliet told him the reason was the pollution. Air pollution knows no boundaries, we all breathe the same air.

Now, we wonder why the IPCB would even consider giving a company such as this a variance on Sulfur Dioxide pollution controls.

Mary Burnitz
14116 High Road
Lockport IL 60441



Citizens
Against
Ruining the
Environment

P.O. Box 536
Lockport, IL 60441
carelockport@usa.com
willcountycare.org

2/14/2013

John Therriault
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11500
Chicago IL 60601

PC# 5755

Re Case #: PCB2013-024 Midwest Generation & SO 2

A friend recently said "Air is Life." We know when we breathe the soot, particulate matter & toxic emissions spewing from Midwest Generations' coal fired power plants it is making us sick and killing us! What makes this even more appalling is that our health is suffering because the system is 'Flawed.'" Midwest Generation will not do the right thing by putting pollution controls on their equipment and comply with the Clean Air Act. The IEPA and the USEPA have known since 1971 that these grandfathered facilities are emitting toxins such as Sulfur Dioxide that are killing us and yet, due to loopholes in the system, have not forced them to comply to protect our health & the environment.

Since 1995 I've relayed stories of the negative health effects & how our lives are adversely affected by the soot & pollution from coal fired power plants. How we began to take action in 1995 after we watched the black clouds & inhaled the fumes from the Romeoville facility and were then told by the EPA to close our windows and stay inside. How many of our friends are using inhalers, including myself, my husband who uses 2 types daily, my sister in law, who died of lung disease leaving 2 small children and one of our members used oxygen tanks before he passed. Many of the rooftops and driveways in our neighborhoods are covered with soot and respiratory illness is prevalent – Air is Life & we do know our lives can be shortened due to the toxic emissions in the air that we are breathing!

Ordinary citizens should not have to shame corporations into doing the right thing nor should the IPCB put us in a position where we have to spend years requesting coal plants such as Midwest Generation take responsibility their negligence and disregard of our health. Do not give them a variance!

Ellen Meeks Rendulich
14400 High Road, Lockport, IL 60441
815.834.1611

Therriault, John

From: Maureen K. Headington <moeteam@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 18, 2013 4:54 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT - PCB 2013-024
Attachments: Coalistup102dated8-08final.copyright.color.doc

Attn: Mr. John Therriault
Illinois Pollution Control Board
Case No. PCB 2013-024
February 17, 2013

PC#5756

DENY MEDWEST GENERATION ANY EXTENSION TO INSTALL POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES

A company declares bankruptcy.
Not unusual given tough economic times.

Said company seeks **exemption** from impending state compliance rules that would require heavy expenditure for pollution control technology, in this case, SO₂, deemed to benefit those of us who breathe air in Illinois.

The company requests a delay of two additional years to provide the SO₂ technology needed to address the emissions they release.

The company claims that it cannot presently afford the technology needed to clean up the SO₂ pollution it creates.

BUT THEY CAN AFFORD GENEROUS DONATIONS TO OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS!

\$1,482,998.62

**Dynergy Midwest Generation's total political contributions from 2001 to 2012:
(according to the Sunshine Data Base, Illinois Campaign for Political Reform)**

Midwest Generation had this kind of money available for "distribution" to Illinois' elected officials, and then cried poor (like bankruptcy poor) when it came time to ante up for life-saving pollution controls!

Their history in Illinois is a litany of kicking the pollution can down the political road.

They had a past-Governor (and inmate) who told the Illinois Environmental Council, on which board I served for 6 years, and while I served as Vice President of that organization, that he would not enact any action that 'industry would not agree to'. (Thank you, Gov. Ryan!) In the meantime, 102

Resolutions (see list attached) representing over 8 million Illinois residents from villages, towns, cities, townships and five county boards (Will County Board included) demanded an end to the “grandfathered” status of Illinois’ old coal-fired power plants, which granted them the ability to generate greater emissions. The grandfathering of these plants was tragically granted decades ago, under the assumption that the life of these facilities would be “about the life of an incinerator, at about 20 years”.

Twenty years later, thirty years later, still not the cleanup that the residents of Illinois deserve. Why not, you ask? Because Pollution Control Boards, Governors, the EPA, state house and senate legislators, US senators and representatives, and even Presidents, have not done their jobs.

Forty years have passed, and we’re still having to contend with pollution, political games and lack of meaningful enforcement. Even when supposed “deals” were negotiated, with another past-Governor (and inmate), they were back-loaded for 8-10 years, until 2018, for the most significant compliance. (Thank you, Gov Blagojevich!)

ENOUGH! Illinois residents have incurred enormous costs to their lives and well-being undeniably either caused by or contributed-to by the noxious and dirty by-products of Illinois’ old, coal-fired power plants, that any industry that operates responsibly would feel some sense of social responsibility for. I, personally, have spent nine years educating public officials at village, town, city, township, and county boards on what should have been taken care of long ago. These 102 Resolutions (attached) speak as evidence of our collective voice, hopefully loud enough to be heard over the din of campaign contributions.

While it is legal to donate and accept campaign contributions, once those elected to posts in representative government fail to act in the best interests of their electorate, these donations technically function as bribes.

\$1,482,998.62

These monies could have been spent instead, on pollution controls. They were not.

If you agree with Midwest Generation, you simply are not doing your job.

DENY ANY REQUEST BY MIDWEST GENERATION FOR EXTENSION ON THE MANDATED POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL SAVE LIVES, LOWER THE COST OF HEALTH CARE, AND REDUCE ILLNESS. DO NOT EXTEND THE SO2 DEADLINE!

I’m sure you can do the math, and use the Sunshine Data Base (<http://www.ilcampaign.org/>) yourselves to discover how much has been gifted to Illinois’ elected officials by other operators of old coal-fired power plants, and you will find prosperous politicians being taken care of while polluted populations remain polluted.

PUBLIC HEARING SHUTS DOWN EARLY

NOTE - Public Hearing officials should have been available to accept testimonies throughout the hearing date on Jan. 29, 2013, and certainly in the hours immediately after work. This hearing was

held on a workday. I learned that your hearing officers left for the day sometime during the early afternoon, prohibiting many of us who had planned on tendering comments after work. While I can appreciate perhaps boredom on your part without a continual flow of live comments, this pales by comparison to the years we've been waiting for adequate pollution controls from Midwest Generation as well as the enforcement we deserve. That said, I am providing my testimony in writing, and for the record.

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Headington
Stand Up/Save Lives Campaign
6760 County Line Lane
Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527
Tel: 630-323-6891
E-mail: moeteam@comcast.net

102 GOVERNMENTS

REPRESENTING OVER 8,000,000 ILLINOIS RESIDENTS

HAVE ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS SEEKING TO END EXEMPTION OF OLD COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS FROM MODERN EMISSIONS STANDARDS OF THE FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT

West Central Municipal Conference . DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference
DuPage County Board . Lake County Board . Will County Board . Kane County Board
Cook County Board . Lyons Township . Bremen Township . Rich Township

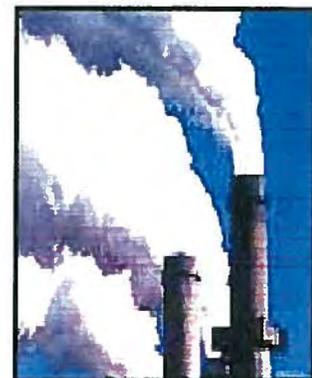
Village of Addison
Village of Antioch
City of Aurora
Village of Barrington
Village of Bloomingdale
Village of Bridgeview
Village of Brookfield
Village of Burbank
Village of Burr Ridge
Village of Carpentersville
Village of Cary
City of Chicago Heights
Village of Chicago Ridge
Town of Cicero
Village of Clarendon Hills
City of Countryside
City of Darien
Village of Deerfield
City of Des Plaines
Village of Downers Grove
City of Elmhurst
Village of Elmwood Park
City of Evanston
Village of Evergreen Park
Village of Flossmoor
Village of Forest Park
Village of Glen Ellyn
Village of Glendale Heights
Village of Glenview
Village of Grayslake
Village of Hanover Park
City of Harvey
Village of Harwood Heights

Village of Hawthorn Woods
City of Hickory Hills
Village of Highland Park
Village of Hinsdale
City of Hometown
Village of Homewood
Village of Indian Head Park
Village of Justice
Village of LaGrange
Village of LaGrange Park
Village of Lake in the Hills
Village of Lemont
Village of Libertyville
Village of Lincolnshire
Village of Lincolnwood
Village of Lindenhurst
Village of Lisle
City of Lockport
Village of Lyons
City of McHenry
City of Markham
Village of Maywood
Village of Melrose Park
Village of Mokena
Village of Morton Grove
Village of Naperville City of Zion
Village of Niles
Village of Norridge
Village of North Barrington
Village of Northbrook
City of Northlake
Village of Oak Park
Village of Oakbrook Terrace

Village of Orland Park
Village of Oswego
Village of Palos Park
Village of Park Forest
City of Park Ridge
Village of Phoenix
Village of Posen
City of Prospect Heights
Village of Riverdale
Village of Riverside
Village of Roselle
Village of Schaumburg
Village of Skokie
Village of Summit
Village of Tinley Park
Village of Vernon Hills
Village of Villa Park
City of Warrenville
City of Waukegan
Village of Western Springs
Village of Westmont
City of Wheaton
Village of Willow Springs
Village of Willowbrook
Village of Wood Dale

STAND UP/SAVE LIVES CAMPAIGN

Contact: *Maureen Headington, President at 630-323-6891*
E-mail: moeteam@comcast.net





Citizens
Against
Ruining the
Environment

P.O. Box 536
Lockport, IL 60441
carelockport@usa.com
willcountycare.org

2/14/2013

John Therriault
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago IL 60601

Pct # 5157

Case # PCB2013-024
Midwest Generations' request for variance on SO2

The comments below are in addition to comments submitted by CARE's attorneys in our behalf and the individual comments from members of CARE..

1. Those from our organization agree that the hearing appeared to be focused on jobs rather than the health issues. It's my understanding that the IL Pollution Control Board was formed to protect citizen's health & the environment.
2. Environmentalists can't take off work every time there is a Public Hearing for pollution controls (& there are a lot of hearings throughout IL) so we cannot fill a room like the Unions & in this case Midwest Generation does. At one of the past hearings there was an ad on Craigslist paying \$50 per person to sit at one of the public hearings for pollution issues to take up space. Who knows if they do that every time?
3. If jobs are the issue over our health, then why haven't the Unions & Midwest Generation been retraining their members & employees so they can transition to perhaps clean energy industries where there is a shortage rather than firing or laying them off?
4. As SO2 Pollution Controls are added to MG's coal plants, that brings new jobs. If MG were to shut their doors perhaps these employees can have jobs remediating the toxic coal plant facilities.
5. To allow Midwest Generation to continue to pollute SO2 is a blatant disregard to Will County's 677,560 residents. This number does not include those in surrounding Counties such as Cook, DuPage, Grundy etc. and we've been told by the EPA that the this pollution directly affects those within a 35 mile radius.
6. Giving a variance to Midwest Generation is also a disregard to other industries that have spent the money to for SO2 pollution controls.

7. We'd like to also remind you that they could have legally upgraded their facilities when they purchased them in 1999 but they decided to take advantage of their "grandfathered" status and pollute our air & groundwater while earning huge profits for their shareholders. .
8. MG states that they've been adding pollution controls but neglect to mention that the majority of pollution controls that they have added were due to environmentalists have demanding they stop spewing toxins into our air and waterways.
9. It appears through the SEC filings that MG only produces a minimal amount of energy compared to other companies but at the same time it's evident due to their history of violations they are one of the largest polluters in IL.
10. It's evident through their history of violations that Midwest Generation appears to have a total disregard for human health.
11. MG states they don't have enough money for the SO2 pollution controls that are causing thousands of respiratory illnesses but have enough money to influence people in disadvantaged neighborhoods monetarily.
12. We've heard that the coal industry is promoting coal to schools. That requires money. That should be going into upgrading their facilities.
13. The thousands of tons of pollutants the plants emit each year contribute to asthma attacks, heart attacks, hospitalizations and even premature deaths in our area. As Edison International no longer is the source of money for MG the variance they are requesting will not satisfy their financial problems nor would the variance prevent Midwest Generation from closing their doors in a couple years leaving the tax payers with the cost of remediating the toxins from their facilities.
14. If you allow this variance you will be allowing MG to continue spewing Sulfur Dioxide into the air of our children's and adult's lungs.
15. If you allow this variance you will be allowing MG to continue spewing Sulfur Dioxide into our groundwater. The majority of Will County is on private wells.
16. If you allow this variance you will be allowing MG to continue spewing Sulfur dioxide- Acid Rain into our vegetable gardens – We deserve better!
17. Industry should not dictate, nor should you allow them to influence decisions. It's our understanding that IBCB was formed to protect citizen's health and well being.
18. Nine out of ten CARE members have a family member or friend affected by respiratory disease.

19. We understand that this summer the EPA will be designating some of our areas "non attainment" for SO₂. We're already breathing more toxins than other areas and MG must not be allowed to continue adding to the already over polluted areas.
20. At a community meeting in 2011 the EPA agreed we have a shortage of air monitors and they realize the existing monitors now in place are not at ground level where humans breathe. They stated they don't have t enough money to add more monitors. We can only assume that the levels for SO₂ are higher than reported by the existing monitors.
21. At that same meeting I asked what can those of us with respiratory problems in areas of high pollution do while we're waiting for cleaner air? The EPA stated "we don't have an answer." So we have no idea why the IPCB would consider extending "any" industry additional time to pollute.
22. We would like to mention that many of us attended the Public Hearing on Jan 29th and were very disappointed as we understood that this hearing would continue until everyone had an opportunity to speak. Our organization is comprised of volunteers. Many of us have full time, day jobs and had intended to speak in the evening and the hearing was closed @2:00. We request that the Board work something out so that the public has an opportunity to speak during the day as well as in the evening.
23. While Midwest Generation complains about money they must realize that is the Cost of Doing Business and a price cannot be put on our health. The cost of pollution controls should not be taken into consideration.
24. If a variance for SO₂ is granted to MG then the new jobs that were promised by MG at the public hearing will be delayed so that reasoning by the contractors, unions, and employees of MG is wrong.
25. It's our expectation that you will Listen to the People and Not to Polluting Industries – Say NO to the variance!

Ellen Rendulich

815.834.1611

Citizens Against Ruining the Environment



Citizens
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Environment

P.O. Box 536
Lockport, IL 60441
carelockport@usa.com
willcountycare.org

2/14/2013

John Therriault
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11500
Chicago IL 60601

PC#5758

Re Case #: PCB2013-024 Midwest Generation & SO 2

I realize that this public hearing was meant for a variance of Sulfur Dioxide pollution controls for Midwest Generation however, it is important to note that I am not just a resident of a community held hostage by greed in corporate America; but I have been fighting Dirty Industry not only in Lockport but throughout the United States since 1995 as my daughter had asthma. I learned that coal fired power plants such as Midwest Generation's air pollution was either the cause of or aggravated her condition.

My story begins 29 years ago when we moved here to Lockport and I was pregnant with my 2nd child, the daughter I just mentioned above. Back then this was just a sleepy little canal town with a population of approximately 2500 people. I remember my husband commenting on how much it reminded him of his home town in Ohio. We thought we had found a "GEM". Little did we realize how tarnished a "GEM" this area really was? The first indication that we may have miscalculated on that initial assessment came when one of our neighbors and I were discussing our drinking water. I commented to her that I noticed she and many of the others on our street had water delivered to their homes. I was curious why they would BUY their drinking water. She informed me quite adamantly that NO ONE in Lockport drinks the water. It was well known to ALL who lived here, that this was something

you just did not do! That was when I became aware of this underlying current of skepticism, mistrust, and apathy that most of the people had been living with. They all suggested that the elected officials were not being completely forthcoming with all information re: the water status-but they also knew NOT to drink it! Years later due to my involvement with CARE, we discovered that the back of our water bills had a warning that: too much water consumption could lead to bone cancer due to high levels of radium! That became yet another fight that we were involved in.

The next Red flag indicator came when my daughter was a toddler, and kept experiencing these terrible coughing spells, which at times became so bad that it required a doctor's visit. It would start out like a cold or flu but quickly escalate to problems breathing, sometimes wheezing, and eventually Doctors, medicine, and then the cycle would return after 2-3 months. We went to so many different doctors trying to figure out why this was happening, and recurring. It was very frustrating and I finally decided to consult a new pediatrician further away to see if he had any other conclusions. By this time we had been through approximately 4 doctors, in 4 years-and no closer to determining what was really going on. It wasn't until we saw the New Pediatrician, and he started asking more in depth questions, that we actually obtained a diagnosis that made sense. This doctor suggested a breathing treatment in his office and chest x-ray, as he believed this was not just a "bad cold," bronchitis, or whatever else we had been told previously. He suspected ASTHMA!! No one on either side of our families had ever had asthma, so we were totally surprised by this diagnosis. The in office breathing treatment actually helped Catie, but we also had to obtain a Nebulizer for home use. At that time it was a large, heavy "Contraption" and we were told Catie needed to use it every day after school for 20-30 minutes.

Yet another "red flag" was when I myself was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in October 2002. There was no history of breast cancer on either side of my family. This was completely unexpected and I was in shock. And with limited time to really disseminate all the information being thrown at me, I was at the hospital a month later having an 8 hour surgery, which altered my life from that day forward.

Eventually, since I had the Environmental background at my disposal, I started questioning and doing some research on my own and with the help of other experts. I was convinced that there must be a link between my Breast Cancer and our Environment. Of course, as always, I found out more than I ever imagined.

You can place buzz words like “Breast Cancer and Coal Fired Power Plants” and other key words in Google and you will be amazed what pops up. This little tidbit of Information is from: The US National Library of Medicine “Most dioxins are produced through burning and other industrial activities. Major sources of dioxin emissions are incineration of waste, chlorine bleaching of pulp and paper, copper smelting, chemical manufacturing, cement kiln burning, coal-fired electricity generation, wood burning, forest fires, and backyard burning of household trash. Other sources of dioxin emissions include cigarette smoking, drum and barrel reclamation facilities, motor vehicles, residential oil furnaces, scrap electric wire recovery, and tire burning.”

When I first got online to research this it was several years after my cancer, but I knew there had to be a link, between these coal fired power plants and the high incidences of cancers we had heard about from our friends and neighbors here in Lockport and Joliet. Some Streets actually had 10 or more cases on 1 block! If there are only 25-30 houses, on one block, having almost half of those with at least 1 family member with cancer, did not seem normal.

One of the issues that come up when researching something like this, is the fear that most people have, when you start asking about where they live in proximity to these plants. Once they realize that you are inferring that the cancer they or a loved one has may be due to living so close to these Coal Fired power plants, they become elusive, defensive, and sometimes angry because they realize their home value will decline if you pursue this line of questioning. Many also worked at these plants, or a Father, Uncle or other family member worked there, and they believe their pensions could be in jeopardy, so they stop talking to you all together. I’ve found that now people are even more fearful than they were 15 years ago, because they feel stuck, they cannot move to another area as easily as they could in 1997 due to the economic situation. So their home means everything to them.

The list of Environmental, Social, Economic, and Health issues surrounding these plants is endless. The lack of oversight by those agencies which we were told would protect us, have failed. Those who live near these plants, such as those in the Smiley Subdivision near Joliet's Coal Fired plants, or the residents of the Lockport area, next to the Will County plant have been ignored and forgotten.

I'm requesting that the IL Pollution Control Board do their job and protect the public from contaminating industries such as Midwest Generation and do not approve a variance for sulfur dioxide or any other chemical coming out of their stacks.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my story.

Carol Stark

230 E. 6th Street

Lockport Illinois 60441



Citizens
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Ruining the
Environment

P.O. Box 536
Lockport, IL 60441
carelockport@usa.com
willcountycare.org

2/14/2013

John Therriault
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago IL 60601

PC# 5759

Case # PCB2013-024

Midwest Generations' request for variance on SO₂

The comments below are in addition to comments submitted by CARE's attorneys in our behalf and the individual comments from members of CARE..

1. Those from our organization agree that the hearing appeared to be focused on jobs rather than the health issues. It's my understanding that the IL Pollution Control Board was formed to protect citizen's health & the environment.
2. Environmentalists can't take off work every time there is a Public Hearing for pollution controls (& there are a lot of hearings throughout IL) so we cannot fill a room like the Unions & in this case Midwest Generation does. At one of the past hearings there was an ad on Craigslist paying \$50 per person to sit at one of the public hearings for pollution issues to take up space. Who knows if they do that every time?
3. If jobs are the issue over our health, then why haven't the Unions & Midwest Generation been retraining their members & employees so they can transition to perhaps clean energy industries where there is a shortage rather than firing or laying them off?
4. As SO₂ Pollution Controls are added to MG's coal plants, that brings new jobs. If MG were to shut their doors perhaps these employees can have jobs remediating the toxic coal plant facilities.
5. To allow Midwest Generation to continue to pollute SO₂ is a blatant disregard to Will County's 677,560 residents. This number does not include those in surrounding Counties such as Cook, DuPage, Grundy etc. and we've been told by the EPA that the this pollution directly affects those within a 35 mile radius.
6. Giving a variance to Midwest Generation is also a disregard to other industries that have spent the money to for SO₂ pollution controls.

7. We'd like to also remind you that they could have legally upgraded their facilities when they purchased them in 1999 but they decided to take advantage of their "grandfathered" status and pollute our air & groundwater while earning huge profits for their shareholders. .
8. MG states that they've been adding pollution controls but neglect to mention that the majority of pollution controls that they have added were due to environmentalists have demanding they stop spewing toxins into our air and waterways.
9. It appears through the SEC filings that MG only produces a minimal amount of energy compared to other companies but at the same time it's evident due to their history of violations they are one of the largest polluters in IL.
10. It's evident through their history of violations that Midwest Generation appears to have a total disregard for human health.
11. MG states they don't have enough money for the SO2 pollution controls that are causing thousands of respiratory illnesses but have enough money to influence people in disadvantaged neighborhoods monetarily.
12. We've heard that the coal industry is promoting coal to schools. That requires money. That should be going into upgrading their facilities.
13. The thousands of tons of pollutants the plants emit each year contribute to asthma attacks, heart attacks, hospitalizations and even premature deaths in our area. As Edison International no longer is the source of money for MG the variance they are requesting will not satisfy their financial problems nor would the variance prevent Midwest Generation from closing their doors in a couple years leaving the tax payers with the cost of remediating the toxins from their facilities.
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18. Nine out of ten CARE members have a family member or friend affected by respiratory disease.

19. We understand that this summer the EPA will be designating some of our areas "non attainment" for SO2. We're already breathing more toxins than other areas and MG must not be allowed to continue adding to the already over polluted areas.
20. At a community meeting in 2011 the EPA agreed we have a shortage of air monitors and they realize the existing monitors now in place are not at ground level where humans breathe. They stated they don't have enough money to add more monitors. We can only assume that the levels for SO2 are higher than reported by the existing monitors.
21. At that same meeting I asked what can those of us with respiratory problems in areas of high pollution do while we're waiting for cleaner air? The EPA stated "we don't have an answer." So we have no idea why the IPCB would consider extending "any" industry additional time to pollute.
22. We would like to mention that many of us attended the Public Hearing on Jan 29th and were very disappointed as we understood that this hearing would continue until everyone had an opportunity to speak. Our organization is comprised of volunteers. Many of us have full time, day jobs and had intended to speak in the evening and the hearing was closed @2:00. We request that the Board work something out so that the public has an opportunity to speak during the day as well as in the evening.
23. While Midwest Generation complains about money they must realize that is the Cost of Doing Business and a price cannot be put on our health. The cost of pollution controls should not be taken into consideration.
24. If a variance for SO2 is granted to MG then the new jobs that were promised by MG at the public hearing will be delayed so that reasoning by the contractors, unions, and employees of MG is wrong.
25. It's our expectation that you will Listen to the People and Not to Polluting Industries – Say NO to the variance!

Ellen Rendulich

815.834.1611

Citizens Against Ruining the Environment



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P.O. Box 536
Lockport, IL 60441
carelockport@usa.com
willcountycare.org

2/14/2013

PC#5760

John Therriault
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 11500
Chicago IL 60601

Re Case #: PCB2013-024 Midwest Generation & SO 2

I oppose the sulfur dioxide variance that Midwest Generation is requesting. After years of research it is evident that contaminants from coal fired power plants including SO₂ air pollution are not only affecting our air but these toxins, such as arsenic, mercury, lead, boron, and chromium to name a few, are in coal ash which is contaminating our groundwater. This coal ash is being put into unlined landfills like the Lincoln Stone Quarry Landfill in Joliet. These coal plants must immediately implement pollution controls for toxins such as SO₂.

Many times since 1995 I've told representatives of the IEPA, USEPA and elected officials who make environmental laws, that, in my opinion, the government entities are passing responsibility from one agency to another.

It's imperative that Midwest Generation add Sulfur Dioxide pollution controls immediately to protect our air and public waters. As stated in a 2009 *New York Times* article from the series "Toxic Waters" by Charles Duhigg, "Yet no federal regulations specifically govern the disposal of power plant discharges into waterways or landfills. Some regulators have used laws like the Clean Water Act to combat such pollution. But those laws can prove inadequate, say regulators, because they do not mandate limits on the most dangerous chemicals in power plant waste, like arsenic and lead." This includes SO₂! The coal industry has skirted pollution controls under the grandfather laws.

In 2008 in Kingston, Tennessee, toxic ash slurry flooded a wide area. In my opinion, it should not take another environmental disaster like this one for the IPCB or EPA to decide that more stringent pollution controls are

imperative for the public's health. We should not be gambling with our future like this.

In my opinion, you don't need a college degree to see that something is greatly amiss, when you have coal ash, with all its known dangerous contaminants including sulfur dioxide going into unlined landfills.

When I was a young child many years ago, it was much simpler time. We had our trust in the American government and the American Dream. Work hard. Pay your taxes. Be honest. Be a good citizen. And so I did. I married, raised my family, and lived my life with the naive belief that, as a citizen, my government would protect me from any threat.

I had never heard the word environmentalist growing up, yet that is now what I have become. I have become an environmentalist not in place of being a wife and mother, but for the protection of my family and your families as well. I have learned that being a good citizen does not involve trusting the government, but in questioning our leaders, holding politicians and companies accountable for their actions, and trying to push for positive changes that protect us all, our environment, and future generations.

Sandy Burcenski
711 Daviess
Lockport IL 60441
815.838.1442

Therriault, John

From: Joy Perlman <legallink1717@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 5:02 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PCB 2013-024

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Joy Perlman
711 Lakeside Circle Drive
Wheeling, IL 60090-5334

Therriault, John

From: Eileen Lowery <elowery@lungchicago.org>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 5:01 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Eileen Lowery
1502 Mulford St
Evanston, IL 60202-3232

PCB 5162

Therriault, John

From: Nahum Wright <paccino34@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 5:13 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5763

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Nahum Wright
6214 S Ellis Ave
Apt. B
Chicago, IL 60637-2662

Therriault, John

From: Arlene Ruksza-Lenz <arlenerl@netscape.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 5:18 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC# 5764

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Arlene Ruksza-Lenz
7911 W Cortland St
Elmwood Park, IL 60707-3531

Therriault, John

From: Kathy Chan <kathychanimal@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 5:21 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC# 5765

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Kathy Chan
"1127 West Chestnut Street, Unit 2S"
Chicago, IL 60642-7662

Therriault, John

From: Juliet Bergner <jillbergner@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 5:56 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Juliet Bergner
201 N Vail Ave
#806
Arlington Hts, IL 60004-5956

PC#5766

Therriault, John

From: David Sincox <dsincox@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 6:00 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC# 5267

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with ALL components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations.

I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
David Sincox
"540 West Briar Place, #9B"
Chicago, IL 60657-4650

Therriault, John

From: Chris Gronkiewicz <cgronkiewicz@rcn.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 7:29 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5168

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Chris Gronkiewicz
652 W Buena Avenue
Apt. 4
Chicago, IL 60613-2279

Therriault, John

From: Sara Schmidt <saschmidt8@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 7:30 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

PC#5769

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Sara Schmidt
PO Box 253
Urbana, IL 61803-0253

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Regina Conway-Phillips, PhD, RN <rconway1@luc.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 8:39 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 15, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

As health professionals living and working in Illinois, we support the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007. By controlling power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and mercury, the CPS helps protect the air we breathe, the local fish we eat, and the wildlife and natural spaces we love from harmful pollution. We are concerned by the present effort to weaken the CPS before the Illinois Pollution Control Board. We urge you to vote against any action eroding requirements of the CPS standards.

Nationally, coal-fired power plants are the largest sources of SO₂ and mercury emissions, and are among the largest single source emitters of NO_x. Emissions of these air pollutants impact human and ecosystem health in a number of ways. High levels of SO₂ and NO_x can exacerbate respiratory symptoms in at-risk individuals (including children and the elderly), including asthma and COPD attacks. Exposure to mercury, a potent neurotoxin, can result in developmental delays (e.g. speech, motor, and memory skills) in children, and cause nervous system damage in adults. Wildlife and plant species are also impacted by the toxic effects of these pollutants, (e.g. reproductive impacts of mercury to wildlife, SO₂-derived acid rain damage to foliage).

In addition to the health impacts of directly regulated chemicals, SO₂ and NO_x are also precursors to other harmful pollutants such as fine particulate matter and ground-level ozone. Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles, and a very large proportion of measured PM_{2.5} results from the chemical transformation of SO₂ and various NO_x molecules in the atmosphere.

Numerous scientific studies and authoritative panels have identified PM_{2.5} as harmful to human health, with causal linkages found between short- and long-term exposures and premature mortality and cardiovascular effects. According to a 2010 report by the National Research Council, in 2005 alone, the annual health and related damages from particulate, NO_x, and SO₂ cost the public \$62 billion (2007 USD).

The vast majority (\$53 billion) of these costs were due to health damages associated with the transformation of SO₂ into PM_{2.5}.

As it stands, the CPS is designed to require substantial reductions in the emission rates of SO₂, NO_x, and mercury. These reductions will allow for substantial gains in the public health of our state and surrounding regions, particularly for vulnerable populations and areas that do not meet federal air quality standards. Notably, two coal-fired power plants regulated by the CPS are in areas that the Illinois EPA has identified as not attaining federal SO₂ standards. By maintaining the present CPS emission rate requirements for each of the pollutants, you will ensure that the health improvements behind the spirit of the law remain intact, and that the public does not bear the costs of polluter non-compliance. We applaud you for your decision to put the CPS in place six years ago, and we ask that you continue to show your support for this standard by voting against any effort to weaken its protective power.

PC#5780

Sincerely,

Dr. Regina Conway-Phillips, PhD, RN
109 S Maple Ave
Apt 2
Oak Park, IL 60302-3084
(708) 445-8819

Therriault, John

From: Rebecca Woan <rwoan@chartwellins.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 9:42 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5771

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Woan
831 W Lill Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614-2309

Therriault, John

From: Mary McNally <m2mcnally@nch.org>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 10:22 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC# 5772

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Mary McNally
900 W Central
Arlington Heights, IL 60005-2373

Therriault, John

From: Jennifer Pasiuk <jennifer_pasiuk@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 2:52 AM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC#5 173

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Pasiuk
915 W Oakdale Avenue
Apt. D2
Chicago, IL 60657-6566

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Paul Boskey <paulboskey@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 6:40 AM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 16, 2013

PC#5724

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

As health professionals living and working in Illinois, we support the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007. By controlling power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and mercury, the CPS helps protect the air we breathe, the local fish we eat, and the wildlife and natural spaces we love from harmful pollution. We are concerned by the present effort to weaken the CPS before the Illinois Pollution Control Board. We urge you to vote against any action eroding requirements of the CPS standards.

Nationally, coal-fired power plants are the largest sources of SO₂ and mercury emissions, and are among the largest single source emitters of NO_x. Emissions of these air pollutants impact human and ecosystem health in a number of ways. High levels of SO₂ and NO_x can exacerbate respiratory symptoms in at-risk individuals (including children and the elderly), including asthma and COPD attacks. Exposure to mercury, a potent neurotoxin, can result in developmental delays (e.g. speech, motor, and memory skills) in children, and cause nervous system damage in adults. Wildlife and plant species are also impacted by the toxic effects of these pollutants, (e.g. reproductive impacts of mercury to wildlife, SO₂-derived acid rain damage to foliage).

In addition to the health impacts of directly regulated chemicals, SO₂ and NO_x are also precursors to other harmful pollutants such as fine particulate matter and ground-level ozone. Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles, and a very large proportion of measured PM_{2.5} results from the chemical transformation of SO₂ and various NO_x molecules in the atmosphere.

Numerous scientific studies and authoritative panels have identified PM_{2.5} as harmful to human health, with causal linkages found between short- and long-term exposures and premature mortality and cardiovascular effects. According to a 2010 report by the National Research Council, in 2005 alone, the annual health and related damages from particulate, NO_x, and SO₂ cost the public \$62 billion (2007 USD).

The vast majority (\$53 billion) of these costs were due to health damages associated with the transformation of SO₂ into PM_{2.5}.

As it stands, the CPS is designed to require substantial reductions in the emission rates of SO₂, NO_x, and mercury. These reductions will allow for substantial gains in the public health of our state and surrounding regions, particularly for vulnerable populations and areas that do not meet federal air quality standards. Notably, two coal-fired power plants regulated by the CPS are in areas that the Illinois EPA has identified as not attaining federal SO₂ standards. By maintaining the present CPS emission rate requirements for each of the pollutants, you will ensure that the health improvements behind the spirit of the law remain intact, and that the public does not bear the costs of polluter non-compliance. We applaud you for your decision to put the CPS in place six years ago, and we ask that you continue to show your support for this standard by voting against any effort to weaken its protective power.

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Boskey
3960 Thornberry Way
Lake IN The Hills, IL 60156-4625

Therriault, John

From: Michael Simboli <csimboli@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 8:55 AM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PO# 5775

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Michael Simboli
1404 Syracuse Lane
Schaumburg, IL 60193-3311

Therriault, John

From: Lisa Zaenger <lzang@pulmonaryexchange.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 11:26 AM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC# 5776

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Lisa Zaenger
1601 Westminster Dr
Apt 107
Naperville, IL 60563-9223

Therriault, John

From: Sierra Club <information@sierraclub.org> on behalf of Tyler Reid <heredom@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 2:45 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Feb 16, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board

PC# 5777

Dear Control Board,

I object to Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance, Docket No. PCB 2013-024.

The Midwest Generation coal plants are some of the biggest emitters of sulfur dioxide in Illinois. Sulfur dioxide poses a serious threat to our health and our environment by contributing to asthma attacks, chronic pulmonary disease, and respiratory hospitalizations.

Granting these delays for Midwest Generation does not ensure the long-term stability of their workers' jobs and the company has provided no clear plan for how it will stay in compliance with the changes they have asked for. Like Ameren, they may well abandon operations in the near future.

The Illinois Pollution Control Board has an obligation to protect the health of Illinois residents and should uphold the agreement that was made in 2007 to reduce harmful pollution from Illinois' aging coal plants. This is critical for my health and our environment and I respectfully ask that you deny Midwest Generation's variance request.

Sincerely,

Tyler Reid
34232 N Bluestem Rd
Round Lake, IL 60073-5245

Therriault, John

From: Heather Sparr <hsparr@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 6:56 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

PC#5778

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Heather Sparr
211 E Ohio Street
Apt. 604
Chicago, IL 60611-3221

Therriault, John

From: Dorothy Williams <dorwil16@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2013 8:40 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

PC# 5729

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Williams
15916 Minerva Ave
South Holland, IL 60473-1752

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Audrey KLopp <aklopp1@luc.edu>
Sent: Monday, February 18, 2013 10:15 AM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 18, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

As health professionals living and working in Illinois, we support the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007. By controlling power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and mercury, the CPS helps protect the air we breathe, the local fish we eat, and the wildlife and natural spaces we love from harmful pollution. We are concerned by the present effort to weaken the CPS before the Illinois Pollution Control Board. We urge you to vote against any action eroding requirements of the CPS standards.

Nationally, coal-fired power plants are the largest sources of SO₂ and mercury emissions, and are among the largest single source emitters of NO_x. Emissions of these air pollutants impact human and ecosystem health in a number of ways. High levels of SO₂ and NO_x can exacerbate respiratory symptoms in at-risk individuals (including children and the elderly), including asthma and COPD attacks. Exposure to mercury, a potent neurotoxin, can result in developmental delays (e.g. speech, motor, and memory skills) in children, and cause nervous system damage in adults. Wildlife and plant species are also impacted by the toxic effects of these pollutants, (e.g. reproductive impacts of mercury to wildlife, SO₂-derived acid rain damage to foliage).

In addition to the health impacts of directly regulated chemicals, SO₂ and NO_x are also precursors to other harmful pollutants such as fine particulate matter and ground-level ozone. Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles, and a very large proportion of measured PM_{2.5} results from the chemical transformation of SO₂ and various NO_x molecules in the atmosphere.

Numerous scientific studies and authoritative panels have identified PM_{2.5} as harmful to human health, with causal linkages found between short- and long-term exposures and premature mortality and cardiovascular effects. According to a 2010 report by the National Research Council, in 2005 alone, the annual health and related damages from particulate, NO_x, and SO₂ cost the public \$62 billion (2007 USD).

The vast majority (\$53 billion) of these costs were due to health damages associated with the transformation of SO₂ into PM_{2.5}.

As it stands, the CPS is designed to require substantial reductions in the emission rates of SO₂, NO_x, and mercury. These reductions will allow for substantial gains in the public health of our state and surrounding regions, particularly for vulnerable populations and areas that do not meet federal air quality standards. Notably, two coal-fired power plants regulated by the CPS are in areas that the Illinois EPA has identified as not attaining federal SO₂ standards. By maintaining the present CPS emission rate requirements for each of the pollutants, you will ensure that the health improvements behind the spirit of the law remain intact, and that the public does not bear the costs of polluter non-compliance. We applaud you for your decision to put the CPS in place six years ago, and we ask that you continue to show your support for this standard by voting against any effort to weaken its protective power.

PC #5780

Sincerely,

Dr. Audrey KLopp
2160 S 1st Ave
Maywood, IL 60153-3328

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <elpcinfo@elpc.org> on behalf of Heather Ervin <hepaliga@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 17, 2013 7:14 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Feb 17, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

PC#5781

Dear Control Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance of the historic clean air standards Illinois adopted in 2006 (docket no. PCB 2013-024). Hold the company to its previous commitment, which is vital to protecting public health and the environment.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Board to protect Illinois residents from being taken advantage of by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough and which has hidden behind threats to slash jobs and close plants. As you know from the Board's earlier experience with Ameren, a variance doesn't guarantee jobs or that plants will stay open.

The people of Illinois should not have to suffer from years of extra pollution. Midwest Generation should live up to their promise to install modern pollution controls on schedule.

Sincerely,

Ms. Heather Ervin
2507 W Winnemac Ave Apt 4
Chicago, IL 60625-2629

Therriault, John

From: Colleen Jersild <Je727@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 17, 2013 6:56 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Please Reject Midwest Generation's Petition for a Variance (Docket No. PCB 2013-024)

Dear Mr. John Therriault:

Dear Board Members,

Please reject Midwest Generation's request for a variance from the historic clean air Combined Pollutant Standard Illinois adopted in 2006 (Docket No. PCB 2013-024). I urge you to hold the company to its previous commitment to comply with all components of the Combined Pollutant Standard.

It is the responsibility and duty of the Pollution Control Board to protect Illinois residents from having their health harmed by companies like Midwest Generation, which has delayed compliance with clean air laws for long enough. Pollution from coal power plants has a direct impact on the health of our community; it exacerbates lung disease, increasing doctor visits, trips to the emergency room, and hospitalizations.

People should not have to suffer from two more years of extra pollution that will harm their health. Midwest Generation should live up to their commitment to install modern pollution controls on schedule in compliance with long established state air pollution regulations. I urge you to reject their request for a variance.

Sincerely,
Colleen Jersild
727 Ashland Ave
Wilmette, IL 60091-1733

PCB 2013-024

arder à la patate? Toute cause

Pct# 5781a

2-15-13

Mr. Halloran,

Re: Midwest Generation

& IEPA CASE

PCB 13-024

My husband Robert
and I both vote

"No" to the
variance.

Thank you,

Bonnie Regley

15631 S. MALLARD LANE

HOMER GLEN, IL 60491 BOX

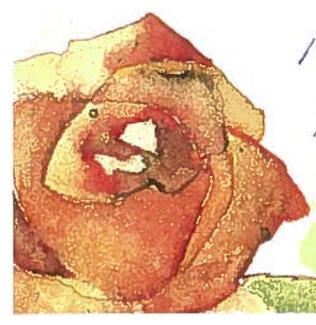
Une pétardriole

Que va, que vien,

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l'année
mais je d



Marvin Pickering
15525 Gougar Road
Homer Glen, IL 60491-9602
815-838-5356

PC#5782a

Bradley P. Halloran
Hearing Officer, IPCB
100 W Randolph St.
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Midwest Generation & IEPA
CASE #PCB 13-024

Dear Mr. Halloran:

I am a retired science teacher. I live downwind from the Midwest Generation plant located southwest of Joliet or Rockdale. From laboratory tests by my high school students on rain water, I have found the water to have a ph ranging from 4 to 5 in Homer and Lockport Townships. These townships are NE of the Midwest Generation plant. The samples were collected the night of a rain and run the next day. These tests were conducted for several years in the late 80's and early 90's and the number of samples ranged from approximately 60-100 each year depending on the enrollment in my classes. Samples from Northwest part of these Townships had a ph of 5 or higher. I have lived in the area since 1962 and I retired in 1997.

The SO2 may have been reduced by the efforts of the Company, however this area is getting more pollution from the increased traffic on I 80 and I 355.

My area receives pollution from two coal burning plants, refineries from Lemont, cars from I80 and I 355 and the seasonal leaf burning. When the direction of the wind changes, it brings pollution from another source. In less than three years, 10 of 20 residents that have lived on Gougar Road (not a subdivision) between 151st and 159th street all of their lives or moved within two miles of this area on Gougar Road have died. This really got my attention when six of these residents died in one year. Residents were not dropping from a heart attack and they did not reach 90 years of age. Most of them were nonsmokers. The ages range from about 50 to 85. While heart problems and cancer are the two leading causes of death nationwide, three died of cancer, two died of heart and circulatory problems locally. Pneumonia with complications was involved with the others. Normally, pneumonia is less than 10 percent instead of 50 to 60 percent. When lungs fail, they fill with fluid. Those of us remaining deserve to be relieved of pollution from Midwest Generation.

What triggered this sudden increase in this small area? Two things were shared by the victims. They lived in this area on Gougar for 50 or more years or stayed close after a recent move. The other factor that may be related is the opening of the I355 Toll way.

②

The SO₂ from pollution creates acid rain.. Did the increase from the opening of I 355 cause the sudden increase in deaths? Almost all of the sisters and brothers of the victims, still living after age 50, moved away after high school.

We cannot allow any more SO₂ . Help everyone by getting the coal burning plants under control. Here are some figures for Will County and the Midwest generation plant is in the most populated area of Will County. Source <http://mylungcare.org/docs/RegionalHealthData.pdf> American Lung Association January 2010

	Total Population	Pediatric asthma	adult asthma	Chronic bronchitis	Emphysema	Lung cancer
Will County	681,097	18,126	37,988	20,509	6,834	505

That adds up to 83,962 victims countywide. If 50 per cent of the Will County population is within the discharge of Midwest Generation, then 340,000 people and 42,000 victims would benefit and get some relief by not allowing the variance. These figures indicate thousands are suffering and many are likely located in the fallout from the Midwest Generation Plant or other contributors. It is time to say enough is too much and excess has now been reached. No variance should be allowed until levels are lowered. With the likely increase from the other contributors in the area, it is too late to resolve this problem for those of us with damaged lungs like myself. I have been prescribed two inhalers. Please help all of us young and old. Vote NO variance for Midwest Generation..

Thank you,


Marvin Pickering