

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Sandi Tenfelde <stenfelde@luc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 12:06 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

FEB 14 2013

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Feb 14, 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#5709

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandi Tenfelde
1359 W 16th St
Chicago, IL 60608-2147

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of An Li <anli@uic.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2013 5:34 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 13, 2013

Pct#5710

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

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Sincerely,

Dr. An Li
2121 W Taylor St
Chicago, IL 60612-4224
(312) 996-9597

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Diana Hackbarth RN PhD FAAN <dhackba@luc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 3:06 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 14, 2013

DC#5711

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.

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Sincerely,

Dr. Diana Hackbarth RN PhD FAAN
Loyola University Chicago
Maywood, IL

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Janet McCarron <jmccar7@luc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 4:07 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 14, 2013

PC#5712

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Janet McCarron

Evanston, IL 60201

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of MaryMargaret Sharp-Pucci <msharp@luc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 4:07 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

Feb 14, 2013

Pct#5713

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

Dear Control Board Members,

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Sincerely,

Dr. MaryMargaret Sharp-Pucci
Loyola University Chicago, School of Nursing
6439 N Sheridan Rd
Chicago, IL 60626-5364
(773) 508-3303

Therriault, John

From: Environmental Law and Policy Center <scientistnetwork@elpc.org> on behalf of Karen Saban <ksaban@luc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 4:07 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Support for the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 2007

pc#5714

Feb 14, 2013

Illinois Pollution Control Board Members

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Sincerely,

Dr. Karen Saban
88 Flicker Ct
Naperville, IL 60565-2326
(708) 216-1244