

BEFORE THE
ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ILLINOIS POWER HOLDINGS, LLC and)
AMEREN ENERGY MEDINA VALLEY)
COGEN, LLC)

Petitioners,)

DOCKET PCB 14-10

-vs-)

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL)
PROTECTION AGENCY,)
Respondent.)

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Hearing held, pursuant to notice, on Tuesday,
September 17, 2013 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at 1021
North Grand Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, before
CAROL WEBB, duly appointed Hearing Officer.

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1 BOARD MEMBERS:

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22 appearing on behalf of Medina
23 Valley and AER;

24 GINA ROCCAFORTE
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appearing on behalf of
Respondent.

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PROCEEDINGS

HEARING OFFICER WEBB: We're going to go ahead and begin.

Good morning. My name is Carol Webb, and this is the variance hearing for Illinois Power Holdings along with Ameren Energy Resources, Docket Number PCB 14-10. It is September 17th, and we are beginning at 9 a.m.

With me today is Dr. Deanna Glosser who is Chairman of the Board, and Board Members Jennifer Burke, Jerry O'Leary and Carrie Zalewski, as well as Anand Rao and Alisa Liu from the Board's Technical Unit.

Connie Newman is in the back. She's the Board's public information officer in the book, and she's available to assist members of the press with any questions.

Do any of the board members have any comments they'd like to make before we begin?

Okay. Here's how today's hearing will work. First we will hear opening statements from the parties. Then the petitioners' witnesses will testify and be questioned by the

1 Board and the IEPA.

2 We will then hear the Board's
3 questions for the IEPA which the Agency may answer
4 now or in its post-hearing brief.

5 After that, I will take
6 comments from public officials.

7 After the public officials, I
8 will take oral statements from the Environmental Law
9 & Policy Center. I will then allow the Board and
10 parties to question the witnesses if they so choose.

11 The public will then be
12 allowed to make comments. I will first call on
13 people who signed the priority public comment sheet.
14 If you signed this sheet, you will be cut off after
15 three minutes.

16 After that group, I will call
17 on the regular sign-up list and allow longer
18 comments as time allows.

19 If you are unable to make your
20 full comment, you may still submit written comment
21 to the Board by September 24th which is one week
22 from today. Written public comment must be filed
23 with the clerk in our Chicago office. If you need
24 the address, please see me during a break or check

1 our website.

2 If you have any questions for
3 the parties, you may ask those questions on the
4 record during your comments, and the parties are
5 directed to respond in their post-hearing briefs.

6 We will take short breaks
7 every hour and a half to two hours as well as a
8 45-minute lunch break.

9 If you have questions or
10 comments about this hearing, please address them to
11 me and not to the board members. Only comments made
12 on the record will be considered by the Board, so
13 please do not offer comments to board members during
14 breaks and please do not approach board members to
15 ask questions regarding the substance or outcome of
16 this hearing.

17 At issue in this case is the
18 petitioners' application for a variance from the
19 sulfur dioxide emission rate provisions of the
20 Multi-Pollutant Standard, or MPS, applicable to the
21 Ameren MPS Group. The decision deadline in this
22 case is November 7th.

23 The Pollution Control Board
24 members will make the final decision in this case.

1 My purpose is to conduct the hearing in a neutral
2 and orderly manner so that we have a clear record of
3 the proceedings.

4 This hearing was noticed
5 pursuant to the Act and the Board's rules and will
6 be conducted pursuant to Sections 101 Subpart F and
7 104 Subpart B of the Board's procedural rules.

8 At this time, I will ask the
9 parties to please make their appearances on the
10 record.

11 MS. MANNING: Good morning. My
12 name is Claire Manning. I'm here on behalf of
13 Illinois Power.

14 MS. CIPRIANO: Good morning. My
15 name is Renee Cipriano, and I'm here on behalf of
16 Medina Valley as well as AER.

17 MR. ALONSO: Good morning. My name
18 is Mario Alonso, and I'm vice president of Dynegy
19 and IPH.

20 MR. THOMPSON: Good morning. My
21 name is Dan Thompson. I'm vice president and
22 general manager of IPH and Coal Coke.

23 MR. DIERICX: Good morning. My
24 name is Rick Diericx. I'm the senior director of

1 environmental compliance for Dynegy Operating
2 Company.

3 MS. BRADLEY: Good morning. I'm
4 Lisa Bradley. I'm a vice president and senior
5 toxicologist with AECOM, and I'm here today
6 representing Dynegy.

7 MR. BILICIC: I'm George Bilicic.
8 I'm a vice chairman at Lazard Freres.

9 MS. ROCCAFORTE: Gina Roccaforte,
10 assistant counsel on behalf of the Illinois
11 Environmental Protection Agency, and with me today
12 is Mr. Jim Ross, Manager of the Division of Air
13 Pollution Control in the Bureau of Air at the
14 Agency.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 Are there any preliminary
17 matters you'd like to discuss on the record today?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Couldn't
19 hear that last person.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Gina
21 Roccaforte for the Illinois Environmental Protection
22 Agency and...

23 MS. ROCCAFORTE: Jim Ross, manager
24 of the Division of Air Pollution Control in the

1 Bureau of Air.

2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

3 Did you have any preliminary
4 matters you wanted to discuss?

5 MS. MANNING: Not at this time.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Would
7 petitioners like to make an opening statement?

8 MS. MANNING: I would, Madame
9 Hearing Officer.

10 Good morning, Madame Hearing
11 Officer, Chairman Glosser and members of the
12 Illinois Pollution Control Board. My name is Claire
13 Manning. As I said, I'm here on behalf of Illinois
14 Power Holdings and Renee Cipriano is here on behalf
15 of Ameren Energy, Medina Valley Cogen, and the
16 co-petitioner AER.

17 We are all here on a petition
18 for a variance for both the 2015 and '17 SO2
19 emission rate provisions of the MPS.

20 Our petition was filed on
21 July 22, 2013. It seeks relief similar to that
22 which the Board found appropriate in PCB 12-126 to
23 co-petitioner AER. That variance involved the same
24 facilities, the same regulations, and the same

1 requested relief that is the subject of this joint
2 request.

3 The request is joint as the
4 underlying regulation applies to all seven plants
5 that are subject to the MPS.

6 These seven plants known as
7 the Ameren MPS Group in regulatory language are the
8 subject of a carefully constructed transaction which
9 anticipated the regulatory framework of the MPS, and
10 as such, all parties necessary for the Board to
11 issue an appropriate variance order are here
12 present.

13 AER is the current owner of
14 those seven plants. Ameren Medina Valley, the
15 intended new owner of the Hudsonville and Meredosia
16 Energy Centers, and Illinois Power Holdings, the
17 intended new holder of the following five plants in
18 the following five counties, Coffeen Energy Center
19 in Montgomery, Duck Creek Energy Center in Fulton,
20 E.D. Edwards Energy Center in Peoria, Newton Energy
21 Center in Jasper, and Joppa Energy Center in Massac
22 County.

23 Those persons who filed
24 affidavits with the petition are all present here to

1 answer questions from the Board or from the IEPA.
2 Specifically, three of those persons are prepared
3 with written statements and subject to Board
4 questioning.

5 First we will have Dan
6 Thompson. Dan is the vice president of Illinois
7 Power Holdings as well as the vice president and
8 general manager of Dynegy Midwest Gen. Dan is here
9 to provide an overview of the petition, IPH, Dynegy,
10 and the variance request. His affidavit you will
11 find in your petition as Exhibit 8.

12 With him as well is Rick
13 Diericx. Rick is the Senior Director, Environmental
14 Compliance for Dynegy. His affidavit is at
15 Exhibit 11. He's here to answer technical questions
16 and provide whatever support and answer questions of
17 the Board as well.

18 The second person to provide a
19 statement to the Board, and he is here to provide an
20 overview of the financial issues related to the IPH
21 Ameren transaction, is George Bilicic. He is from
22 Lazard Freres & Co. He will provide a financial
23 overview and specifically address some of the
24 comments that have been recently made in the ICM

1 report that is contained on the Board's website.

2 With George and able to speak
3 to any financial questions that the Board may have
4 related to the transaction is Mario Alonso. His
5 affidavit is Exhibit 2. He is the Vice President
6 for Strategic Development for IPH and Dynegy. He is
7 also able to answer whatever financial or
8 transactional questions the Board may have.

9 Finally we brought Lisa
10 Bradley with us this morning. Dr. Bradley is the
11 toxicologist who prepared the AECOM memorandum which
12 is found at Exhibit 12. Dr. Bradley will discuss
13 the public health aspects of SO2 and coal-fired
14 power and is also available to answer questions from
15 the Board or the IEPA as necessary.

16 We recognize that there's a
17 lot of public comments to be given today but we
18 wanted to make sure that the Board fully had every
19 opportunity that it needed to ask whatever questions
20 that it might have of those people who have informed
21 the petition, so that's why we did it this way in
22 terms of giving you the opportunity to ask whatever
23 questions you want.

24 So at this point, I will call

1 the witnesses when it's time to do so, Madame
2 Hearing Officer. Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Did you want
4 to make an opening statement?

5 MS. CIPRIANO: We did a
6 consolidated one in the interest of time. Thank
7 you.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the
9 Agency want to make an opening statement?

10 MS. ROCCAFORTE: Good morning. I'm
11 Gina Roccaforte on behalf of the Agency.

12 The Agency neither supports
13 nor objects to the Board granting the petition
14 subject to the terms and conditions contained in the
15 Agency's recommendation that was filed with the
16 Board on September 5th.

17 Thank you.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. IPH,
19 you may call your first witness.

20 MS. MANNING: Thank you.

21 Our first witness is Dan
22 Thompson, Vice President of Illinois Power Holdings
23 as well as the Vice President and General Manager of
24 Dynegy Midwest Gen.

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Dan?

HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Would the court reporter please swear in the witness?

(Whereupon the witness was sworn by the reporter.)

NARRATIVE TESTIMONY

BY DAN THOMPSON:

Good morning, Hearing Officer Webb, Chairman Glosser, and honorable members of the Pollution Control Board.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can't hear him back here.

MR. THOMPSON: Good morning, Hearing Officer Webb, Chairman Glosser, and honorable members of the Pollution Control Board. I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this morning.

My name is Dan Thompson. I'm Vice President and General Manager of Dynege, General Manager of Dynege Illinois Power Holdings. I have been with the Dynege family of companies for over 14 years in various operational management capacities.

1 Prior to that, I was a
2 long-term employee of Illinois Power overseeing
3 operations of the plants formerly owned by Illinois
4 Power, now owned by Dynegy, including Baldwin,
5 Hennepin and Havana. I graduated in 1975 from the
6 U.S. Naval Academy, served for the USS Long Beach in
7 the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans. I hold an
8 MBA from Southern Illinois University at
9 Edwardsville, and I'm a resident of O'Fallon,
10 Illinois.

11 This morning I will present
12 testimony outlining our variance. I will then try
13 to best respond to your questions you may have or
14 any questions IEPA may have.

15 First, I want to assure the
16 Board that the IPH, a subsidiary of Dynegy, is
17 committed to environmental progress and improvement.
18 It is committed to running these plants effectively
19 and in an environmentally responsible way. It's
20 committed to achieving the construction of the
21 scrubbers at Newton. Dynegy has historically
22 enjoyed a meaningful presence in Illinois since its
23 purchase of Illinois Power companies in 2000.

24 It owns and operates the

1 following coal-fired power plants in Illinois:
2 Baldwin down in Randolph County, Havana down in
3 Mason County, Hennepin in Putnam County, and the
4 Wood River Power Station in Madison County. It has
5 taken substantial steps to reduce its environmental
6 impact in Illinois.

7 Dynegy has spent over a
8 billion dollars in environmental improvements in
9 Illinois since it took over Illinois Power companies
10 in 2000. These improvements are detailed in the
11 large chart we brought with us today, and we didn't
12 mean for it to be an eye exam for you. I won't go
13 in detail but suffice it to say, at your leisure you
14 can look at the environmental improvements we've
15 done at all our stations with the existing
16 facilities that we run here in Illinois.

17 DMG's Baldwin and Havana
18 facilities have installed and are operating dry FGD
19 systems for the control of SO2 emissions and ESPs
20 and baghouses for the control of particulate
21 emissions. DMG's Hennepin facility has ESPs and
22 baghouses for the control of particulate matter.
23 The baghouses at DMG's facilities also control
24 hazardous air pollutants in particulate form.

1 Activated carbon or mercury oxidation systems for
2 the control of mercury emissions have been installed
3 and are operating on all of DMG's coal-fired
4 capacity. SCR technology to control NOx emissions
5 has been installed and is operational in Havana and
6 two units at Baldwin. Combined with our statewide
7 conversion to low sulfur coal the companies
8 environmental efforts in Illinois have reduced
9 emissions on NOx, SO2 and particulate matter by over
10 90 percent from 1998 levels.

11 In addition, as the IEPA
12 presented in its recommendation, IPH and Dynegy have
13 also agreed to specific environmental benefits in a
14 memorandum of agreement reached earlier this month.
15 Those benefits will reduce overall emissions in
16 Illinois by:

17 The permanent retirement of
18 E.D. Edwards Unit 1 as soon as MISO allows us to do
19 so, and that could be as early as 2017;

20 The permanent retirement of
21 the air permits of the Stallings and Oglesby
22 Combustion Turbine Facilities; and

23 The implementation of Advanced
24 Gas Path Technology at our Kendall Station.

1 Let's look at the plants in
2 the MPS Group relevant here. The environmental
3 controls that have been implemented and improvements
4 that have been made are here in chart 2. Again, it
5 is a little small but it is quite an extensive list
6 of environmental controls we put on these units.

7 With respect to SO₂, the only
8 pollutant for which we seek relief, this MPS Group
9 has achieved a steady and significant decline in
10 SO₂ admissions across the fleet: 79 percent since
11 1990 and 23 percent in just over the last four
12 years. Operating costs total over \$7 million
13 annually for this equipment. These plants also have
14 advanced mercury reduction equipment. Most of the
15 generating units in this MPS Group are very close to
16 meeting the federal mercury standard established in
17 the recently issued Mercury and Air Toxics
18 regulations. Upon assumption of ownership, IPH will
19 continue to support and advance environmental
20 improvements across the system.

21 As it relates specifically to
22 this petition, IPH has agreed to the additional
23 three recommendations advanced by the IEPA as
24 proposed in compliance conditions. This requires

1 the use of low sulfur coal at the Joppa, Edwards and
2 Newton stations; requires the operation of the Duck
3 Creek and Coffeen scrubbers at a removal efficiency
4 greater than 98 percent; and finally, it requires
5 the closure of Edwards 1 as soon as the MISO allows
6 which I talked about earlier could be as early as
7 2017.

8 This latter commitment was
9 also reduced to writing in an MOA which I discussed
10 earlier.

11 Finally, in our response to
12 recent questions from the Board, IPH has committed
13 to a cap of SO2 emissions so that those emissions
14 will be reduced by over 7,700 tons from the period
15 of IPH ownership to the year 2020.

16 In addition to our
17 environmental commitments, Dynegy is committed to
18 Illinois and its workforce. In 2012, Dynegy's
19 direct investments in this state totaled over
20 \$261 million. Through its subsidiaries, Dynegy
21 employs approximately 600 full-time employees here
22 in the state including 550 at our power stations and
23 approximately 50 at the Illinois headquarters here
24 in O'Fallon.

1 IPH is committed to the
2 continued operation of the AER plants, and a real
3 key benefit of this transaction is that it provides
4 continued economic stability to those communities
5 these plants support and the people they employ. We
6 wanted to create stability for those locations and
7 the people that live there.

8 Let's look at these locations
9 throughout the state, and again, Claire went through
10 these but for the benefit of the audience, I'll go
11 ahead and go through these as well.

12 We have the Edwards Station in
13 Peoria County, the Duck Creek Station in Fulton
14 County. We have the Coffeen Station in Montgomery
15 County, Newton Station over in Jasper, and way down
16 by the Ohio River we have the Joppa Station in
17 Massac County.

18 There's two stations here that
19 we discussed previously in our discussions with the
20 IEPA. We want to make sure that the MPS Group
21 stayed the same, and that's what we intend to do
22 here. The two stations, Meredosia and Hutsonville,
23 will stay in this MPS Group. We've worked out
24 arrangements with Ameren to make sure that those

1 units stay shut down with the exception of the
2 FutureGen project which I believe will be coming
3 online in the 2017 timeframe.

4 Contrary to what others may
5 claim today, the transaction with Ameren was
6 constructed to achieve stability and ensure
7 continuity of employment as well as protecting the
8 pension obligations.

9 The requested variance is the
10 best opportunity for continued operation of these
11 plants and preserving high paying jobs and economic
12 investments for the communities each of these plants
13 support. A Board grant of this variance request
14 will bring an end to a period of great uncertainty
15 for the employment security and economic future of
16 the affected communities.

17 We also want to directly
18 address other misconceptions you may be told today
19 by those opposed to this variance and opposed to the
20 continued operation of Illinois coal plants.

21 First, the contention that IPH
22 is not supported by adequate financing is simply not
23 accurate indicating lack of understanding of this
24 transaction. IPH will have approximately

1 \$220 million in cash and \$160 million in networking
2 capital that will be funded day one at closing.

3 In addition, in excess of 75
4 million in annual synergies, the majority of which
5 will be realized by IPH, have been identified.
6 Substantially, all these synergies will be
7 implemented in the first quarter of 2014.

8 The day one funding combined
9 with the synergies results in IPH's subsidiaries
10 being better capitalized at closing and financially
11 more stable than AER currently is or was at the time
12 the existing variance was granted. We have
13 carefully structured this transaction to ensure
14 adequate liquidity exists to safely operate these
15 plants while the market strengthens and recovery
16 occurs.

17 As George Bilicic of Lazard
18 will explain in more detail later, the corporate
19 structure applicable to the relationship between
20 Dynergy and IPH is common both across many industries
21 and similar to what is in place today.

22 I lead the due diligence
23 efforts on the operations-related issues for this
24 transaction. I can tell you that Dynergy approached

1 this transaction with the intention that it succeed,
2 that the conditions of the variance would be met,
3 and that at the end of the variance period,
4 compliance with the MPS would be achieved. IPH has
5 been structured to succeeded based upon informed
6 views of the market and our understanding of the
7 power generation market in Illinois and the adjacent
8 markets.

9 Dynergy's existing power
10 generation fleet in Illinois provides us with a
11 unique advantage, being able to operate the combined
12 fleets more cost effectively than any other owner.
13 Given Ameren's intent to exit the merchant
14 generation business, IPH's proposed acquisition of
15 AER's five plants provides the best and most certain
16 future for these facilities, the employees, and the
17 local communities.

18 The variance petition before
19 the Board goes beyond the relief granted a year ago
20 by the Board. IPH has agreed to provide greater
21 emission reductions than expected under the Board
22 granted variance. Among the most compelling reasons
23 for the Board to grant this variance is the fact
24 that IPH can actually finish construction of the

1 Newton scrubber system. This project has already
2 cost over \$254 million. IPH has budgeted another
3 \$263 million for its completion. In establishing
4 Newton as the key to compliance with the MPS at the
5 end of the variance term, the Board set this MPS
6 Group on a path to compliance that it should not now
7 reverse.

8 The previously granted
9 variance allowed for the delay and the completion of
10 the scrubber construction at Newton making it now
11 unrealistic for construction to be completed before
12 the end of 2014. IPH can, however, implement the
13 construction schedule the Board set forth in the AER
14 variance and, given our expertise in retrofitting
15 our Illinois plants particularly at Baldwin and at
16 Havana with emission controls, we expect a seamless
17 continuation of that schedule under IPH ownership.

18 IPH seeks the very same
19 compliance plan the Board found appropriate in
20 September of 2012 for this very same MPS Group and
21 offers additional net environmental benefits. As
22 IEPA's recommendation states, Petitioner IPH has
23 analyzed all the commitments and has agreed to
24 assume each and every commitment. The same factors

1 that justified the Board's decision then are equally
2 relevant here.

3 First, we're seeking the same
4 path of compliance and expect to achieve it with
5 even less SO2 emissions than the variance granted
6 AER. We are not seeking new relief nor are we
7 seeking extensions of the terms of the Board-ordered
8 compliance plan.

9 In addition to assuming the
10 compliance conditions the Board found appropriate in
11 the AER variance proceeding, IPH agreed to
12 additional commitments which I outlined.

13 Second, the very same hardship
14 factors that the Board analyzed in the AER variance
15 still exist here. Plant closures would be a
16 significant economic hardship to not only the state
17 but particularly those communities these plants
18 support. The economic and market factors leading to
19 this set of circumstances that require this variance
20 to be granted are the same as those that supported
21 the existing variance for this MPS Group and are
22 well detailed in our petition and the affidavits of
23 Mario Alonso and George Bilicic.

24 The purpose of this variance

1 is the same as it was last year when the Board
2 granted it to allow these five plants to continue to
3 operate past 2014 when several structural changes
4 are anticipated over time that would lead to these
5 plants becoming cash flow positive and thereby
6 allowing the completion of the Newton scrubber. We
7 would not have entered this transaction if we did
8 not believe we could meet the existing variance. We
9 operate in an environmentally responsible way and
10 have placed these facilities in a position to
11 succeed.

12 Finally, under this variance,
13 there will be no more emissions than what the Board
14 allowed in its previous order. The petition
15 demonstrates that this variance would not create an
16 adverse environmental impact but instead provide, as
17 the AER variance provides, a net environmental
18 benefit.

19 The IEPA agrees that there
20 will be a continued net environmental benefit if the
21 Board were to grant the requested relief subject to
22 the terms and conditions contained in the petition.

23 Finally, this petition
24 demonstrates the appropriateness of the relief

1 requested.

2 This concludes my testimony.
3 I'd be glad to answer any questions the Board may
4 have.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Do any of the board members
8 have questions of this witness?

9 Technical unit, questions?

10 MS. LIU: Good morning,
11 Mr. Thompson.

12 MR. THOMPSON: Good morning.

13 MS. LIU: Was the information that
14 you provided in your charts included in the
15 petition?

16 MR. THOMPSON: Well, we just
17 recently provided some charts if that's what you're
18 asking for.

19 What I have in front of me is
20 a table labeled Table 1A and 1B which I think have
21 been recently submitted to the Board at their
22 request.

23 MS. LIU: I was referring to the
24 oversized charts that you have up against the wall.

1 THE WITNESS: Oh, these charts.

2 MS. MANNING: We will make sure
3 that's in the record, Ms. Liu.

4 MS. LIU: Thank you.

5 MS. MANNING: You're welcome.

6 MR. THOMPSON: I'm sure we can give
7 them to the Board if you'd really like them.

8 BOARD MEMBER RAO: Not the big
9 ones.

10 MS. MANNING: The information is
11 contained in the petition, so we'll make sure that
12 we address this in our post-hearing brief and make
13 sure all that information is put in there as well.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the
15 Agency have any questions for this witness?

16 MS. ROCCAFORTE: No.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Thank
18 you.

19 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you for the
20 opportunity.

21 MS. MANNING: Our next witness then
22 in order to discuss and answer any of the Board's
23 questions related to the financial transactions and
24 speak directly to the ACM report, we have Mr. George

1 Bilicic.

2 George? And also Mario Alonso
3 from IPH and Dynegy is here as well to answer any
4 questions the Board may have.

5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Could
6 the court reporter please swear in the witness?

7 (Whereupon the witness was sworn
8 by the reporter.)

9
10 NARRATIVE TESTIMONY

11 BY GEORGE BILICIC:

12 The podium is almost tall
13 enough for me.

14 Good morning, Madame Hearing
15 Officer Webb, Chairman Glosser, the honorable
16 members of the Pollution Control Board. My name is
17 noted as George Bilicic. I'm employed by Lazard
18 Freres, an independent financial advisory and asset
19 management firm.

20 I head the firm's Midwest
21 investment banking business and global efforts in
22 power energy and infrastructure. I've also recently
23 moved to Chicago with my family as part of turning
24 50 on Friday and now work primarily out of our

1 Chicago office.

2 In the approximately 13 years
3 that I have been in the investment banking business,
4 I have advised on a number of strategic
5 restructuring and capital markets related matters
6 for a variety of clients in the power and utility
7 industry along with other industries.

8 Previously I was a partner at
9 the law firm of Cravath, Swaine & Moore where I
10 headed the law firm's utility and power practice. I
11 also lead the infrastructure investing business at
12 KKR for a period of time.

13 I received a Bachelor's degree
14 from DeSales University and a J.D. from Georgetown.

15 Following graduation from
16 Georgetown, I also clerked for the chief judge of
17 the Federal District Court in Delaware

18 I'm here today to, among other
19 things, comment upon the expert commentary report
20 prepared by ACM Partners dated September 12th.

21 First, let me briefly review
22 the transaction structure in which Illinois Power
23 Holdings, referred to as IPH, a non-recourse entity
24 or entity legally separate from Dynegy for credit

1 purposes, would acquire Ameren's equity interest in
2 what is referred to in all the documents as New AER.
3 In other words, and as is normal and customary,
4 Dynegy structured the acquisition such that New AER
5 would be independent, self-sustaining, self-funding
6 and economically viable on its own. This is
7 typically done to separate the risks and benefits of
8 an acquired business from the buyer's other
9 businesses and so that the benefits of the
10 transaction can be separately evaluated

11 Requiring businesses to stand
12 on their own is common practice in the power and
13 utility industry and many other industries including
14 banking, finance, and insurance as a way to manage
15 the credit risk of the acquiring parent company and
16 its existing subsidiaries from the risks of the
17 acquired entity.

18 Recent notable examples of
19 transactions with non-recourse structures include
20 Energy Capital Partners' acquisition of a portfolio
21 of power plants from Dominion Resources and
22 GenOn's combination with NRG Energy. The Dominion
23 resources portfolio, as many of you know, includes a
24 coal facility in Illinois.

1 More generally, the
2 transaction structure in this case is similar to
3 traditional project finance, a commonly used
4 financing structure in the power and utility
5 industry and other industries.

6 Under such a structure, a
7 project is financed based on its own cash flows
8 rather than the balance sheet or credit profile of
9 the developer. A separate holding company is
10 typically created for each project, thereby
11 protecting other assets owned by the project
12 developer from risks associated with the project

13 As supported in my affidavit,
14 certain credit rating agencies and equity analysts
15 have cited the structural separateness of IPH as an
16 important consideration in evaluating the merits of
17 the transaction and the associated impact on
18 Dynegy's own credit and valuation. The non-recourse
19 nature of the acquisition is particularly important
20 for Dynegy as subjecting its balance sheet to
21 additional risks would have negative consequences to
22 its credit rating and, thus, its own access to
23 capital. Such risks and related adverse
24 consequences are significant, especially given the

1 ongoing challenging commodity price environment.

2 Importantly, Dynegy's proposed
3 structure is consistent with Ameren's view of AER as
4 a separate self-sustaining business at the time of
5 the original variance petition.

6 As stated in Gary Rygh's
7 affidavit, and I'll quote this, "the increasingly
8 negative view of AER by credit rating agencies,
9 Ameren shareholders, current bondholders and equity
10 research analysts not only severely limits AER from
11 accessing additional third-party capital but also
12 inhibits Ameren from further investing in AER
13 without the risk of severe negative investor
14 reaction that could adversely impact cost and access
15 to capital."

16 In short, the proposed
17 transaction structure is common in corporate
18 practice and effectively changes very little for
19 AER.

20 Second, I'd like to briefly
21 discuss the capitalization of New AER upon closing
22 and how the transaction actually makes the business
23 stronger and more resilient relative to AER under
24 Ameren. Importantly, given the depressed commodity

1 markets and volatile nature of the merchant energy
2 business, the transaction was designed to provide
3 New AER with enough liquidity to satisfy its funding
4 needs, operating and otherwise, over the next
5 several years.

6 In that regard, it is expected
7 that at closing, IPH, New AER, and its subsidiaries
8 will have approximately \$220 million in cash of
9 which 203 million will be at what is referred to as
10 GENCO and the balance at the AERG and Ameren
11 marketing businesses.

12 The 220 million in cash at
13 closing combined with the approximately 75 million
14 in annual operational synergies that the company
15 estimates it will realize in this transaction would
16 be sufficient to fund operations over the next
17 several years of the company.

18 This view is based in part on
19 the thesis of a recovery in MISO power prices in the
20 2016 to 2017 timeframe which would have at that time
21 a positive impact on New AER's cash flows.

22 While it is very difficult to
23 forecast power prices over the long-term, the MISO
24 Independent Market Monitor analysis suggests that

1 demand growth and coal retirements over the 2013 to
2 '16 timeframe should create a capacity shortfall in
3 2016 which could lead to higher power prices over
4 time.

5 With such a recovery in power
6 prices and the associated positive impact on New AER
7 cash flows, Dynegy's view that IPH would be
8 sufficiently capitalized at closing is completely
9 reasonable.

10 Furthermore, and importantly,
11 as compared to how things would be without a
12 transaction, AER's financial standing and overall
13 resiliency would actually improve as a result of the
14 transaction given the enhanced capitalization of New
15 AER at closing as well as the benefit of
16 approximately \$75 million in annual operational
17 synergies that Dynegy expects to realize over time.

18 New AER would also benefit
19 from its affiliation with one of the premier
20 merchant generating companies in the United States
21 as well as the enhanced scale and diversification of
22 the combined portfolio. Quite simply and contrary
23 to what the ACM report may suggest, New AER would be
24 a stronger more viable business relative to AER

1 under Ameren.

2 I'd like to briefly discuss
3 now the risks and adverse consequences to Dynegy if
4 it were to financially support IPH. Before I begin,
5 it is worth pointing out that such risks and adverse
6 consequences are similar to those cited by Ameren in
7 explaining its reluctance to further invest in AER
8 at the time of its original variance petition.

9 In its report, ACM claims that
10 Dynegy has the, quote, "financial resources
11 necessary to properly capitalize IPH in connection
12 with its acquisition of the coal plants if it
13 chooses to." ACM concludes, therefore, that
14 Dynegy's decision not to financially support IPH is
15 based on its realization, quote, "that the economic
16 prospects for IPH post-acquisition are not good."

17 While ACM alludes to Dynegy's,
18 quote, "financial strength" by pointing out, for
19 example, that Dynegy is, quote, "coming off an
20 impressively profitable year in which it managed to
21 show superior profitability despite a decline in
22 revenue, the Company actually generated negative net
23 income in 2012, a year in which it emerged from
24 bankruptcy, and continues to face meaningful

1 near-term financial challenges in light of the
2 depressed commodity price environment

3 For example, in its most
4 recent quarterly filing, Dynegy lowered its 2013
5 Coal Segment Adjusted EBITDA guidance by \$70 million
6 (from 60 to \$85 million to negative 10 million to
7 \$15 million), citing lower realized power pricing
8 and lower capacity revenues among other factors.

9 While accurately highlighting
10 Dynegy's strengthened balance sheet following its
11 recent financing, ACM fails to appreciate that the
12 currently challenging commodity price environment
13 requires the company to maintain strong credit
14 metrics to support its current credit rating and
15 preserve its access to affordable capital.

16 Dynegy has certainly taken
17 significant steps to shore up its balance sheet
18 following its emergence from bankruptcy in 2012.
19 However, its decision not to provide financial
20 support to IPH is based primarily on its own need
21 for liquidity at a time of critical recovery and
22 with IPH positioned for ultimate recovery.

23 In fact, feedback received by
24 Dynegy from credit rating agencies was that the

1 agencies would likely view any Dynegy provision of
2 financial support for IPH negatively. Both of the
3 main credit agencies, which are S&P and Moody's,
4 agreed that, as structured, the transaction was a
5 credit neutral event because of the non-recourse
6 nature of IPH.

7 A Dynegy credit downgrade
8 would adversely affect the Company's access to
9 capital given that it could materially increase its
10 cost of capital and thus the interest rate that it
11 would have to pay on future borrowings. The
12 potential consequences of reduced access to
13 cost-effective capital would be significant for
14 Dynegy, particularly given the ongoing challenging
15 commodity price environment

16 Importantly, a stronger Dynegy
17 would ultimately benefit IPH by allowing the company
18 to manage the supply chain more effectively and
19 secure better terms for the entire enterprise and by
20 providing for workforce stability which would help
21 the company achieve greater synergies over time.

22 Last, I would like to discuss
23 IPH's ability to obtain third-party financing.

24 The prospects of obtaining

1 third-party financing for AER should improve over
2 time. At the moment, under the terms of its current
3 bond indenture and given its weakened financial
4 condition and outlook, GENCO inside the AER family
5 of companies is contractually prohibited from
6 incurring any additional debt financing and is
7 unlikely to be able to do so until 2015.

8 In addition, prior to entering
9 into the transaction agreements, Dynegy approached
10 several financial institutions to inquire about the
11 possibility of obtaining a credit facility to
12 support New AER once transferred to IPH. However,
13 given the low cash flow profile, limited lien
14 capacity of the assets, existing debt, and the weak
15 credit profile of New AER, the financial
16 institutions contacted replied that they would not
17 extend such a credit facility.

18 The prospects of obtaining
19 third-party financing should improve once lenders
20 see evidence of market recovery in the MISO system
21 and an improving cash flow and credit profile at IPH
22 and are comfortable that GENCO will be able to
23 successfully refinance its existing bonds

24 That ends my statement and I'm

1 glad to answer questions

2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Do any of
3 the board members have any questions for this
4 witness right now?

5 Agency?

6 MS. ROCCAFORTE: No.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Before we hear from whoever is
9 next, we have a couple of legislators who need to
10 get going for another meeting.

11 I'd like to call
12 Representative Phelps to please come up and make his
13 public comment.

14 REPRESENTATIVE PHELPS: Thank you,
15 Board.

16 Good morning. I'm Brandon
17 Phelps. I serve as State Representative of the
18 118th District and which if you don't know where
19 that's at, it's the bottom 11 counties, and we call
20 that God's country.

21 I'm here to follow up on my
22 written comment and to express my continued support
23 for Illinois Power Holdings. The petition for
24 variance for the Illinois Multi-Pollutant Standard,

1 MPS.

2 As you all know, in 2012, you,
3 the Illinois Pollution Control Board, granted AER,
4 Ameren Energy Resources, a variance for the Illinois
5 MPS in which the Board found the variance to be a,
6 quote, "net benefit to air quality" and recognized
7 the associated economic benefits.

8 IPH's variance is materially
9 the same as the one granted by the Board to AER last
10 fall, and for this reason, I urge the Board to grant
11 IPH its request.

12 One of the main reasons I'm
13 here today too is in support of AER's Joppa Energy
14 Center which is located in my district in Massac
15 County, home of Superman. Right now, the future of
16 the Joppa energy plant is not bright, and I'm
17 getting many calls about this. The uncertainty is
18 causing enormous amounts of distress to individuals
19 and also to their families.

20 If you don't know my district,
21 as you know, it's been hit hard with the state
22 facility closings that the governor did, especially
23 Tamms. The unemployment rate is very high. Lack of
24 investment to support the needs of the community is

1 not there. Local school districts and
2 municipalities are struggling.

3 The AER Joppa Energy Center
4 helped provide a high degree of certainty throughout
5 Illinois with a total annual economic impact of the
6 state of \$193.5 million. It generates \$46 million
7 in annual household earnings for Illinois residents
8 and pays about \$850,000 in local property taxes,
9 which is very critical and crucial in my district.

10 Not only that, everybody is
11 for jobs. I see a lot of people out here with the
12 shirts on, they love clean air. Well, we all do,
13 and this is a way we can do this, and I know you
14 know that, but also we need to support our jobs.

15 We have many people here from
16 the unions. IBEW Local 51, Boilermakers Local 363,
17 International Union of Operating Engineers Local 148
18 support almost 400 jobs just in that area.

19 The survival of the Joppa
20 Energy Center is vital to my district, and many
21 benefits will be lost if a similar variance is not
22 granted to Dynegy and IPH. We cannot afford to lose
23 any more jobs, and I know you all know that.

24 As State Representative of

1 District 118, I pledge my support for the request
2 and believe it's the best path forward to improve
3 air quality while protecting jobs and sustaining
4 economic vitality to the State of Illinois.

5 I appreciate your time and
6 thank you for allowing me to be here.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you,
8 Representative.

9 There's somebody else who
10 needs to leave, and I apologize, I can't quite read
11 it on the note. Is it Representative Fornly?

12 SENATOR FORBY: Senator Forby
13 (F-o-r-b-y.)

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Senator
15 Forby. Okay. Thank you. Sorry about that.

16 SENATOR FORBY: Senator Forby, 59th
17 District, State Senator. Joppa is located in my
18 district.

19 I want to thank everybody
20 that's here today, the Pollution Board for what they
21 can do, and what I'd really like to say, when you
22 get a group of people like this, what's in this
23 room, when you sit down at a table and negotiate
24 this thing, negotiations will come out right because

1 when you look at all these people out here, to put
2 them people out of work in the highest unemployment
3 part of the state would be terrible.

4 We know the State of Illinois
5 has had a tough budget problem, and the way to fix
6 our budget is not putting people out of work.

7 So I'm convinced today when
8 this meeting is all over with, we'll set down at the
9 table, we will work something out and make sure all
10 these people out here can keep their jobs and we'll
11 have clean air.

12 Thank you very much.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you,
14 Senator.

15 Are there any other
16 legislators that need to leave? Otherwise, we're
17 going to continue with...

18 MS. CIPRIANO: Representative
19 Rosenthal.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB:
21 Representative Rosenthal.

22 REPRESENTATIVE ROSENTHAL: Thank you
23 very much. I am Wayne Rosenthal, State
24 Representative from the 95th District which is just

1 south of Springfield: Christian, Montgomery,
2 Macoupin County and part of Madison County.

3 I am here today in full
4 support of the variance petition filed by Illinois
5 Power Holdings, a Dynegy subsidiary currently
6 pending before the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

7 If the petition is granted,
8 IPH will provide certainty to employees in
9 communities throughout central and southern Illinois
10 that count on many economic benefits of the
11 continued operation of the AER energy centers.

12 Without this variance, AER
13 will be forced to pursue other options for its
14 energy centers creating uncertainty for the future
15 of the plants and those who depend upon them --
16 individuals, families, businesses, and communities
17 not only within my district but all across the
18 state.

19 The Coffeen Energy Center is
20 located in Montgomery County which has one of the
21 highest unemployment rates in the state. It's
22 within my district, and its livelihood is critical
23 as demonstrated by its total annual economic impact
24 of 535 million for the State of Illinois.

1 Additionally, this facility
2 generates more than 123.2 million in annual
3 household earnings for Illinois residents which in
4 turn support our local schools, municipalities,
5 emergency response organizations, and city
6 governments across the state. It pays 3.8 million
7 in annual local property taxes. It supports 1,513
8 jobs in our local area including the men and women
9 from the International Union of Operating Engineers
10 Local 148.

11 Overall, it supports 2,481
12 jobs in the State of Illinois. As you can see, my
13 district as well as the State of Illinois will lose
14 countless benefits should the Pollution Control
15 Board not grant IPH's request.

16 Dynergy has stepped up to help
17 support much union needed jobs and economic activity
18 throughout Illinois. Through this proposed sale of
19 AER to IPH, they are committing to doing what they
20 can to keep AER plants operating within Illinois and
21 have already spent approximately one billion on
22 environmental controls in Illinois.

23 Last year, this Board saw fit
24 to grant AER's variance request recognizing both the

1 on my written comments and express my support for
2 Illinois Power Holdings' petition for variance from
3 the Illinois Multi-Pollutant Standards.

4 The variance request applies
5 to the Coffeen Energy Center and Ameren Energy
6 Resources facility located within my district in
7 southern Montgomery County which provides an immense
8 level of economic security to individuals, families,
9 and communities situated within my district and
10 across the region and downstate.

11 Last year in September, this
12 Board saw fit to grant AER's variance request
13 recognizing both the environmental and economic
14 benefits of doing so, and I'm here to urge the Board
15 to do the same for IPH's request.

16 As of July 2013, the
17 unemployment rate in our state was 9.2 percent. It
18 has since gone up, and Montgomery County, as
19 Representative Rosenthal just said, has been
20 traditionally the county in the state with the
21 highest unemployment rate. So losing this private
22 employer would be detrimental not just to Montgomery
23 County but to the entire state.

24 AER has a total of five energy

1 plants within Illinois that help provide certainty
2 to the employees and communities in the central and
3 southern portions of our state that count on the
4 economic benefit of the continued operation of these
5 facilities.

6 When I was county board
7 chairman in Macoupin County, we went through a
8 period in 2007 and 2008 where we lost two coal
9 mines, and we lost 25 cents on every dollar of our
10 revenue to county government, and we had to manage
11 our way through that crisis, and let me tell you, it
12 wasn't pretty. Services suffered, local businesses
13 suffered, and things took a spiraling path toward
14 the bad side.

15 We've since made it through
16 it, and we have since had the benefit of reopening
17 one of the coal mines, but losing a large private
18 employer such as this potentially would be
19 detrimental beyond just Coffeen and beyond just
20 Montgomery County.

21 A vibrant business climate is
22 essential for the residents in our communities and
23 even the prospects of potential shutdowns could
24 stifle economic growth and the further development

1 of the industry in both central and southern
2 Illinois.

3 I've met with Dynegy many
4 times and they have given me their commitment that
5 they are doing what they can to keep AER plants
6 operating within the state. Already they have spent
7 approximately \$1 billion on environmental controls.

8 I've reviewed the request, and
9 I believe that it is both economically and
10 environmentally responsible. The variance ensures
11 reduced emissions and high environmental standards
12 that are in place while also protecting the economic
13 livelihoods of Illinois families and a place that
14 needs it desperately.

15 And as a state senator of
16 Illinois' 48th District, I pledge my support for the
17 request and believe that it is the best path forward
18 at this time to improve air quality while protecting
19 jobs and sustaining economic vitality in the State
20 of Illinois.

21 Thank you for your time.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Anybody else? Legislators?

24 REPRESENTATIVE HALBROOK: Thank

1 you, Hearing Officer and Chairman.

2 My name is Representative Brad
3 Halbbrook. I'm a state representative in the 110th
4 which is east central Illinois. It has all or part
5 of six counties: Coles, Cumberland, Clark,
6 Crawford, Lawrence and Edgar.

7 Today I'm here to follow up on
8 my written comments and to express my strong support
9 for Illinois Power Holdings' petition for variance
10 in the Illinois Multi-Pollutant Standard.

11 IPH is seeking similar relief
12 to the variance to the petition you granted Ameren
13 Energy, AER, in 2012 and is committed to complying
14 and fulfilling the obligations under that variance.

15 I urge the Board to grant the
16 same relief to IPH so that the many benefits
17 provided by its facility are not lost in the State
18 of Illinois.

19 AER has a total of five energy
20 plants within Illinois which provide an immense
21 level of security to individuals, families and
22 communities situated within some of the most
23 economically devastated areas in the state.

24 AER's Newton Energy Center,

1 which is located in Jasper County, adjoins my
2 district on the west side. These individuals and
3 families and businesses within my district have by
4 no means been immune to the trying economic times
5 dealing with the high unemployment, no new job
6 opportunities, and the lack of investments
7 supporting these people within the community,
8 especially in regards to the local schools and
9 municipalities.

10 The livelihood of the
11 individuals and families within my district as well
12 as in central and southern Illinois depend on the
13 survival of the new energy center whose total annual
14 economic impact on the State of Illinois is over
15 \$288 million.

16 Additionally, the facility
17 generates over \$72 million in household earnings for
18 Illinois residents which in turn supports local
19 schools, municipalities, emergency response
20 organizations and city governments across the state.
21 It pays over 7 million, almost 7-1/2 million dollars
22 in local property taxes. It supports 739 local area
23 jobs and almost 1,300 jobs in the state. It also
24 continues to provide economic benefit through job

1 security and job creation.

2 A successful transfer of these
3 plants through IPH offers the best opportunity for
4 the workers, their families and for our communities.
5 Without the variance, Ameren will be forced to
6 pursue other options for the AER energy centers
7 creating uncertainty for individuals, families and
8 businesses within my district as well as those
9 around and throughout central and southern Illinois.

10 Dynegy is committed to doing
11 what it can to create plants operating throughout
12 Illinois. They are an Illinois employer with a
13 strong environmental track record. Dynegy has spent
14 approximately a billion dollars on environmental
15 controls in Illinois while AER is also contributing
16 more than one billion on pollution control
17 equipment.

18 As a representative of the
19 110th District, I continue to pledge my full support
20 for IPH's request asking that you please grant this
21 request so that we can improve the quality of our
22 air by achieving these cleaner emission standards
23 without having to jeopardize jobs and jeopardize the
24 livelihoods of the Illinois residents.

1 Thank you very much.

2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

3 Any other state legislators
4 here?

5 REPRESENTATIVE RICE: Thank you
6 very much. We all kind of rode together and if you
7 don't mind, there's a couple others with me. I
8 thank the Board for their indulgence.

9 State Representative David
10 Rice from the 109th District which includes Jasper
11 County and the Newton power plant.

12 I'm here once condition to
13 offer my support for extending the variance to
14 Dynegy Energy for the implementation and
15 installation of scrubber equipment.

16 You know, we were here last
17 year to offer this same support for variance for
18 Ameren. It made sense then. It makes sense now.
19 They're not trying to get out of installing
20 anything. They just want some more time to cash
21 flow it and make sure it gets put in right.

22 And I made my comments last
23 year. You know, United States is four percent of
24 the world population. Now, granted, we use more

1 energy than that, but China and India and places
2 like that are belching out stuff that would make all
3 of us in this room nauseated.

4 Here in America we're doing
5 things right, but it has to make economic sense as
6 well. The electric rates have gone down a lot.
7 It's harder to cash flow these things, and I live
8 about ten or twelve miles from the Newton power
9 plant. I see how much money has been invested in
10 this scrubber, and they've still got a ways to go,
11 and that's why they're asking for this variance, to
12 allow time to get it installed, but we're going to
13 get there, and it's going to be a very efficient and
14 clean burning coal-fired power plant.

15 It's interesting also to note
16 that Newton is the third newest coal-fired power
17 plant in the State of Illinois. The small one here
18 south of town and then the one in southern Illinois
19 is open, but we're the third newest finished in
20 1974.

21 So we have to be careful if we
22 start shuttering or mothballing power plants as to
23 where exactly we're going to get our power, so
24 there's people here from the county board, the

1 school district to talk about the importance and
2 give you more numbers, but, like I said, for people
3 who know me in Springfield, I'm the legislator where
4 the tires hit the road. This made sense a year ago.
5 It makes sense now, and I encourage you to grant the
6 variance once again.

7 Thank you for your time.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

9 MAYOR BOLANDER: Good morning. I'm
10 Mark Bolander. I'm the mayor of Newton, Illinois.
11 I've been in office for eight and a half years now.

12 Newton is the county seat in
13 Jasper County which is southeastern Illinois, about
14 two and a half hours from here. Newton has a
15 population of approximately 3,000. Jasper County
16 has a population of approximately 10,000 including
17 Newton.

18 We're a typical rural
19 community where we need and appreciate all our
20 residents, businesses, and those just passing
21 through.

22 The Newton Energy Center is in
23 the southwestern part of our county next to one of
24 the best bass fishing lakes in the Midwest, and we

1 rely heavily on its presence in our area.

2 Besides the electricity it
3 generates, we also rely on the good paying jobs, the
4 property tax revenue and positive economic impact
5 the Newton plant brings to our city and county.

6 Our local restaurants, gas
7 stations, car dealerships, retail establishments and
8 building contractors are heavily dependent on the
9 business revenue generated by the employees and
10 families of the Newton Energy Center who reside
11 here. Those who pass through or spend time in our
12 community through their employment with the Newton
13 plant also lend steady, much needed support by
14 increasing the traffic through these local
15 establishments.

16 Our school district, fire
17 protection district, ambulance service, law
18 enforcement groups are affected very directly from
19 property tax revenue provided by the Newton Energy
20 Center in the type of services and programs they're
21 able to provide and at what cost.

22 Losing the Newton Energy
23 Center would cripple not only Newton and Jasper
24 County but have a huge negative impact regionally as

1 well. The effect of losing any job, any means of
2 support, any source of revenue in a rural community
3 is felt quickly and intensely throughout the area.

4 I've got some actual data
5 here. Total economic impact on the State of
6 Illinois, \$288,339,000. Total annual household
7 earnings, \$72,371,000. Local property taxes,
8 7,384,000. Total supported Illinois jobs in local
9 area, 739. Total jobs supported for Illinois
10 residents, 1,292; direct jobs, 142.

11 Now, this is just Newton. I'm
12 not talking about the other plants here. I'm not
13 qualified to talk about the other areas.

14 You're going to hear many
15 claims today by individuals and groups that the
16 Newton Energy Center and other coal burning plants
17 are environmentally harmful. Most of these
18 individuals and groups don't even know where Newton
19 is located. If they would come downstate and visit
20 our area, they would see Mother Nature at her
21 finest.

22 Please support this variance
23 request to preserve jobs, families and our
24 community. Thank you.

1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you,
2 Mayor.

3 Before we continue, are there
4 any more state legislators to speak here today?

5 I'd like to hold off on the
6 local officials for now. If you don't mind, I'd
7 like to have the parties finish making their
8 presentations.

9 MS. CIPRIANO: I think they're all
10 together.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Oh, they're
12 all together. Oh, okay. You need to get out of
13 here. Okay.

14 Connie, could you go ahead and
15 bring me that sheet of the officials.

16 You can go ahead and begin.

17 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you.

18 Good morning, Honorable
19 Illinois Pollution Control Board. My name is Ed
20 Mitchell, and I'm Chairman of the Jasper County
21 Board. I've chaired that board for the last nine
22 years.

23 Last Thursday evening, our
24 Board voted to support the variance that we're

1 talking about here at the Illinois Power Holdings.
2 The Board understands that air quality is important
3 and believes that Ameren has been working in good
4 faith to accomplish this goal. However, we
5 understand that we have good relationship with
6 Ameren, and they've been a partner in economic
7 development, and we anticipate that happening with
8 Dynegy.

9 Jasper County is a small
10 county in southeastern Illinois. It has 495 square
11 miles, 9,698 residents. It's a small farming
12 community. We have two manufacturing facilities and
13 Ameren plant. The Ameren plant is the second
14 largest employer in the county with the school
15 districts being number one. It has over half of the
16 EAV of Jasper County.

17 The school district receives
18 about 50 percent of tax monies that are generated.
19 The county gets about 20 percent. The Illinois
20 Eastern Community College gets 16 percent and three
21 townships, fire district, library board, and the
22 University of Illinois extension gets the rest of
23 those tax dollars.

24 Jasper County Board realizes

1 that the impact of not granting this variance would
2 be devastating and destabilizing to the entire
3 community. It's been calculated that there's about
4 \$55 million generated through this plant, and we
5 just feel that the employees that are working there,
6 the families, the whole community will be devastated
7 if this variance isn't allowed.

8 The county board has we felt
9 done our part over the years. In 2010, we cut our
10 general fund budget by 23 percent. The sheriff
11 closed the jail. We laid off several people. Had
12 20 employees take early retirement, and two years
13 later, we opened the jail. The circuit clerk, the
14 county clerk, the assessor and the treasurers
15 offices are still understaffed. We've asked our
16 departments to cut their budget again this year. We
17 have a total of 84 full-time employees. 50 of those
18 employees are with the health department, the
19 ambulance department and the sheriff's department,
20 so we're heavy on health and safety.

21 In conclusion, we would ask
22 you to weigh the options to strongly consider what
23 impact would happen to the county and the community
24 if the variance is not granted, and we would again

1 ask that you support Dynegey and Illinois Power in
2 granting that variance, and I thank you for letting
3 me speak.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 And you're together? Go
6 ahead.

7 MR. COX: Good morning. Thank you
8 for allowing me the opportunity to speak today.

9 I'm Dan Cox, Superintendent of
10 Schools for Jasper County Unit #1.

11 I did bring just a brief draft
12 of some financial and statistical information about
13 our school districts if I may give it to the Board.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sure.

15 MR. COX: Our district is a unit
16 district consisting of 1,400 students in grades
17 pre-K through 12. We're the largest geographic
18 school district in the State of Illinois consisting
19 of 462 square miles. Our busses travel 3,436 miles
20 per day just to get children to school.

21 To put that in perspective,
22 that's 1,200 miles further than the drive from New
23 York to San Diego, and we do that each day.

24 Located within the district is

1 the Newton Power Station, a valuable neighbor that's
2 vital to the financial health of our schools as it
3 represents over half of our tax base at
4 approximately \$4 million.

5 As the largest employer within
6 Jasper County, Unit 1 employs 200 certified and
7 noncertified staff.

8 Since 2008, our district has
9 lost \$2.1 million in combined revenue that's already
10 resulted in the loss of jobs, educational programs
11 and the closure of schools. The written testimony
12 I've provided contains a graph of the current
13 economic challenges my district faces. This is with
14 the Newton Power Station located in our district.
15 As you can imagine, the potential closure of the
16 plant as a result of the variance not being granted
17 would be devastating.

18 I understand and appreciate
19 all the many factors you must consider to make your
20 decision. During this hearing, we'll have heard and
21 will hear more about the environment, natural
22 resources and commodities. Well, I'm here today
23 representing our most pressures natural resource,
24 our children. Its our responsibility to provide the

1 children with the means to receive a well-rounded
2 education rich in liberal and fine arts, political
3 and social sciences, extra- and co-curricular
4 activities just to name a few. We do that so our
5 children may too some day be leaders of our
6 communities and function as democratic citizens.
7 This variance is crucial to my district to be able
8 to do just that.

9 Thank you for your
10 consideration and allowing me the opportunity to
11 speak today.

12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

13 Is the City of Robinson Mayor
14 here, Roger Pethtel?

15 MAYOR PETHTEL: As Mayor of
16 Robinson, I'm not going to give you all the facts
17 and figures. You've already heard all of that. The
18 only thing I'm going to tell you today is that as
19 mayor of Robinson, I am here representing the City
20 of Robinson and the city council.

21 In 2012, the Illinois
22 Pollution Control Board granted an extension to
23 Ameren for pollution controls from January 1, 2015
24 to January 2020, and we believe it would be in the

1 best interest to Dynegy to transfer that variance
2 from Ameren to Dynegy as so many people and
3 families, especially families, school children,
4 depend on Ameren's tax bill that they paid to Jasper
5 County last year. The last two years, it was in
6 excess of 14-1/2 million dollars for the two years.

7 Also, in 2011, I was an
8 employee for Ameren at the Hutsonville Power Station
9 that was closed because of pollution control
10 regulations, and I was fortunate enough to retire,
11 but some of our employees were transferred to the
12 Newton Power Station and Coffeen Power Station, and
13 they are now in jeopardy of again losing their jobs
14 if this permit is not granted to transfer from
15 Ameren to Dynegy.

16 So I have personal interest in
17 these people. Some of them still live in Robinson,
18 in Crawford County, that work at the Newton Power
19 Station so it's very close to me. My friends work
20 there. It's just not people that live in Robinson.
21 They're my friends.

22 Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

24 And the only person left I

1 have here on my list of officials is Crawford County
2 Economic Director Bob Berty. Is that B-e-r-t-e?

3 MR. BERTY: "y".

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: B-e-r-t-y?

5 MR. BERTY: Correct.

6 Thank you all for allowing me
7 to speak.

8 I'm the Executive Director of
9 Crawford County Development. It's my job and my
10 second or third career to try to bring more jobs and
11 more industry to southeastern Illinois, and as you
12 all know, that's a difficult situation. Bringing
13 jobs to Illinois is tough. It's tough.

14 I take a little more
15 provincial or more local view. Many of the learned
16 people up here have taken the entire view. I am
17 looking at it just from our standpoint.

18 We've already had, in Crawford
19 County, we have already had the Hutsonville plant
20 close in 2011 with some adverse effects not only to
21 employment but to taxes which, as we all know, for
22 our schools is very, very vital, and we are lucky in
23 that we have a couple large industries there. They
24 depend upon the Newton power plant which is

1 adjacent, immediately adjacent to Crawford County,
2 Jasper County, and those products that are
3 manufactured by Marathon Oil we all need. We
4 desperately need those.

5 The other factor that we have
6 that depends on this power plant is the Hershey
7 candy bar. I know we need gasoline, but we do not
8 want to lose our Heath Bars. If you haven't had
9 them, I'll send them to you.

10 In spite of the industries
11 that we have, and we're very, very fortunate to have
12 them, we still have unemployment of about ten
13 percent in Crawford County. It just recently went
14 up, and so we would implore you and request that you
15 continue the grant of the easement to the new
16 people, the Dynegy people, because we cannot
17 afford...we're right next to Indiana folks with only
18 the river separating us, and as you know, they have
19 many, many advantages, and our industry keeps
20 drifting over across that river in spite of the
21 strong current. We wish the current were stronger
22 and wash them downstream, but they drift over to
23 Indiana, so folks we cannot stand in southeastern
24 Illinois to have any more unemployment, so we

1 respectfully request that you grant the variance.

2 Thank you for letting us
3 speak.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Those are all the public
6 officials I have on my list. I'll ask again after
7 we finish the parties' statements, unless anybody
8 else -- if I missed anyone, I apologize but I'll
9 come back to you.

10 I guess we'll go ahead and
11 resume with Illinois Power's next witness.

12 MS. MANNING: We have one final
13 witness, Dr. Lisa Bradley, who did the AECOM report
14 that's contained in our petition. I believe it's
15 Exhibit 12.

16 Dr. Bradley?

17 Madame Hearing Officer, we
18 intended our witnesses to give sworn statements.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Yes, the
20 first two did, and I'm about to ask the court
21 reporter to swear her in.

22 (Whereupon the witness was sworn
23 by the reporter.)

24

1 NARRATIVE TESTIMONY

2 BY DR. LISA BRADLEY:

3 Unlike our other witnesses,
4 I'm not height challenged so hopefully everyone you
5 can hear me.

6 Good morning, Madame Hearing
7 Officer, Chairman, and members of the Board. My
8 name is Lisa JN Bradley, Ph.D., DABT. I'm a vice
9 president and senior toxicologist with AECOM
10 Technical Services where I've been employed since
11 October 1991. In my capacity with AECOM, I'm a
12 senior toxicologist and human health risk assessor.

13 Human health risk assessment
14 is the process used to estimate the risk that
15 contact with constituents and the environment may
16 harm people now or in the future. I conduct human
17 health risk assessments and evaluations, provide
18 toxicology support to my clients, conduct regulatory
19 negotiations, and provide environmental
20 communications support.

21 I earned a Ph.D. in toxicology
22 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or
23 MIT, in 1991 and a B.S. in chemistry and zoology,
24 summa cum laude, from the University of Idaho in

1 1983, where I was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. I'm
2 certified as a Diplomate of the Ameren Board of
3 Toxicology, which is the DABT. I earned that
4 certification in 1994 and have successfully
5 recertified every five years since then.

6 The mission of the Ameren
7 Board of Toxicology is to identify, maintain and
8 evolve a standard for professional competency in the
9 field of toxicology. The certification of Diplomate
10 is a globally recognized credential in toxicology
11 representative of competency and commitment to human
12 health and environmental scientists.

13 I've been asked to provide a
14 toxicologist's perspective on the joint petition for
15 variance from the Illinois Sulfur Dioxide
16 Multi-Pollutant Standard sought by the petitioners.

17 I have concluded from my
18 evaluation that there would be no adverse health
19 impact as a result of implementing the requested
20 variance and proposed compliance plan, and my
21 opinion has been detailed in a report that is
22 Exhibit 12 of the petition.

23 I first want to talk about SO₂
24 and health effects. There's understandably concern

1 on the part of the public about the potential health
2 effects of exposure to SO₂. However, we need to
3 understand that since 1990, emissions of SO₂ by the
4 electric power sector have decreased dramatically,
5 this at a time when the use of coal in the U.S. by
6 the electric power sector has been increasing.

7 Emissions have decreased in
8 the U.S. in general and in Illinois in particular.
9 Moreover, ambient air concentrations of SO₂ in
10 Illinois have been decreasing since 2007.

11 I also have a chart that I'll
12 show you here that demonstrates this specifically
13 for the MPS Group.

14 The red line here shows the
15 use of coal by these units, and the blue line that
16 you see here shows the dramatic decrease in SO₂
17 emissions from 1990 to the present by the MPS Group.

18 While there have been many
19 studies on the potential for health effects from
20 exposure to SO₂, there are misconceptions about what
21 the scientific research is telling us.

22 From controlled studies with
23 human subjects, there appears to be a continuous
24 spectrum of sensitivity to SO₂ with some people

1 being completely unaffected by concentrations that
2 can lead to severe effects in others.

3 Asthmatics are particularly
4 sensitive to the effects of SO₂ and the effects are
5 enhanced if sufficient amounts of SO₂ reach the
6 lower regions of the lung which is more likely
7 during exercise.

8 Maximum effects of SO₂ occur
9 within a few minutes of exposure but continued
10 exposure typically does not increase the response,
11 and the effects are generally short-lived and
12 completely reversible.

13 In these clinical studies,
14 humans are exposed to SO₂ concentrations in much
15 higher concentrations than those found in ambient
16 air. Epidemiological studies of long-term and
17 short-term SO₂ concentrations in ambient air have
18 more often than not failed to find statistical
19 significant associations with health effects. In
20 fact, USEPA has concluded in its Integrated Science
21 Assessment for SO₂ that there is not a causal
22 relationship between long-term SO₂ exposure and
23 respiratory effects or mortality.

24 Asthma is the health effect

1 that's most commonly cited associated with SO2
2 exposure, and there's public concern about the rise
3 of asthma in the U.S. population. However, there
4 are many theories about the rise in asthma over the
5 past 30 years, and exposure to outdoor pollution is
6 probably the least plausible explanation. This is
7 given the fact that the air quality in Illinois and
8 the nation as a whole, specifically with respect to
9 SO2 emissions, has improved dramatically during the
10 same time period over which asthma prevalence has
11 increased. Thus, this theory of causality cannot be
12 supported when dramatic decreases in SO2 emissions
13 in the U.S. by the electric power sector is compared
14 to asthma prevalence increases from 1980 through
15 1996, and there have been less dramatic increases
16 up through 2010.

17 In fact, asthma rates have
18 been increasing globally, even in areas not impacted
19 by industrial and urban sources of pollution.
20 Specific causes for this increase are not known but
21 may be a combination of several factors. These
22 include changes over time in how asthma has been
23 diagnosed and the fact that our children spend much
24 more time indoors than they did 30 years ago.

1 Indoor allergens, such as environmental tobacco
2 smoke and others, have been causally linked to
3 exacerbation of asthma symptoms in sensitive
4 individuals including young children.

5 Thus, the increase in asthma
6 in the U.S. at the same time that SO2 emissions
7 dramatically decreased, the increase in asthma
8 globally, including areas remote from industrial and
9 urban areas, and the change in activity patterns
10 where our children are spending much more time in
11 indoor environments in the presence of known
12 allergens, coupled with the low levels of ambient
13 SO2 in Illinois under conditions of SO2 emissions at
14 rates higher than those in the MPS variance, all
15 support a conclusion of a lack of adverse health
16 effects, including asthma, under the MPS variance.

17 Much of the information used
18 to draw conclusions about the potential for impacts
19 of ambient air quality on human health comes from
20 epidemiological studies. These studies gather data
21 on health outcomes, for example, hospital
22 admittance, with available ambient air quality data
23 to determine if there are correlations between the
24 two. It's very important to understand that such

1 studies can only indicate if there's a correlation.
2 They cannot determine if there is a cause and effect
3 relationship.

4 This is because
5 epidemiological studies cannot control for, nor can
6 they necessarily identify all of the factors that
7 may influence a potential health outcome.
8 Therefore, they're plagued with issues of what we
9 call confounding; for example, if coffee drinkers
10 are more likely to be smokers, and a study was
11 conducted to explore potential associations between
12 coffee drinking and smoking and lung cancer.

13 Without taking the smoking
14 habits of coffee drinkers into account, smoking
15 would be a compounder, and the results would seem to
16 show that coffee drinking increases the risk of lung
17 cancer.

18 The assumption has been that
19 the concentration-response relationships reported in
20 early epidemiological studies indicate causal
21 relationships between the SO₂ exposures and adverse
22 health effects. However, in most studies that have
23 used more sophisticated models to account for the
24 presence of other pollutants in the air,

1 particularly ozone particulates, nitrogen oxides,
2 the small associations observed in early research
3 between ambient SO2 concentrations and adverse
4 health outcomes have usually been shown not to
5 exist.

6 Put a different way, when
7 information on the presence of other pollutants is
8 used, health effects correlate more strongly with
9 other pollutants than they do with SO2. What is
10 increasingly clear from these more detailed
11 epidemiological studies is that SO2, either in a
12 gaseous or particulate form, is rarely correlated
13 with adverse health outcomes.

14 According to the USEPA's own
15 Integrated Science Assessment of SO2 prepared in
16 support of the most recent NAAQS review, or National
17 Ambient Air Quality Standards, overall, the
18 epidemiological studies do not provide sufficient
19 evidence to infer a causal relationship between
20 long-term exposure to SO2 and asthma, bronchitis, or
21 respiratory systems.

22 The USEPA Integrated Science
23 Assessment also concludes that the available
24 epidemiological evidence on the effect of long-term

1 exposure to SO2 on mortality is inadequate to infer
2 a causal relationship at this time.

3 Thus, from all of this
4 information, I have concluded from my evaluation
5 there would be no adverse health impact as a result
6 of implementing the requested variance and proposed
7 compliance plan.

8 I'd be happy to answer any
9 questions if you may have them.

10 CHAIRMAN GLOSSER: I have one
11 question.

12 You said from the report that
13 USEPA did there was no causal relationship for
14 long-term effects?

15 DR. BRADLEY: Correct.

16 CHAIRMAN GLOSSER: Did that report
17 address causal relationship to short-term impacts?

18 DR. BRADLEY: They looked at
19 short-term effects as well, but they based the
20 National Ambient Air Quality Standard on
21 epidemiological studies where of the ten studies
22 that they looked at, only one of them actually
23 showed a statistical significant correlation. The
24 others were either no correlation or very small

1 correlations, and later evaluations showed that
2 those correlations with health effects are actually
3 due to other pollutants.

4 CHAIRMAN GLOSSER: Thank you.

5 DR. BRADLEY: Any other questions?

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the
7 Agency have any questions?

8 MS. ROCCAFORTE: No.

9 MS. MANNING: Thank you, Madame
10 Hearing Officer. That concludes our presentation,
11 and we appreciate the Board's time. Thank you very
12 much.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you
14 very much.

15 I'd like to call on the
16 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Correct
17 me if I'm wrong. It's my understanding you do not
18 have a presentation but you do have someone
19 available to answer questions. You're also willing
20 to answer questions in your post-hearing brief, but
21 if the Board has any questions for you right now, I
22 will pass down the microphone.

23 Any questions for the IEPA?

24 Okay. Then I guess we can go

1 ahead and continue.

2 Are there any public officials
3 left in the room who would like to make any comment
4 before we continue?

5 I don't see any hands, so we
6 will go ahead and proceed.

7 The Environmental Law & Policy
8 Center has two people here who would like to make an
9 oral statement, is that correct?

10 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes, Madame Hearing
11 Officer. We have two witnesses, Mr. Steven Klafka
12 and Mr. David Johnson.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Who
14 would like to go first?

15 MR. ARMSTRONG: We'd like to have
16 Mr. Klafka go first.

17 THE REPORTER: Could I have your
18 name?

19 MR. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry. Andrew
20 Armstrong with the Environmental Law & Policy
21 Center.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Come on up,
23 and I will ask the court reporter to swear in this
24 gentleman for an oral statement.

1 (Whereupon the witness was sworn
2 by the reporter.)

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: And please
4 state your name on the record as well.

5 MR. KLAFKA: My name is Steve
6 Klafka (K-l-a-f-k-a).

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Go ahead.

8

9 NARRATIVE TESTIMONY

10 BY STEVE KLAFKA:

11 As I said, my name is Steve
12 Klafka. I've been an environmental engineer for 30
13 years. I'm a registered professional engineer in a
14 number of states including Illinois, and I work for
15 Wingra Engineering in Madison Wisconsin, and that's
16 a business that started about 20 years ago.

17 I have a broad mix of clients
18 that I work for, including utilities, industries,
19 environmental groups and neighborhoods, and
20 dispersion modeling is one of the typical services I
21 provide to my clients, and you may be familiar with
22 modeling because it's regularly used by applicants
23 and regulatory agencies during the issuance of air
24 quality permits in order to verify compliance with

1 air quality standards, and this includes both
2 construction permits for new projects as well as
3 operating permits for existing operations.

4 Today I'm going to talk about
5 sulfur dioxide, one of the primary emissions in
6 power plants.

7 In 2010, EPA adopted a new
8 National Air Quality Standard for sulfur dioxide and
9 this is based on a one-hour averaging period. When
10 EPA announced the standard, it expected that it
11 would improve public health protection of groups
12 that are susceptible to health problems associated
13 with SO₂, especially children, the elderly, and
14 people with asthma.

15 EPA estimated that this new
16 standard would yield health benefits between 13 on
17 33 billion dollars from such benefits as reduced
18 hospital admissions, emergency room visits, work
19 days lost due to illness, and cases of aggravated
20 asthma and chronic bronchitis.

21 Now, as I explain later, I
22 used dispersion modeling to evaluate three power
23 plants in Illinois, and each of them was expected or
24 predicted to violate this new one-hour air standard.

1 And I think you've got copies of my modeling reports
2 which describe the procedures.

3 The new one-hour air standard
4 is 75 parts per billion, and because I'll be
5 discussing this later, that's equivalent to 196
6 micrograms per cubic meter, and those are the units
7 that are used by regulatory agencies whenever they
8 do dispersion modeling.

9 To support state
10 implementation of the new one-hour air standard, EPA
11 has confirmed that the use of dispersion modeling is
12 a suitable method to verify whether utilities or
13 industrial facilities will comply with this new
14 one-hour standard.

15 And during the past several
16 years, I've conducted over a hundred modeling
17 analyses to determine if power plants in the U.S.
18 comply with the new one-hour standard. These plants
19 have been located in about 26 different states,
20 including Illinois.

21 For today, I was hired by the
22 Sierra Club to conduct a dispersion modeling
23 analysis to determine if three power plants in
24 Illinois comply with the one-hour air standard for

1 SO2. These are the Edwards Power Station in
2 Bartonville, Joppa Steam Electric Station in Joppa,
3 and Newton Power Station in Newton. These are
4 described in the reports that have been submitted to
5 the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

6 These analyses were performed
7 following procedures recommended by both the
8 Illinois EPA and the EPA. Important aspects of
9 analyses include power plant information such as
10 boiler size, stack parameters, approved emissions,
11 historical actual emissions, and these were obtained
12 from the Illinois EPA or public databases,
13 consideration of terrain elevations and land use
14 within 50 kilometers, or 31 miles from the plant,
15 and five years of recent weather data from the most
16 recent weather station.

17 There are a number of modeling
18 assumptions that I used that made my analysis
19 conservative. These are described in the report,
20 but they consider such things as -- I didn't
21 consider off-site sources, just the power plants,
22 and I used the lowest background in the area, the
23 lowest in the state as opposed to any nearby
24 monitor.

1 As shown in the modeling
2 reports, each of the three power plants was
3 predicted to exceed the one-hour standard for SO₂
4 based on either their currently approved emissions
5 or their actual historical emissions.

6 For the Edwards Power Station,
7 the maximum predicted concentration based on its
8 allowed emissions was 1,524 micrograms. These
9 exceedances of the standard were predicted to occur
10 out to a distance of 50 kilometers, or 31 miles.
11 That's the farthest that the model is allowed to be
12 used within reason. The standard is 96, so in order
13 to comply with the standard, an emissions reduction
14 of 89 percent would be needed. The maximum
15 predicted concentration based on actual emissions in
16 2011 was 271 micrograms.

17 For the Joppa Steam Electric
18 Station, the maximum predicted concentration based
19 on allowable emissions was 1,136. Exceedances
20 extended again out to 50 kilometers, or 31 miles.
21 To comply with the one-hour standard, an allowable
22 emissions reduction of 85 percent would be needed,
23 and the maximum predicted concentration based on
24 actual emissions in 2012 was 361 micrograms per

1 cubic meter.

2 For the Newton Power Station,
3 the maximum predicted concentration based on its
4 allowable emissions was 318 micrograms per cubic
5 meter, and exceedances were expected to occur out to
6 eight kilometer or five miles.

7 To comply with the standards,
8 an allowable emissions reduction of 41 percent would
9 be necessary, and based on its actual emissions in
10 2012, the maximum concentration was 238, still over
11 the 196 standard.

12 So whether allowable or
13 maximum actual emissions were considered, each of
14 the three power plants was predicted to cause a
15 violation of this new one-hour SO2 standard adopted
16 by EPA in 2010.

17 And that concludes my
18 testimony.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 Does the Board have any
21 questions?

22 Would petitioners like to
23 question?

24 MS. MANNING: Madame Hearing

1 Officer, in the interest of time and given this
2 public comment, we don't have any questions for the
3 public commenter today, but we would like to read
4 for the Board some questions into the record that we
5 would like him to address in his post-hearing
6 comments.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sure.

8 MS. MANNING: Okay. Thank you.

9 No. 1. How is the one hour
10 NAAQS analysis relevant to this MPS variance
11 proceeding that involves annual emission rate
12 limits.

13 No. 2. Did you use the latest
14 modeling guidance in your analysis filed on
15 September 16, 2013 for the energy centers other than
16 the Joppa Energy Center.

17 No. 3. Explain why the Peoria
18 Airport meteorological data is appropriate for the
19 area around Edwards Energy Center in light of the
20 significant differences in site elevations.

21 No. 4. For the analysis
22 pertaining to EdEdwards, where did you get the stack
23 temperatures for the combined stack.

24 No. 5. For the analysis

1 pertaining to Edwards, where did you get your
2 figures for exit velocities for your analysis.

3 No. 6. Were all modeling
4 receptors used for your analysis located beyond the
5 planned property for each of the following energy
6 centers -- Edwards, Newton and Joppa.

7 No. 7. For the analysis
8 pertaining to Newton Energy Center, where did you
9 get the stack height and temperatures.

10 No. 8. For the analysis
11 pertaining to the Joppa Energy Center, where did you
12 get the stack height.

13 Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 Does the Agency have any
16 questions?

17 MS. ROCCAFORTE: No.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: I think what
19 would be best is during a break, Mr. Klafka, if you
20 don't mind sticking around, we'll discuss timeframes
21 for a written response, and we'll get all that
22 clarified off the record, okay?

23 MR. KLAFKA: Okay.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you

1 very much.

2 ELPC, you may bring up your
3 next person who would like to make an oral
4 statement.

5 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes; Mr. David
6 Johnson.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: David
8 Johnson?

9 Would the court reporter
10 please swear in Mr. Johnson?

11 (Whereupon the witness was sworn
12 by the reporter.)

13

14 NARRATIVE TESTIMONY

15 BY DAVID JOHNSON:

16 I would like to thank the Board and
17 all those here for the opportunity to share my
18 findings.

19 I was retained by the Sierra
20 Club to assess the financial structure of the
21 proposed acquisition of five Ameren coal plants by
22 the Dynegy subsidiary.

23 AUDIENCE: We can't hear.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Mr. Johnson,

1 Would you use the microphone?

2 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, absolutely.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: You can take
4 it off the stand if that's easier.

5 MR. JOHNSON: I was retained by the
6 Sierra Club to assess the financial structure of the
7 proposed acquisition of five Ameren coal plants by
8 the Dynegy subsidiary Illinois Power Holdings. I am
9 a founding partner of ACM Partners, a financial
10 advisory firm. I have advised on transaction
11 structures, balance sheet restructuring, turnaround
12 and performance improvement initiatives. I received
13 my MBA from the University of Chicago and completed
14 my undergraduate studies at Early Dickinson
15 University.

16 Based on an in-depth review of
17 the two prior petitions for variance as well as the
18 public filings of both Ameren and Dynegy, I've
19 concluded the following:

20 Illinois Power Holdings'
21 parent, Dynegy, has purposefully structured this
22 transaction to minimize its risks and maximize
23 future gains. It is further clear that while Ameren
24 is clearly anxious to divest the assets of New AER,

1 Dynegy is viewing the opportunity as little more
2 than a highly leveraged bet on rapid improvement in
3 power prices.

4 In the event of such an
5 unexpected turnaround, Dynegy would make a windfall
6 profit. If not, the ring fenced subsidiary,
7 Illinois Power Holdings, would likely face
8 bankruptcy.

9 Illinois Power Holdings'
10 parent, Dynegy, has sufficient resources to properly
11 capitalize this company or could have acquired the
12 assets in a more traditional manner, i.e., through a
13 restructuring. As the entire structure here and
14 IPH's thin capitalization has been created by Dynegy
15 to pursue an investment strategy, I view the
16 projected claims of post-acquisition financial
17 hardship as self-imposed.

18 Despite the financial strength
19 of its parent, the acquisition of New AER by
20 Illinois Power Holdings will do nothing to
21 strengthen the balance sheet of the acquired
22 operations and, in fact, post-transaction, Illinois
23 Power Holdings will face the same balance sheet
24 challenges that those same operations did under the

1 ownership of Ameren.

2 The weak financial position of
3 Illinois Power Holdings following its acquisition of
4 these coal plants and an inability to meet current
5 environmental compliance costs highlights the
6 financial weakness of these operations. Regulatory
7 compliance costs are expected to increase in coming
8 years raising the question of just when these
9 operations will be capable of meeting the full cost
10 of operating coal plants in Illinois.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Is that it?

12 MR. JOHNSON: That's it.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Does the Board have any
15 questions?

16 Petitioners have any
17 questions?

18 Agency?

19 Okay. I think we're going to
20 take a short break, five to ten minutes. We'll go
21 off the record and we'll start public comment after
22 this break.

23 (Recess taken.)

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Take your

1 seats, please, and we'll move on to the public
2 comment stage of our hearing.

3 I'm trying something new with
4 public comment today because last year we ended up
5 with extra time at the end, and I thought, you know,
6 we could have taken some longer comments, so what
7 I'm going to do is a great many of you have signed
8 up on the priority comment sheet with the
9 understanding that you will speak for three minutes
10 or less. I will cut you off at the three-minute
11 mark, and that way, when we get through what appears
12 to be most of the people here, anybody who wishes to
13 make a longer comment, I would expect that we will
14 have time at the end. Longer comments will be
15 allowed as time allows. I still hope to get all of
16 you back on the road by 5 p.m. or sooner.

17 So having said that, I'm going
18 to begin with the priority public comment sheet.
19 We'll take about an hour of comment, and then we'll
20 break for lunch, and then we'll just do public
21 comment this afternoon, so I am going to start with
22 Michael Carrigan.

23 Is Michael Carrigan here.

24 MR. CARRIGAN: Good morning,

1 Chairman Glosser, members of the Illinois Pollution
2 Control Board. My name is Michael Carrigan, and I'm
3 the President of the Illinois AFL-CIO.

4 Like many others who have been
5 here today to testify, I'm here to testify verbally,
6 orally, and as follow-up to written comments and
7 express our continued support for Illinois Power
8 Holdings, their petition for variance from the
9 Illinois Multi-Pollutant Standard.

10 As you've heard from many
11 elected officials, state senators, state
12 representatives, in 2012, the Illinois Pollution
13 Control Board granted Ameren Energy Resources a
14 variance for the Illinois MPS in which the Board
15 found the variance to be, and I quote, "a net
16 benefit to air quality" to recognize the associated
17 economic benefits.

18 I think it's worth noting that
19 from all the state reps and all the senators that
20 testified today, they come from both sides of the
21 aisle.

22 IPH's variance is materially
23 the same as the one granted by the Board to AER last
24 fall and is a closing condition, a stipulation, a

1 term of the proposed sale of AER to IPH.

2 For these reasons, we urge the
3 Board to grant IPH its request.

4 In my capacity with the
5 Illinois AFL-CIO, I'm committed to fighting for
6 worker rights. As you know, AER is a key employer
7 of our workers, and the economic benefits that AER
8 Energy Center provide to the State of Illinois and
9 local communities are critical during this current
10 economic downturn.

11 AER operates energy centers,
12 as you've already heard, in several places, Joppa,
13 Newton, Bartonville, Canton, Coffeen and others,
14 which collectively have a total annual economic
15 impact of \$1.4 billion on the State of Illinois.
16 The facilities all in generate more than 338 million
17 in annual household earnings for Illinois residents.
18 They pay 13.3 million in annual local property
19 taxes, and they support, with emphasis 6,294
20 Illinois jobs. It is critical to keep these hard
21 working employees working. It's critical to their
22 families, and it's critical to the local economies,
23 and it's critical that we keep the economies afloat
24 during these tough times.

1 The local economies and
2 families are not alone in this economic struggle.
3 Corporations like AER and IPH are also feeling the
4 effects of operating in today's environment. The
5 stakes are especially high for a company such as IPH
6 due to the immense capital expenditures necessary to
7 comply with state environmental laws.

8 We ask that you support the
9 variance request.

10 Thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
12 Joyce Blumenshine?

13 MS. BLUMENSHINE: Hearing Officer
14 and Pollution Control Board, I'm Joyce Blumenshine.
15 I apologize but I would like to secede my time at
16 this time for Dan Dolan. He's a volunteer with the
17 Ameren Lung Association, and he has a lung
18 condition. It's very warm in here, and I did want
19 to let him proceed if that would be all right.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Is
21 this a short comment?

22 MS. BLUMENSHINE: Yes.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Go
24 ahead.

1 MR. DOLAN: It's not short enough
2 for me to have memorized however.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Go
4 ahead.

5 MR. DOLAN: Good morning. My name
6 is Dan Dolan-Laughlin, and I strongly urge you today
7 to deny the petition to have Ameren Energy Resources
8 pollution variance transferred to Dynegy.

9 I live in Wheaton, Illinois
10 but I speak on behalf of the 500 million people in
11 Illinois with chronic bronchitis and emphysema as
12 well as 3 million people with cardiovascular
13 disease, one million children and adults with
14 asthma, the 636,000 adults with diabetes,
15 1.2 million seniors and 2.7 million children, so
16 with a small voice I'm speaking for as many people
17 as I can.

18 I mention this because like
19 me, their lives depend on the ability to breathe
20 clean air.

21 I suffered from chronic
22 pulmonary ideas for decades. For those who don't
23 know what COPD is, it's a type of lung disease that
24 seriously debilitates you, and it's sometimes fatal.

1 I'm sure we can all agree as a society we need to do
2 all we can to prevent asthma attacks and COPD
3 attacks. My point is, air pollution is a major
4 trigger for asthma attacks.

5 By allowing a variance on
6 these particular power plants or any noncompliant
7 power stations for that matter, the members of this
8 Board are jeopardizing the health and well-being of
9 the thousands of people who live near these power
10 plants. Make no mistake, there are no statistical
11 abstracts or theoretical lives involved here. These
12 are real people.

13 The Illinois Pollution Control
14 Board has a obligation to prioritize public health.
15 I was fortunate to get a second chance in life
16 because of the miracle of a lung transplant. I was
17 told that I had two to three days to live a year and
18 a half ago, that my lungs were so bad that I would
19 have to be put on life support.

20 I refused to be put on life
21 support. I would have died. At truly the 11th hour
22 the day before that, I was given the gift of a pair
23 of lungs which I'm grateful for.

24 I support the efforts to

1 employ as many Illinoisans as possible and to take
2 advantage of investments in our state, it's very
3 important, but only if it's done responsibly and to
4 the benefit of our citizens. We don't give
5 polluting automobile owners a multi-year pass on
6 emissions controls. The owners must bring them into
7 compliance immediately or their vehicles are taken
8 out of service. That's the law.

9 Don't grant this variance to
10 Dynegy. The irreparable harm it would do to the
11 people of Illinois is far greater than any possible
12 benefit it would provide to their corporate
13 shareholders in Texas.

14 Let's help our fellow
15 Illinoisan citizens, not make them sick or make them
16 feel worse than they maybe already do.

17 That's as short as I can make
18 my comments. I thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 James Luckey?

21 MR. LUCKEY: James Luckey,

22 J-a-m-e-s L-u-c-k-e-y.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Go ahead.

24 MR. LUCKEY: Members of the Board,

1 good morning and thank you for allowing me to
2 opportunity this morning to speak to you.

3 My name again is James Luckey.
4 I'm manager of the Edwards Energy Center located in
5 Bartonville, Illinois. I'm here this morning as a
6 resident of central Illinois, Peoria in particular,
7 and before I continue, I'd like to present you with
8 more than 2,200 comments in support of the variance
9 from many of the local people and organizations who
10 are committed to improving the quality of life in
11 our great state.

12 (Whereupon three gentleman
13 proceeded to bring some large
14 binders up to the Hearing
15 Officer.)

16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Let me ask
17 you a favor. Could you send those to our Chicago
18 office, file them with the clerk of the Board? That
19 would be a tremendous favor to me. That's a lot of
20 paper right there.

21 Go ahead.

22 MR. LUCKEY: As you will see in
23 here today, this variance request, which is similar
24 to the request the Board granted last year, is

1 critically needed for central and southern Illinois.
2 Our people, communities, and thousands more across
3 Illinois depend on the AER energy centers.

4 What you'll find interesting
5 is the diversity of people who support this request,
6 mainly from central and southern Illinois where we
7 don't understand or at least we haven't seen the
8 recovery from the recession that northern Illinois
9 and Chicago seem to enjoy.

10 So today what I'd like to do
11 is say that we are real people. We're leaders,
12 we're organizations who care about our communities,
13 our environment and our economy, and our supporters
14 include Boilermakers Local 60 and 363, Bricklayers
15 and Allied Craft Workers Local 8, Congressman Davis,
16 Congressman Enyart, Congressman Kinzinger,
17 Congressman Shock, Congressman Shimkus, the Crawford
18 County Development Association, Harry Roland who is
19 CEO and administrator of the Mason District
20 Hospital, the Hennepin Business and Betterment
21 Association, the IBEW Sixth District, IBEW Local 51,
22 IBEW Local 649, the Jasper County Board, the
23 Illinois AFL-CIO, the Illinois Chamber of Commerce,
24 the Illinois Energy Association, the Illinois

1 Manufacturers Association, the Illinois Valley Area
2 Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, the
3 Illinois Valley Building and Construction Trades
4 Council, the Illinois Association of Heat and Frost
5 Insulators and Allied Workers Local 1, the Illinois
6 Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and
7 Transportation Workers, the International Union
8 Operating Engineers Local 148, the Iron Workers
9 Local 392, Jonathan Tollman, Superintendent of the
10 Red Bud School District, the Laborers International
11 Union of North America Local 338 and Local 1084, the
12 Leadership Council from southwestern Illinois.
13 Lewis & Clark Community College.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Do you have
15 a lot more of these?

16 MR. LUCKEY: Yes, I do.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: You're over
18 three minutes.

19 MR. LUCKEY: I'll go ahead and
20 finish up, but I just want to give you an example.
21 We're supported by a lot of people in our community
22 who hear about this, and I just want to thank you
23 for your time and for considering the negative
24 impact that this would have on central and southern

1 Illinois and our economy if this request is not
2 granted, so thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

4 I'd like to remind you, you
5 are free to make longer comments but please sign up
6 on the other comment sheet. Thank you so much.

7 I'll call Jeremy McKinney.

8 MR. McKINNEY: Thank you for the
9 opportunity to speak to you today. My name is
10 Jeremy McKinney, and I am the Director of Operations
11 for Hayes PMC located in Belleville, Illinois.

12 We are a union general
13 contractor that specializes in maintenance and
14 capital projects for coal-fired power plant
15 throughout the entire state. We have worked for
16 both Dynegy and for Ameren. Our typical employment
17 ranges from our in-house staff of 21 to as many as
18 1,500 during a large outage. In the past 18 years,
19 we have completed over 13 million hours and over a
20 billion in revenue within the State of Illinois.

21 The issue that brought us all
22 here is extremely important. It should not be taken
23 lightly. Either the variance that had previously
24 been approved for Ameren at their coal-fired

1 facilities is approved for Dynegy or we should be
2 prepared for even more economic problems for our
3 state.

4 Without the variance, power
5 generation capacity will be eliminated and thousands
6 of jobs across the state lost. The economic crater
7 created will not be easy to climb out of for the
8 towns and communities impacted. Loss in power
9 generation could lead to blackouts and heat-related
10 illnesses and even deaths that can accompany such
11 events. The overall impact will be far reaching.

12 I have a degree in chemical
13 engineering and understand the environmental
14 concerns presented by the opposition. However,
15 Dynegy has proven to be a good steward of the
16 environment. They spent a billion dollars on
17 installing pollution control equipment at various
18 sites, 11 baghouses and eight scrubbers to name a
19 portion. Dynegy has taken on the responsibility to
20 lower emissions and to improve our communities.

21 I moved my family of five to
22 Illinois three and a half years ago to hopefully
23 have more opportunities while I worked for a company
24 deeply rooted in supporting coal-fired power

1 generation. Without this variance, the company I
2 work for would be in a perilous situation.

3 I ask the review board to vote
4 in favor of Dynegy's variance request and don't put
5 me and many other families like mine in the
6 situation where we'll have to leave the state to
7 find a good paying job.

8 Thank you for your time and
9 consideration.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Allen Hawkins?

12 MR. LUCKEY: I spoke on behalf of
13 him too.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Oh, you did?
15 Okay.

16 Al Martos.

17 MR. MARTOS: Good morning, members
18 of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

19 My name is Al Martos, Albert
20 Martos spelled M-a-r-t-o-s. I live in Morton,
21 Illinois, and I've been employed by Ameren for the
22 last seven and a half years.

23 I've spent my first fours
24 years at the Edwards Energy Center, and I'm

1 currently at Duck Creek Energy Center, and I'm here
2 to basically request the Board to support their
3 request for the families and communities in central
4 and southern Illinois.

5 I also happen to be a military
6 veteran, and I know that, you know, I consider
7 myself very blessed to have worked for Ameren for
8 the last seven and a half years as a very
9 responsible company along with, as you know, the
10 \$2 billion that they have spent on Pollution Control
11 Board equipment. Not only am I fortunate to have
12 worked for Ameren, but I'm also looking at working
13 for Dynegy who has also spent approximately
14 \$2 billion in environmental controls.

15 So again, I would like to urge
16 you to consider this variance for our sakes and for
17 our families and communities.

18 Thank you very much.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 Brian Smith?

21 MR. SMITH: Good morning
22 distinguished members of the Pollution Control
23 Board. My name is Brian Smith spelled B-r-i-a-n
24 S-m-i-t-h. I'm a resident of Dunlap, Illinois. I

1 have been in the power industry for going on 19
2 years now, five years with Ameren. I am the general
3 supervisor of operations at the Duck Creek Power
4 Station. I am here in support of the variance that
5 Dynegy has requested.

6 I believe that you made a good
7 decision in the last variance decision, and I'm
8 asking that you weigh the options and make a good
9 decision this time. It is going to be for the
10 betterment of our environment as well as for the
11 betterment of our jobs and our communities in
12 Illinois.

13 Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 Prentice Carter?

16 MR. CARTER: I'd like to thank the
17 Board for the opportunity to speak here today.

18 My name is Prentice Carter,
19 and I live in Peoria. I started my career in 1987
20 at Central Illinois Light Company in the
21 Environmental Department and, through a number of
22 mergers, I have become part of Ameren.

23 I've worked in engineering and
24 operations positions through the years, and I've

1 been personally involved in the installation,
2 startup, and operation of pollution control
3 equipment including low NOx burners, over fire air,
4 selective catalytic reduction, scrubbers, so I've
5 been there through the years where we've made these
6 improvements to our plants, and in recent years,
7 I've had the opportunity to actually work at all of
8 our facilities in Illinois and meet the people
9 there, and I just want to assure you that everybody
10 I've worked with is dedicated to the work, to the
11 environment, and the communities in which we live,
12 and I respectfully request that the Board grant
13 approval of the petition.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 Tom Ruschmeyer?

16 MR. RUSCHMEYER: Good morning,
17 members of the Board.

18 A few comments. My name is
19 Tom Ruschmeyer (R-u-s-c-h-m-e-y-e-r). I work for
20 Ameren Edwards plant. I've been associated with the
21 power plants in central Illinois for 32 years, seven
22 years in the union, 25 years as management.

23 I find it interesting that I'm
24 up here today. When I was hired in in '81, I was

1 hired in specifically to clean our scrubber, SO2
2 scrubber modules and keep these things compliant
3 with the regulations of the day.

4 Currently we continue that
5 process of staying in compliance, and we've
6 continuously gotten better at it, so we've been in
7 the business a long time so I'd like to make that
8 clear.

9 The jobs we have are very
10 well -- they're very good jobs to have. Very few of
11 these jobs are being offered in the climate, the job
12 climate these days, so I'd like to express my
13 appreciation for having a job as I have, and the pay
14 and the benefits are very exceptional, so I would
15 appreciate the support by the Board for the
16 variance.

17 Thank you very much.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Dennis Morgan?

20 MR. MORGAN: Good morning, members
21 of the Board. My name is Dennis Morgan. I've been
22 in this industry for approximately 22 years, the
23 last 19 at the Edwards facility as a general
24 supervisor of operations.

1 I've seen firsthand the
2 economic benefit having a generating facility in my
3 hometown of Havana. My children have benefited from
4 having a strong school district that's been
5 supported by the Havana Power Station. It's my hope
6 that my grandchildren are afforded the same, so I
7 please ask you to support the variance, to support
8 central and southern Illinois jobs.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Alan Bogardus?

12 MR. BOGARDUS: Alan Bogardus,

13 A-l-a-n B-o-g-a-r-d-u-s.

14 Good morning board members.

15 Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

16 My name is Alan Bogardus. I
17 am a retired disabled vet with 23 years of serving
18 this country. I've been employed by Ameren and the
19 Edwards Power Station for seven years in the role of
20 production superintendent.

21 I'm not from this area
22 originally. I moved in here, like I said, seven
23 years ago. Last year came to this hearing, public
24 hearing where you listened to me and granted the

1 variance and changed my life again.

2 In the year preceding that, I
3 moved my daughter up here, my daughter's baby up
4 here, and started a new life for them. A lot of
5 great things have happened, but the most important
6 thing that I want to talk to the Board about was
7 after that day, after that hearing, the trust that
8 you put into me is the same trust that has been put
9 into me for 23 years in the military. It was an
10 exception. We went back and we carried that out
11 every day with integrity and honor. We take your
12 rule and we hold it very dearly, and it's very
13 important to all of us and the people out here. You
14 know, we recreate in these areas. We live in these
15 areas, and it's of the utmost importance that we
16 value your decision and carry it forward with
17 integrity and honor, and we've done that, and we
18 will continue to do that if you grant this variance.

19 Thank you.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

21 Pat Foley.

22 MR. FOLEY: Good morning, Board.
23 Thank you. Pat Foley (F-o-l-e-y). I don't have
24 anything prepared so I'm just going to wing this.

1 I've been working for Ameren.
2 I've been an employee for seven years. I'm a Peoria
3 resident; originally from Ohio.

4 I also joined the military
5 back in '84, retired the Navy 2006, and on one of my
6 ships, I spent 15 years at sea on different ships,
7 and we had a captain Maurice Joyce I served with
8 from '97 to '99, and he had one of his little
9 sayings. It was, you know, whatever comes up,
10 whatever decision you have to make, do the right
11 thing, you know, and it fits here because there's a
12 couple things you can do.

13 You know, you can grant the
14 variance and get a better net benefit in atmospheric
15 air and a cleaner environment and still maintain the
16 economic vitality of the communities or you can not
17 grant the variance and destroy all these communities
18 and the schools around Newton that I was listening
19 to, and I'm sure it would really hurt them bad, but
20 you wouldn't get any net benefit in the atmosphere
21 or the environment.

22 So all I ask of the Board is
23 weighing this or weighing that, a net benefit
24 against really no benefit, economic vitality or

1 economic destruction. You know, either way, do the
2 right thing.

3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Chris Lawson? Is there a
6 Chris Lawson here? No?

7 Tom Hart?

8 MR. HART: Good morning. My name
9 is Tom Hart. I've been working for the Edwards
10 Energy Center for six years. My home is in Orland
11 Park, Illinois by Joliet. I have an apartment here
12 in Peoria, and I ask that you grant the waiver that
13 they're requesting here.

14 The perception of the business
15 community is that the State of Illinois, it's not
16 conducive to do business here because of your rules
17 and regulations.

18 What I ask is you grant the
19 waiver here to demonstrate the willingness of the
20 State of Illinois to work with businesses and
21 develop the economic environmental reasons, okay?

22 Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

24 Greg Russell?

1 MR. RUSSELL: Good morning. My
2 name is Greg Russell and thank you for the
3 opportunity to come here today.

4 My current role is with
5 Ameren. I'm at the Duck Creek Energy Center. I'm
6 the director of the energy center. Previous to
7 that, I was at the Edwards Center for about ten
8 years. I've been in the industry nearly 25 years,
9 locally for about the last 13. I'm originally from
10 the east coast.

11 What I'd like to do today is
12 ask for your support in the variance request and
13 take this to a more personal level where you can
14 look out into the audience and see all the hard
15 working men and women of these facilities.

16 We talked a lot, heard a lot
17 today about the economic impacts that these
18 facilities have in the communities in which we serve
19 from schools, businesses, the overall local economy,
20 tax base types of things. It's no different in the
21 Canton area for Duck Creek. This would be a
22 devastating impact to the local community if these
23 were not allowed to continue to operate in some form
24 or fashion.

1 Like Alan Bogardus mentioned
2 earlier, we take our jobs serious and our commitment
3 serious. As responsible for the Duck Creek Energy
4 Center, you have that commitment from me and all the
5 people that work at Duck Creek day in and day out 24
6 hours a day seven days a week. That's our job.
7 That's our commitment. We take it serious.

8 A lot of families count on
9 what we do, the payroll and everything that goes on
10 in Canton from the local community and schools, we
11 do provide the necessary benefit to the area, and we
12 ask that you do grant the variance request.

13 Thank you very much.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 Kevin Largent?

16 MR. LARGENT: Good morning and
17 thanks for the opportunity to speak with you today.

18 Again, my name is Kevin
19 Largent (L-a-r-g-e-n-t), and I am here and I'll talk
20 a little bit more personal on what the company has
21 meant to me.

22 I've worked for Ameren and its
23 predecessor companies since 1989, so 24 years, the
24 last 14 years at the Duck Creek facility.

1 Over the years, the company
2 has allowed me to further my education through
3 education matching. It's allowed me to raise my two
4 sons that are 17 and 14 and support my family.

5 So I would encourage the Board
6 to review all the options and support the variance.

7 Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

9 Curt Kooken, C-u-r-t
10 K-o-o-k-e-n.

11 MR. KOOKEN: Thank you for allowing
12 me to address you. My name is Curt Kooken. I'm a
13 34-year employee of the Edwards Station. I have
14 been in operations my entire career. All of it's
15 been at the Edwards Station itself. When you drive
16 by the plant, I am the person inside there that is
17 running the equipment, maintaining the compliances
18 that have been established. Half of my department
19 will be in there on Christmas day working to provide
20 electricity for our community.

21 Our communities rely on this
22 plant. Our tax dollars are for our school.

23 I'm asking you to please
24 consider the variance and grant it to Dynegy.

1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

2 Roger Look.

3 MR. LOOK: I'd like to thank the
4 Board for allowing me to speak this morning. My
5 name is Roger Look. I'm a supervisor at Ameren Duck
6 Creek. I want to talk about the reality of this
7 whole situation.

8 The reality is that Ameren
9 really is not going to keep these plants, and the
10 second reality is that Dynegy wants these plants,
11 and to keep these plants viable and running and
12 people in jobs, we're going to have to allow this
13 variance to go through.

14 Most people don't realize what
15 it takes to run a power plant. They have no idea.
16 I would suggest that the Board come to a power plant
17 and see what's going on, see how people work in
18 rough difficult conditions next to boilers that can
19 be 165 degrees, and they do this day in and day out,
20 and they don't do it because they want to put
21 pollution out into the system and hurt people. They
22 do it because when you go over to the light switch
23 on the wall and you flip it on, you have
24 electricity.

1 Now, I appreciate the work the
2 Sierra Club does, I really do, but there are times
3 when I feel they go too far, and if we take away the
4 coal-fired plants in this country, none of us are
5 going to be using our electronic instruments. We
6 won't be using the lights, and we won't have our air
7 conditioners and our furnaces because you'll see the
8 same thing California had back a few years ago.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Troy Hackerman? No Troy?

12 James Klenke? Is that

13 K-l-e-n-k-e?

14 MR. KLENKE: Yes. Good morning.

15 Thank you for letting me speak to you.

16 My name is James Klenke, and

17 I'm a lifelong resident of Bond County, Illinois.

18 I'm a husband, a father and a responsible citizen.

19 I also have a Bachelor's of Science degree in

20 environmental biology.

21 I've been employed by Ameren

22 for 13 years in various roles. These include

23 environmental compliance monitoring, reporting and

24 permitting.

1 Most recently, I've been the
2 operations lead in placing two wet flue gas
3 desulfurization units into service at Coffeen Energy
4 Center. The wet flue gas desulfurization unit
5 scrubbed the flue gas to remove sulfur dioxide.

6 Our FGDs must be in service in
7 order for our boilers to be operational, and our
8 FGDs have proven to continuously remove greater than
9 99 percent of the sulfur dioxides from our flue gas
10 emissions.

11 I'm proud to be part of this
12 organization that takes this environmental
13 stewardship seriously, and I ask that this Board
14 grant the variance transfer that they have already
15 determined will result in a net environmental
16 benefit and will sustain jobs, environment,
17 communities and families in Illinois.

18 Thank you for your time.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 I can't read the last name.

21 Teri from Sierra Club? Last name T-y or T-e?

22 MS. TREACY: Teri Treacy

23 (T-r-e-a-c-y).

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: I'm sorry.

1 What was that?

2 MS. TREACY: I'm sorry.

3 T-r-e-a-c-y.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: T-r-e-a-c-y.

5 Okay. Thank you.

6 MS. TREACY: Thanks to the Board
7 for allowing me to make some comments today.

8 My name is Teri Treacy. I'm
9 conservation field representative with the Sierra
10 Club Illinois Chapter. We're part of a nationwide
11 organization. The Illinois chapter has
12 approximately 23,000 members statewide.

13 I'm here today representing
14 our members and supporters in far southern Illinois
15 near the Joppa plant, a very rural place with
16 extremely low population.

17 One would expect if you live
18 in a place so rural and so unpopulated that the air
19 that you and your children breathe would be really
20 great air but it's not that great. We know it's not
21 great because we know the unscrubbed Joppa plant is
22 polluting our air with sulfur dioxide and other
23 pollutants.

24 In 2006, the same year the

1 Illinois Pollution Control Board set Multiple
2 Pollutant Standards, the Joppa plant emitted over
3 26,000 tons of sulfur dioxide. At 26,000 tons per
4 year in the seven years since the MPS was set, Joppa
5 has contributed an additional 182,000 tons of sulfur
6 across the southernmost part of the state. Granting
7 Dynegy a five-year variance to continue polluting
8 until 2020 will mean an additional 182,000 tons of
9 sulfur dioxide, over 3,900 tons of NOx, over 2300
10 pounds of mercury as well as other fine particle
11 pollutions spewed into the air that the low income
12 communities of southern Illinois must breathe.

13 Dynegy understood the Multiple
14 Pollution Standards as well as the restriction
15 associated with purchasing an aging fleet of
16 coal-fired power plants when it willingly entered
17 into the agreement to purchase Ameren's coal-fired
18 power plants.

19 The deal hasn't even gone
20 through yet Dynegy is asking for the MPS variance.
21 Granting this hypothetical variance request would
22 give a green light on this risky business deal which
23 would be a very bad deal for the people of Illinois.

24 The workers and the community

1 of Joppa are not to blame for the pollution caused
2 by the plant, and their livelihoods must be secured
3 when it is retired. There is a right way and a
4 wrong way to transition the Ameren Dynegy workforce.
5 The right way is that the workers pensions are
6 protected. They receive livelihood guarantees, and
7 the company commits millions not only to site
8 remediation safely employing folks who worked there
9 before retirement but also to economic development
10 of the community post retirement.

11 We call on Dynegy to ensure
12 that this transition is done the right way. Clean
13 air and a healthy economy can be achieved
14 simultaneously.

15 On behalf of the Sierra Club
16 members and supporters I represent here today, I ask
17 that the Board not grant Dynegy's request for a
18 hypothetical variance for plants it doesn't even own
19 yet.

20 Thank you.

21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

22 Kevin Cashmer? Is it

23 C-a-s-h-m-e-r?

24 MR. CASHMER: C-a-s-h-m-e-r. My

1 name is Kevin Cashmer. I'm here just as a citizen
2 of the Peoria Edwards area.

3 Well, looking across this
4 room, I see a lot of high vis green shirts and blue
5 environmental shirts. What I'm really seeing is
6 community and that community being divided through
7 manipulation.

8 That's not the way this should
9 work. It's not the way this is supposed to work.
10 I'm not here for profit, payroll or investment or
11 otherwise.

12 I did nearly die several times
13 as a youth due to asthma. I take it personally.
14 You all have children: There's a better way to do
15 all this. We need to stand together as a community
16 and make the outside entities comply with what the
17 community needs, not the other way around. That's
18 not the way it's supposed to work.

19 That's all.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

21 Joyce Lipe?

22 MS. LIPE: Good morning, and thank
23 you for the opportunity to speak this morning.

24 My name is Joyce Lipe

1 (L-i-p-e). I am a Hillsboro, Illinois resident in
2 Montgomery County, Illinois. I've worked at the
3 Coffeen Power Station for 32 years. Prior to that,
4 my father was a supervisor at Coffeen, so I have
5 power plant in my blood.

6 His employment there afforded
7 me a good college education and a nice career, and I
8 have been able to do the same for my two sons, and I
9 was able to provide them with a college education.

10 One of my roles at the power
11 station is an administrative function where I get
12 involved in the hiring process, and we recruit a lot
13 of young talent into our organization, many of them
14 who have went to Illinois schools and participated
15 in power plant technology programs.

16 My goal would be to see them
17 to have the same opportunities that I have had -- a
18 good job and good benefits and to be able to retire
19 and hopefully have their children and their
20 grandchildren continue to work for the power
21 industry.

22 I thank you for your time.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

24 John Broder (B-r-o-d-e-r)?

1 MR. BRODER: Thank you all for
2 offering me this opportunity to speak.

3 My name is John Broder. I'm
4 from Electric Energy, Incorporated.

5 I'd like to ask that you give
6 this variance to Dynegy for several different
7 reasons.

8 One reason is I'd really like
9 to keep my job. Another reason is I've got a
10 17-year-old that I promised I'd send to school, and
11 I don't know how I'm going to do that without that
12 job.

13 We do a lot of good work in
14 the community with different charity organizations
15 and different stuff and, you know, the local economy
16 needs it.

17 So thank you all.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Joe Lockett?

20 MR. LUCKETT: I want to thank the
21 Board for allowing me to talk for a few minutes.
22 That gentleman there summed it up very well.

23 My name is Joe Lockett
24 (L-u-c-k-e-t-t). I'm from Hillsboro, Illinois, and

1 I work at the Coffeen Power Station. I've been a
2 safety supervisor for the last 16 years of my
3 employment. I've been there about 31 years.

4 That gentleman there just
5 summed it up real, real good. I still got a lot of
6 bills. I've got a child in college, and, quite
7 frankly, on a personal level, I need this place of
8 employment.

9 I will say my family has been
10 blessed over the years. My grandpa worked for the
11 old retired Muddy Power Station. It was a
12 coal-fired plant positioned down by Harrisburg. He
13 started back in the early '40s, raised my aunt, my
14 dad, my uncle and their family. He moved into the
15 Hutsonville Power Station, and my dad started
16 employment there in 1951. He provided just a great
17 standard of living for my family, for my two
18 brothers and sister, and I started at Coffeen in
19 1982 in the coal-fired business too. It's just been
20 very, very good for our family, good paying job.
21 It's allowed us to have a very high quality standard
22 of life.

23 This ruling does impact us
24 greatly. You know, I look around, and my wife is an

1 administrator in Montgomery County, and the funding,
2 the tax revenue is just basically shrinking up.
3 They have to have volunteer efforts and groups like
4 Sertoma, Lions, Kiwanis to supply many of the shoes,
5 gloves, clothing for the children.

6 Our economy as State
7 Representative Rosenthal said, it's very bad right
8 now, and a negative decision here would just really
9 push a lot of these small communities over the edge.

10 And so with that, I just want
11 to say, you know, please, please again support this
12 variance. We really need it for the central and
13 southern Illinois small towns. All you have to do
14 is drive through there and where the buildings are
15 empty, if they're still standing -- often times, my
16 daughter refers to them as missing teeth. The
17 downtown districts are just really getting very
18 depressed, and we really need this.

19 Thanks a lot.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

21 Rich Speraneo

22 (S-p-e-r-a-n-e-o)?

23 MR. SPERANEO: Correct.

24 Hi. I'm Rich Speraneo, and I

1 live in Hillsboro in Montgomery County, and I work
2 at Coffeen Energy Center. I've worked there for 21
3 years. I started out as an engineer. I still work
4 in the engineering department, and over time,
5 probably the last 13 years, a significant portion of
6 that work has been on environmental projects,
7 primarily air emissions.

8 On a personal level, wife and
9 I both were raised in the area, Montgomery and Bond
10 County, and after school, we moved out of state for
11 a couple of years because employment opportunities
12 were pretty slim in the area, and I felt very
13 fortunate to get a job at the Coffeen Energy Center.

14 In addition to that, you know,
15 it has provided economic benefits to the county, and
16 I see a lot of young people leaving the area and
17 finding jobs elsewhere or leaving their community to
18 go the St. Louis metropolitan area.

19 So it is good to have the
20 support in our community of the energy center, and I
21 would ask for your support for the variance. I
22 believe the plan laid out by Ameren and Dynegy is
23 the best solution. It provides good environmental
24 benefit and economic benefit for the area.

1 economy without the other stations, so that's why
2 it's very important to me for you to pass the
3 variance today.

4 Thank you.

5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

6 Jeff Coyle?

7 MR. COYLE: Good morning. I
8 appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Board
9 today.

10 My name is Jeff Coyle
11 (C-o-y-l-e), and I was born and raised in central
12 Illinois, still live in Illinois today, and I work
13 at the Coffeen Energy Center.

14 In my 30 years, I've worked in
15 engineering, in maintenance, in environmental and
16 presently plant manager of the Coffeen Energy
17 Center. During this time, I'm proud to have been
18 part of the over one billion dollars worth of
19 investment that we've made in air quality
20 improvement.

21 As you can see from the chart
22 that was shown earlier today, we've done a really
23 nice job with that investment. With what we've done
24 the way we take seriously the work that we do, we've

1 done an excellent job of bringing down SO2
2 emissions.

3 As you look out at all these
4 people in the yellow vests today, many of them are
5 my team from Coffeen. Many of them are from the
6 other plants. They also are out there working very
7 proudly 24 hours a day to keep this equipment
8 working very well and doing what it was intended to
9 do.

10 In my time, I've raised three
11 sons here in Illinois, and we've been in various
12 small towns throughout Illinois. Now all three of
13 those sons are in college, and right now when they
14 graduate, all three are considering jobs in other
15 states, Indiana, Missouri, and Iowa, because there's
16 just not a lot to come home to in Illinois already
17 today.

18 And as I've moved around to
19 the various communities, I've seen the effects when
20 a primary business closes down, the effect that it
21 has on wages going away, what it does to the tax
22 base, eventually the people move away.

23 So what my kids are
24 considering, already other children are considering,

1 and other families as you've heard others discuss
2 today are leaving the areas.

3 So I ask that the Board vote
4 for the variance to preserve jobs, to preserve our
5 communities, and to preserve downstate Illinois.

6 Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 McKing?

9 MR. KING: MC.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Pardon me?

11 MR. KING: MC King.

12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Oh, MC.

13 Sorry.

14 MR. KING: I'd like to thank the
15 Board for allowing me to speak.

16 Originally I had a speech
17 written much like my fellow co-workers, but as I sat
18 here and listened to the opening testimony and the
19 expert testimony of some personnel that have very
20 impressive credentials and the emotional testimony
21 of my co-workers and other individuals that are here
22 and the special interest groups, I kind of put
23 myself in the position of what would I do if I was
24 part of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

1 There's a lot of emotion. There's a lot of data,
2 and I looked at it and I said, all right, let's look
3 at these facts. There are two categories.

4 One, if I was part of
5 Pollution Control Board, I guess my job would be to
6 ensure that the Multi-Pollutant Standards are upheld
7 and the spirit of it is justified.

8 We have proven back in
9 September of 2012 that overall, the net benefit is
10 improved by approving the variance, okay? The
11 conditions have not changed.

12 The second portion of it which
13 is the economic portion of this decision, the impact
14 on that, I think it is apparent. We've heard the
15 testimony from politicians. We've heard it from
16 school superintendents. We've heard it from every
17 side. The data is there. Everybody knows when you
18 lose jobs, there's no tax money. The economy is
19 going to get worse. The school system is going to
20 get worse. Multiple jobs get lost. That's just
21 Economics 101.

22 So if I step back and look at
23 the environmental decision I'm going to make now, it
24 hasn't changed since 2012. The economy is sluggish.

1 The market prices are still in the depression mode.
2 Nothing has changed.

3 So if I know that I have the
4 environmental side of the house that I'm concerned
5 with, it's a net improvement by passing this
6 variance. It's not like I'm making it worse. It's
7 a net improvement. So it's a win-win situation.
8 It's a win-win for Illinois. It solidifies the
9 integrity of the Multi-Pollution Standards. It
10 solidifies jobs. It helps the economy. It helps
11 communities around it. It's a win-win situation,
12 and I thank you for your time.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Scott Bell?

15 MR. BELL: Hi. Good morning. My
16 name is Scott Bell. My wife and I both grew up in
17 this area and have chosen this area to raise our
18 families. We currently live in Chatham, Illinois.

19 I have worked for AER for over
20 25 years at three various power stations. I
21 currently work at the Coffeen Power Station and can
22 tell you that the environment is one of our
23 cornerstones of all of the discussions and decisions
24 made at that facility. We do this on a daily basis.

1 Coffeen has recently built two
2 new scrubbers, two new SCRs, a new precipitator, and
3 upgraded another precipitator. AER has spent over a
4 billion dollars in pollution control technology.

5 So what does supporting a
6 variance mean for us? It means that we will
7 continue to reduce SO2 and NOx during this
8 timeframe. It means keeping well-paying jobs in our
9 local communities, and it means keeping taxes in our
10 area which support our schools and communities.

11 I believe these reasons to be
12 a win-win for our state and local communities.

13 Thank you very much.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 Scott Romang?

16 MR. ROMANG: John.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: John Romang.

18 Sorry.

19 MR. ROMANG: My name is John Romang
20 (R-o-m-a-n-g). I live in Rochester, Illinois. I've
21 lived most my life in the Springfield area. I
22 worked for CIPS and then Ameren for the last 33
23 years. Some of that time was spent at the Newton
24 Power Station and then also now at the Coffeen Power

1 Station.

2 I also serve in my local
3 village as the Zoning Board of Appeals chairman so I
4 understand what you folks are going through today.

5 Many of us have gotten up and
6 said virtually the same thing today. One thing that
7 I would like to say is that, you know, one of the
8 reasons that we got here today is because of the
9 Illinois legislature about 20 years ago passing the
10 deregulatory act that deregulated the utilities.

11 These energy centers now are
12 expected to stand on their own and compete in the
13 marketplace. With power stations across the rivers
14 that are still regulated and those costs can be
15 passed through for regulatory compliance, that puts
16 these energy centers at an economic disadvantage and
17 does make an economic hardship for us to survive in
18 the marketplace.

19 Two of the key words in a lot
20 of the papers and conversations today are local and
21 sustainable, and I would like to offer you folks
22 that these local communities that we've heard about,
23 the school districts, taxing bases, they will not be
24 sustainable in these small communities without these

1 energy centers producing the tax revenue that they
2 do.

3 I'd like you to keep that in
4 mind and also the fact that this is a net benefit to
5 Illinois regarding the reduction of emissions over
6 this variance period, so I would like you to please
7 grant the request.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

9 Phyllis Oliver?

10 MS. OLIVER: Hello. My name is
11 Phyllis Oliver. I reside in the very southern part
12 of Illinois. I live about 15 miles northwest of the
13 Joppa plant, and I come from -- I'm a retired
14 teacher. I come from a union background. My family
15 get-togethers look like this room with all the hats
16 and the shirts.

17 I have friends who are retired
18 from the Joppa plant. They're all good people.
19 They work hard to provide us with a service, but my
20 concern is why, to guarantee cleaner air, do we have
21 to threaten these good people's job. I don't get
22 that.

23 Why cannot a corporation
24 afford to pay its employees with a good living wage

1 and provide the mechanisms to take the pollutants
2 out of the air. Other power plants do it and do it
3 well, so I don't understand why Dynegy or Illinois
4 Power Holdings is not able to do that too without
5 one person losing their job.

6 And I know how hard those jobs
7 are. I have five grown children. One just came
8 home from his fourth deployment on Sunday, praise
9 God, but he can't find a job to raise a family in
10 southern Illinois that pays enough to have
11 insurance, and another lost his job in Tamms and had
12 to transfer.

13 I know what that threat is
14 like, but I firmly believe that there is a way to
15 keep these jobs and the power going and clean the
16 air so that we're not polluted because there's a
17 cost to pollution nobody has mentioned. There's a
18 social cost. What about people on Medicare,
19 Medicaid, children with inhalers. If their parents
20 don't work, we're paying for all that through our
21 taxes, and no one has mentioned that.

22 Loss of productivity, no one
23 has mentioned that, and I happen to have been a
24 caregiver to two people who died from emphysema, and

1 it's not fun to watch people gasp for their last
2 breath.

3 So I would ask you before you
4 award this variance to think very hard about all the
5 options that are out there because I don't think
6 they've all been put on the table.

7 Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

9 Bill Mulconnery?

10 MR. MULCONNERY: Good morning. My
11 name is Bill Mulconnery (M-u-l-c-o-n-n-e-r-y).

12 I'd like to thank the Illinois
13 Pollution Control Board for the chance to speak on
14 this issue. I'm a resident of Evansville, Illinois
15 and business manager of Boilermakers Local 363 in
16 Belleville, Illinois.

17 Boilermakers Local 363 covers
18 57 counties in southern Illinois and represents 620
19 union members and families who also reside and work
20 in Illinois.

21 Construction boilermakers
22 build and repair power houses, old refineries and
23 steel mills. We also install the pollution control
24 equipment at these facilities.

1 A denial for the request of
2 this variance will impact my membership through not
3 only the loss of jobs during the construction of the
4 scrubber project at Newton but also through the loss
5 of future projects throughout the Dynegy system due
6 to the sale of Ameren plants which are dependent on
7 this variance.

8 Dynegy should be allowed this
9 variance because they have been and will continue to
10 be a great partner in the power industry by
11 employing local Illinois labor and showing good
12 stewardship to the local environment.

13 I strongly urge the Illinois
14 Pollution Control Board to grant this variance not
15 only to protect jobs and livelihoods of Boilermakers
16 Local 163 but the jobs and livelihoods of fellow
17 Illinoisans.

18 Thank you for the opportunity
19 to speak.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

21 This may be a good place to
22 stop and take a 45-minute break for lunch. We're
23 doing public comment now. If you're not back in 45
24 minutes and you are not here when I call your name,

1 I will go through everybody again so you will not
2 miss your chance, but we'll go off the record.

3 (Whereupon the lunch recess was
4 taken.)

5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Let's
6 begin again. We've got a lot of people to do.
7 We've got a lot of people on the three minute or
8 less list. You will be cut off at three minutes so
9 that we can get through everybody we need to get
10 through. I'm going to start with Bernie Wicklein.

11 MR. WICKLEIN: Bernie Wicklein
12 (W-i-c-k-l-e-i-n).

13 Good afternoon. I'm Bernie
14 Wicklein. I'm the president of Neuter Construction
15 Company in St. Louis, Missouri. We are an
16 industrial contractor that works all over the United
17 States. We have an office in St. Louis, Missouri
18 that services the power plants, petrochemical
19 facilities, the industrial facilities and other
20 refining and chemical plants in southern Illinois.

21 We employ union craftsmen, and
22 as a general contractor, we will have anywhere from
23 200 to 1,000 people working out of that St. Louis
24 office on any given day.

1 these sites are good paying jobs. Central and
2 southern Illinois communities and economies
3 desperately need these jobs.

4 I'm also a product of the
5 electric power industry. My dad worked for Illinois
6 Power for 30 years. He was able to support a family
7 of seven with that job.

8 Again, southern Illinois needs
9 these jobs. They need the jobs that Dynegy and the
10 AER sites provide.

11 Again, I encourage you to
12 support the variance request, to preserve jobs,
13 families and the communities in central southern
14 Illinois.

15 Thank you very much.

16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

17 Dale Stewart?

18 MR. STEWART: Good afternoon,
19 Illinois Pollution Control Board. My name is Dale
20 Stewart. I'm executive secretary/treasurer of
21 Southwestern Illinois Building & Construction Trades
22 Council.

23 I'm here today on behalf of
24 Southwestern Illinois Building & Trades Council to

1 express our support for approval of the Illinois
2 Power Holdings, a Dynegy subsidiary, variance
3 request.

4 Ameren Energy Resources and
5 Dynegy are very important employers. They employ
6 highly skilled Illinois workers with collective
7 bargaining agreements and with both companies
8 provide strong economic benefits to the State of
9 Illinois and their local communities.

10 Their support for working
11 families and local economy across Illinois is
12 particularly important during these trying economic
13 times which remain especially harsh in central and
14 southern Illinois.

15 AER energy centers are
16 important to the economic well-being of the Illinois
17 economy which collectively have a total economic
18 impact of 1.4 billion on the State of Illinois.

19 The facilities additionally
20 generate more than 338 million dollars in annual
21 household earnings for residents, pay 13.3 million
22 in annual local property taxes, support 6,294
23 Illinois.

24 Dynegy has stepped up to help

1 support much needed union jobs and economic activity
2 in Illinois through IPH's proposed acquisition of
3 AER. With this transaction, Dynegy plans to double
4 its operations and invest in Illinois as a
5 responsible neighbor and major employer offering
6 high-skilled and well-paying union jobs.

7 A successful transfer of AER's
8 energy centers to the IPH offers the best
9 opportunity for the hard working members, their
10 families and for our communities as a stable tax
11 base that provides critical support for our local
12 schools, emergency response organizations and
13 countless local governments.

14 Without the variance, Ameren
15 will be forced to pursue other options for the AER
16 energy centers creating uncertainty for the future
17 of the plants and those who depend upon them,
18 including our community and our regional economy.

19 On behalf of Southwestern
20 Illinois Building & Trades Council, we pledge our
21 support for IPH's request and believe that this is
22 best passed forward to improve air quality while
23 protecting jobs and sustaining economic vitality in
24 the State of Illinois.

1 Thank you.

2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

3 Tom Wolf?

4 MR. WOLF: Good afternoon. My name
5 is Tom Wolf, W-o-l-f like the animal. I'm from the
6 Illinois Chamber of Commerce, and every day we try
7 to improve Illinois' business environment so our
8 members across the state have the best chance for
9 success which translates into economic activity,
10 jobs and a better quality of life for the people of
11 Illinois.

12 The Illinois Chamber of
13 Commerce would like to be on record with the
14 Illinois Pollution Control Board as supporting
15 Illinois Power Holdings, a Dynegy subsidiary, and
16 its variance request as it pertains to the pending
17 acquisition of Ameren Energy Resources.

18 In a letter we sent the Board
19 in July, we stated our case on this issue, and out
20 of respect for the Board's time, I'm not going to
21 reread that letter today. I would simply like to
22 hit one or two key points for the Board to consider.

23 First and foremost, we'd like
24 you to please focus on the decision in front of you

1 and don't be distracted by superfluous
2 grandstanding. The environmental community was here
3 last year and they are here again today because of
4 one thing: they hate coal. They know that these
5 plants will shut down if you say no.

6 However, we don't believe this
7 Board's goal is to hate goal or to close plants but
8 to make sure we're finding ways to create the
9 electricity our economy and quality of life relies
10 on with the least economic and environmental impact;
11 a tough balance for sure but one we thought you
12 found when you passed this variance for Ameren last
13 year.

14 The Illinois Chamber believes
15 in the importance of a cost competitive and diverse
16 supply of electricity, and we know that every form
17 of electricity generation has its challenges, and
18 it's obvious to us that the petitioners before you
19 are making every attempt to meet those challenges.

20 Secondly, we also believe that
21 actions have consequences, and if this variance is
22 denied, it showcases another reason why Illinois is
23 a tough place to do business, something we fight all
24 the time.

1 When mergers and acquisitions
2 occur, companies should have the right to assume
3 that the assets and debits associated with the new
4 acquisition are included in the package, that they
5 transfer to the new owner, and they should have
6 every right to assume that this would include
7 environmental regulatory agreements and obligations
8 as found appropriate by the regulators.

9 This assumption is a very big
10 part of the due diligence performed in making
11 decisions related to purchases. No one would have
12 thought that the variance order granted by this
13 group of plants would not rationally and logically
14 be allowed to be assumed by the new owners. Good
15 public policy requires it.

16 So if you say no to this
17 variance, you are sending a message that this
18 assumption is incorrect, and it could have a
19 chilling effect on future business opportunities in
20 this state.

21 Regulatory certainty and a
22 belief that the state will act in a rational manner
23 are cornerstones of economic development decisions.
24 Don't erode Illinois' business environment even

1 further by denying this variance simply because the
2 assets are being acquired by a new company.

3 Let's face facts. If Ameren
4 had not determined it needed to sell its assets and
5 Dynegy had not decided to acquire them, we wouldn't
6 be here, no one, not us not the Sierra Club, not
7 you, not the working men and woman at the plants.
8 They'd be working hard ensuring they met the
9 regulations as they were determined to be
10 appropriate last year.

11 Illinois Power Holdings is
12 here to assume the obligations inherent in your
13 previous order and they ought to be allowed to do
14 so.

15 I would suggest you listen to
16 the wise people who said the following: There is no
17 adverse environmental impact with this variance.

18 They said the emission
19 calculations show a net reduction of SO2 emissions.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sir, are you
21 almost done?

22 MR. WOLF: I have about ten seconds
23 left.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: All right.

1 MR. WOLF: Thank you.

2 They said the emissions
3 calculation show a net reduction in SO2 emissions
4 under the requested variance.

5 They said that the applicant
6 had demonstrated that required compliance with the
7 overall SO2 annual emission rates would have imposed
8 an arbitrary or unreasonable hardship.

9 They said the compliance plan
10 is satisfactory as it results in an overall
11 reduction of SO2 emissions.

12 You said that a year ago so
13 I'd ask you to say it again this year.

14 Thank you very much for
15 protecting our air and water and land and our
16 economic values across the state.

17 Thank you very much.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thanks.

19 Jim Monk?

20 MR. MONK: Thank you, members of
21 the Board and Hearing Officer, for the opportunity
22 to speak today.

23 My name is Jim Monk (M-o-n-k).

24 I'm President of the Illinois Energy Association

1 which is a trade association representing all of the
2 investor-owned electric utilities, natural gas
3 utilities and many of the power generators in the
4 State of Illinois.

5 I'm here on behalf of the
6 energy association and respectfully request that the
7 Illinois Pollution Control Board support Illinois
8 Power Holdings' petition for a variance as it
9 pertains to the pending acquisition of AER.

10 We believe that the request is
11 reasonable and that the continued operation of AER's
12 energy centers is important to the future of the
13 electric industry in Illinois.

14 In addition to the written
15 remarks that I submit, I just wanted to supplement
16 those briefly on two key points from a statewide
17 energy industry perspective. That's what I
18 represent is the energy industry on a statewide
19 basis.

20 One of those is the energy
21 industry and in particular electric power plants is
22 a very, very capital intensive industry. Investment
23 is the life blood of that industry. A positive
24 signal on investment such as would be given by

1 granting the variance would go a long way toward
2 providing the kind of certainty that not only this
3 particular acquisition deals with but also would
4 help in terms of providing positive investment
5 signals going forward.

6 On the contrary, a negative
7 decision would, in essence, be a very negative step
8 in providing that kind of investment certainty in
9 that very capital intensive environment that this
10 company and these companies operate in. So I
11 certainly wanted to highlight that.

12 The other thing I wanted to
13 highlight is, one of the things that our industry
14 deals with on a daily basis is reliability. We have
15 a very, very complex system known as the electric
16 grid. It's not easy, and it's very challenging to
17 maintain under normal circumstances. It would be
18 extremely challenging given a future where several
19 major energy centers around the state are not
20 participating and putting electricity on that grid
21 anymore.

22 So reliability is a key
23 factor. I think someone said earlier here today, we
24 all pretty much take for granted when we go over to

1 flip the switch that the light is going to come on.
2 That's not something you can take for granted if the
3 environment that we operate in as an industry in
4 terms of reliability gets more and more challenging
5 by less and less supply.

6 And the other factor in that
7 reliability and in that supply situation is we are
8 now in Illinois, unlike all the states around us, we
9 are now in a competitive energy market. Less
10 supply, generally in a supply and demand situation,
11 less supply means higher prices. One of the things
12 we've been successful at here is keeping electricity
13 prices low. That could be in jeopardy.

14 So again, on behalf of the
15 energy association, I would urge you to support the
16 Illinois Power Holdings' request for variance and
17 thank you for your time.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Mark Denzler?

20 MR. DENZLER: Thank you, Madame
21 Hearing Officer, members of the committee.

22 My name is Mark Denzler
23 (D-e-n-z-l-e-r), Vice President, Chief Operating
24 Officer with the Illinois Manufacturers Association.

1 We are the largest and oldest statewide
2 manufacturing association in the country. In
3 Illinois, we represent about 4,000 member companies.

4 Manufacturing in the State of
5 Illinois employs about 600,000 workers, contributes
6 12-1/2 percent to the state's gross domestic
7 product, the single largest sector. Energy is
8 critical to the manufacturing sector. It is one of
9 the largest cost components that go into
10 manufacturing. These are good high paying jobs.

11 It's critical that the Board
12 approve this variance. We've also submitted
13 comments in favor of this, and I just wanted to make
14 sure that everyone is aware that the Manufacturers
15 Association supports this variance strongly.

16 As Tom Wolf articulated, it's
17 important for the business community to send a
18 consistent message. Ruling one way in one year and
19 then reversing the ruling in a later year sends a
20 chilling message to the community, those companies
21 looking to expand or locate in the State of
22 Illinois.

23 This is an economic impact.
24 These jobs, there are thousands of jobs as you've

1 heard, millions of dollars in tax revenue that's
2 going to be paid to the communities in the State of
3 Illinois, but most importantly, we need to ensure
4 that there's a consistent flow of power that
5 manufacturing companies have so they can continue
6 their operations in the state.

7 With that, I will close and
8 appreciate your consideration.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Kirk Cooper?

12 MR. COOPER: Thank you. Good
13 afternoon. My name is Kirk Cooper. I am Vice
14 President of Boilermakers Local Lodge 60 in Morton,
15 Illinois.

16 I'm here today representing
17 just over 600 members just to express our interest
18 and support of the request presented by Illinois
19 Power Holdings.

20 Boilermakers effectively
21 build, repair and maintain energy-producing power
22 plants. Local 60's jurisdiction consists of 33
23 counties in Illinois. Of those counties, there's
24 Fulton County where Duck Creek Power Station is

1 located and Peoria County, Illinois where Edwards
2 Station is located.

3 Should the request be denied,
4 the loss of good, high-waged jobs would be
5 devastating to the State of Illinois, our membership
6 and the communities where these sites are located.

7 While I'm here today
8 representing boilermakers, the loss of jobs will not
9 be isolated just to us. Job losses will certainly
10 extend outward toward our fellow tradesmen,
11 tradesmen who also repair and maintain these power
12 plants.

13 The State of Illinois posted
14 unemployment at 9.2 percent in July compared to the
15 national average of 7.4. The loss of these jobs
16 will unquestionably affect those numbers at a time
17 our state can ill afford any job losses. Our state
18 is in a financial crisis and must at this time above
19 all look to maintain and create jobs, not remove
20 them.

21 In addition, Boilermakers
22 Local Lodge 60 currently maintains two Dynegy power
23 plants, Hennepin Station located in Putnam County,
24 and Havana Power Station located in Mason County.

1 I would ask of you today to
2 review Dynegy's commitment to fulfill their
3 obligation of generating clean energy. Dynegy has
4 completed and attained the clean air standard at
5 both the Hennepin Station and the Havana Station,
6 proof positive of their commitment to produce clean
7 energy.

8 I'd also like to take a moment
9 just to discuss, because we talked about health
10 issues, I'd just like everyone to entertain the
11 thought that if we're creating a perfect storm right
12 here where the possibility of our inability to meet
13 the demand when the energy needs come back, how will
14 we deal with 95 and 100 degree temperatures and the
15 power goes out with a brownout or blackout and, then
16 loss of life, seniors first, possibly young
17 children. How do you deal with that?

18 Thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 Evan Wooding?

21 MR. WOODING: Name is Evan Wooding.

22 I'm currently the business agent for Steamfitters
23 Local 353, Peoria, Illinois, and also the vice
24 president of United Association of Pipe Trades

1 District Council 34 also in Peoria, Illinois.

2 Our members rely heavily on
3 these facilities, not only online maintenance but
4 outage situations. We go and maintain and repair
5 these plants above and beyond what in-house
6 maintenance can do. We're able to supply large
7 numbers and get their plants up and running in a
8 timely manner.

9 We rely, as I said, heavily
10 upon these hours for the well-being of our
11 membership. They're active in the community.
12 They're tax paying citizens. The ripple effects of
13 shutting down a plant far outweigh everybody in this
14 room, everybody that has a job in the plant. If you
15 were to displace all of these highly skilled and
16 highly trained people back into the work pool, whose
17 jobs are they going to take and where are those jobs
18 going to go. The ripple effect will travel as far
19 as it has to to maintain employment. They're going
20 to feed their families.

21 We've already seen these
22 effects in our area due to some coal-generating
23 facilities in northern Illinois shutting down, and
24 relocation of people affected some of my friends in

1 my area.

2 I do live in Tazewell County
3 as the crow flies. I'm about two miles from the
4 E.D. Edwards generating facility. I worked there
5 when I was in the field, and I have members that
6 work in that plant now.

7 We do need power. We do need
8 clean air, and we need a common sense approach to
9 address both of them. I think the variance will
10 allow them time to get the engineering and the
11 proper methods to supply clean air and power for
12 everyone.

13 I want to thank you for
14 allowing me to address you today.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 Michael Beyer (B-e-y-e-r)?

17 MR. BEYER: Thank you for the
18 opportunity to be here today.

19 I am Michael Beyer, President
20 and CEO of Forsyth Energy, Illinois' largest coal
21 producer and one of the state's largest consumers of
22 electricity.

23 Since 2005, Forsyth has
24 invested almost two billion dollars developing four

1 large-scale underground coal mining operations
2 creating more than 700 Illinois jobs directly with
3 coal mining and over 2,000 jobs in ancillary
4 supporting industries.

5 This is just the beginning for
6 Forsyth because we can create more jobs to support
7 greater demand for our coal.

8 Working together, we have the
9 opportunity to reverse a troubling employment and
10 energy consumption trend. Today, Illinois consumers
11 are spending hundreds of millions of dollars
12 supporting jobs in Wyoming because the 1990 Clean
13 Air Act amendment created a market for their coal in
14 Illinois and stopped the burn of Illinois coal in
15 the state.

16 So today, Illinois electricity
17 is created by Wyoming coal and paid for by Illinois
18 consumers. The good news is that by installing
19 scrubbers, we can turn that around. Today, Forsyth
20 Energy sells more coal to India and China than we
21 sell to electrical generators in the State of
22 Illinois. We'd like to do both and, in the process,
23 get more folks in Illinois back to work. Improve
24 the air quality now and reduce the cost of

1 electrical generation in the state.

2 The petitioners' plan is to
3 burn coal at the plants with coal imported from the
4 State of Wyoming. That's over 1,100 miles of carbon
5 emissions on each trainload combined with sulfur
6 dioxide emissions that go with the granting of this
7 variance. We can do better.

8 The first step is to deny the
9 petitioners' request for delay in the compliance
10 timeline and install scrubbers on the new facility
11 so that it can burn Illinois coal.

12 It also means not postponing
13 the benefits of those scrubbers or reduction in
14 systemwide SO2 emissions and carbon emissions from
15 transportation.

16 Forsyth Energy has not escaped
17 the difficult economy, so Dynegy's assertions of
18 funding shortages to complete the scrubber
19 installation resonate with us.

20 That said, let me propose that
21 Forsyth Energy provide the funding for the
22 completion of the scrubber at Newton and recoup the
23 investment with an embedded cost in the coal price
24 with a long-term coal supply agreement.

1 Our analysis shows that even
2 with them this embedded cost in the coal price that
3 the delivery cost of our coal should be lower than
4 the current delivery cost in the current market
5 price of imported Wyoming coal.

6 Alternatively, Forsyth Energy
7 would be willing to assume Dynegy's role in the
8 proposed transaction, acquire the assets as
9 structured, and construct the scrubbers.

10 In either transaction, Forsyth
11 is willing to fund a solution that would keep all
12 the plants open and keep all these jobs, help job
13 growth in the Illinois coal industry, advance the
14 cause of cleaner air now and in the future, and
15 lower the cost of electric generation in Illinois.

16 For the first time, we see the
17 interests of labor, the environmentalists, and the
18 coal industry align. Therefore, we ask the
19 petitioners' request be denied.

20 Thank you.

21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

22 Deanna Wubben?

23 MS. WUBBEN: Good afternoon. I am
24 Deanna Wubben. I work at the Edwards Power Plant in

1 Bartonville, Illinois. I've been there for 23
2 years. My health is good. The only thing that's
3 bothering my health right now is knowing the stress
4 of whether or not my family, being a single parent,
5 whether we'll have a house to still live in.

6 I babysit my grandson on the
7 five days, the other five days out of the ten-day
8 week that I work because my grandson's parents both
9 work second shift.

10 I just want to know that I'll
11 be able to still be there for them so that they can
12 continue to work and that I will still have a house
13 to live in and help my family out, and I won't be
14 another one of the U.S. Navy veterans out on the
15 street because I lose my job.

16 Thank you very much.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

18 Joyce Blumenshine?

19 MS. BLUMENSHINE: Joyce Blumenshine
20 (B-l-u-m-e-n-s-h-i-n-e).

21 Thank you very much to the
22 Pollution Control Board. I sincerely appreciate
23 this opportunity to have this hearing and the
24 discussion.

1 I'm Joyce Blumenshine from
2 Peoria, Illinois. I'm a volunteer and currently the
3 Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club chairperson.
4 Our group covers 15 counties in central Illinois on
5 both sides of the Illinois River.

6 I'm here today to ask that
7 this variance be denied. There are several reasons.

8 Number one, it's disturbing
9 that a precedent might be set that a company that
10 does not yet own the plants is given the variance,
11 and what happens if they don't proceed? It just
12 seems like a questionable legality.

13 Number two, I'm also very
14 concerned, there are site specific impacts, harmful
15 impacts to areas like Peoria. Statewide averaging
16 does not help us when the federal EPA of their own
17 recently has requested Hollis Township where the
18 Edwards plant is to be a nonattainment for critical
19 air pollutants because of pollution. We have the
20 worst SO2 pollution in my area, the Peoria metro
21 area, than the entire state, including Chicago and
22 St. Louis.

23 For a more rural area, if you
24 can call the Peoria metro area that, that is

1 unacceptable in this day and age. We bear the
2 burden in our health costs and in our environment
3 from the years of pollution these plants have
4 persisted in doing.

5 I hope to live to the time
6 where I see the energy industry go ahead and
7 supersede the regulations and improve their plants
8 before they are required to do so.

9 In 2006, these plants knew
10 these regulations were coming. That was agreed. It
11 is now 2013. Why should we the public, the health
12 care concerns and other expenses be borne by the
13 environment when these pollution standards were
14 well-known and are expected.

15 We think that Dynegy
16 Corporation does have the assets to do the right
17 thing and to be insured that these plants will meet
18 the requirements, the minimum that should be
19 required is that if they have any concern of moving
20 forward, there has to be a timeline and benchmarks
21 to meet regulations to show their workers that they
22 will continue these plants and invest in them and
23 not mislead everyone or drop a plant at some point
24 or fire people or lay them off.

1 We want a just transition for
2 the workers, a fair future for the environment, and
3 those of us who breathe the air.

4 Thank you.

5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

6 Drew O'Bryan?

7 MR. O'BRYAN: Hi. My name is Drew
8 O'Bryan (O-'-B-r-y-a-n). I'm from the University of
9 Illinois. I'm a junior majoring in physics and
10 environmental science.

11 I love the State of Illinois.
12 I love going to our state university at U of I. My
13 family is from Illinois. We hold over a thousand
14 acres of land in Douglas County, so, yeah, I come
15 from Illinois, I love the state. I want to stay in
16 Illinois after I graduate, and I want to use my
17 talents that I have to further this state.

18 I know that right now this
19 state is in tough economic times. We talk about
20 plants being not economically feasible without this
21 variance.

22 Well, I'm not sure that we
23 should provide concessions to a dying industry and
24 look back instead of looking forward as to what can

1 save our state and save jobs for the future for my
2 generation.

3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Ryan Baker?

6 MR. BAKER: Hello, and thank you.

7 My name is Ryan Baker. I'm with Sierra Club in
8 Chicago.

9 I understand the concerns of
10 the workers here and so forth, but I wanted to
11 highlight that there is a certain ratio here that
12 we're talking about in terms of the about 125 deaths
13 that are estimated to be caused if this variance
14 goes through over the next five years and how does
15 that balance against those jobs.

16 Those jobs aren't necessarily
17 sure to be lost, and even if there is displacement
18 of the workers, there's still a requirement for us
19 to generate power in Illinois, and so there's other
20 jobs transitioning towards a clean energy economy
21 that will build new jobs as the process of that.

22 I think that it's also
23 important to realize that there's an aggregate
24 health impact overall here and look at that in terms

1 of the total economic benefit package. People
2 talked about asthma cases, people not able to make
3 it into work and those costs that are borne there.

4 So I would say is this
5 variance in the interest of the people of Illinois.
6 What business does Illinois have in trying to
7 facilitate the transfer of these plants to Dynegy,
8 to Illinois Power Holdings from Ameren.

9 If they do this, this might
10 temporarily save some jobs, but it may not really
11 enhance the quality of those workers' long-term
12 security because once you transfer this to this
13 Illinois Power Holdings, how does that actually
14 relate in terms of their pension security and so
15 forth in this small holding company.

16 Thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

18 Richard Oram (O-r-a-m)?

19 MR. ORAM: My name is Richard Oram.
20 I'm a hospice nurse from Homewood, Illinois.

21 The people who are affected by
22 the health problems associated with preventable air
23 pollution are not abstractions to me. Actions do
24 have consequences.

1 As a hospice nurse, I try
2 every day to help my patients and their families
3 manage the symptoms of terminal illness.

4 Now, as symptoms go, pain is
5 pretty easy. You get the dose right, you can
6 usually get pain under control. Breathing problems
7 are more difficult.

8 There are things that I can do
9 to alleviate mild to moderate shortness of breath,
10 but when respiratory distress becomes more severe,
11 it's very upsetting to the patient.

12 I can manage the distress they
13 feel with medications, but those medications come
14 with side effects, prominently, sedation, and
15 families who thought they were going to get a chance
16 to say good-bye never get it because soon the
17 patient becomes so focused on gasping for each
18 breath that their focus is all on that and not on
19 the people around them, even when they're young and
20 their own children are around them.

21 The people at Dynege tell us
22 that the illness that may or may not have been
23 caused by their pollution is a necessary cost of
24 prosperity, their prosperity. They regard my

1 patients and their families as abstractions if they
2 think of them at all.

3 I'm sure they think of
4 themselves as good people, and I'm sure that if they
5 knew how their choices affect real people, they
6 wouldn't make those choices, but they're not in the
7 habit of considering human cost of preventable air
8 pollution. That's why we have the Illinois
9 Pollution Control Board.

10 And so I ask the Board to hold
11 Dynegy to rational, evidence-based standards of
12 industrial hygiene.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Reverend Dr. Terry Gallagher?

15 REVEREND GALLAGHER: Good
16 afternoon. I'm Terry Gallagher, G-a-l-l-a-g-h-e-r
17 like the guy that smashes watermelons for a living.
18 That's not me, and I don't claim him as a relative.

19 I come from a strange
20 background. Before I took the call to ministry, I
21 was an engineer and a plant manager for 30 years in
22 the chemical industry. I was in the chemical
23 industry at the heart of when all of the pollution
24 control regulations came into being in the '70s, the

1 '80s, the '90s, and the early 21st century, and
2 every time a rule would come into being, we would
3 wail and we would gnash our teeth and say you're
4 going to drive us out of business. We can't do
5 this. We can't manage that technology. We can't do
6 it efficiently. We can't compete across-the-board,
7 and yet we did, knowing the certainty that in order
8 to compete and to survive, we have to meet the
9 standards that the community has decided is for the
10 benefit of the community. Make us good corporate
11 citizens.

12 This is not an unexpected
13 rule. This isn't new technology that isn't known.
14 It is known. It was expected. Other plants are
15 making the switch or have already made the switch.
16 The only excuse for not having this in place already
17 is simply greed.

18 I have to tell you, from an
19 ethical standpoint, the cost of human lives that are
20 going to be lost if you delay implementing these
21 pollution standards, the kids that are going to
22 struggle to breathe, the old people who are going to
23 die too soon, way too soon, far exceed the corporate
24 balance sheet. We can do better than this.

1 This is pitted as a decision
2 that pits the workers against the environment.
3 That's a false dichotomy. We're much better than
4 this.

5 Total economics encourages us
6 to look at the cost of what we throw up in the air,
7 the cost of human life, the cost of human potential.
8 In the 21st century, we should be beyond these
9 arguments that we're going to lose jobs. We know
10 how to do this. We can do this. Don't let them off
11 the hook. Respect the kids. Respect your seniors.

12 Thanks for your time.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you,
14 sir.

15 Nels Leutwiler,
16 L-e-u-t-w-i-l-e-r?

17 MR. LEUTWILER: Good afternoon, and
18 I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

19 My name is Nels Leutwiler.
20 I'm from Lake Bluff, Illinois.

21 Although a resident of the
22 Chicago area, I attended Bradley University and have
23 relatives farming in the region so I have a strong
24 connection to this area.

1 In the 1970s as a member of
2 the Operating Engineers Union, I helped build the
3 TransAlaska pipeline. Years later, I built and ran
4 a Chicago-based manufacturing company with over 400
5 employees, so I'm very sensitive to the need to
6 create and preserve good, well-paying jobs.

7 Nonetheless, the jobs of power
8 plant employees should not trump the health of
9 millions of Illinois residents who breathe the
10 polluted air emitted by coal burning power plants.

11 The laws the applicant is
12 requesting permission to break are not new. They
13 have been on the books for years and were written
14 with input from the coal industry. The State of
15 Illinois has allowed these coal plants to violate
16 them for years.

17 If these plants cannot operate
18 without continuing to break the law and harm the
19 health of millions in Illinois, they should be
20 closed.

21 It would be one thing if the
22 loss of this coal-fired generation would jeopardize
23 a supply of electricity in the region. That is not
24 the case. There are now clean, less harmful sources

1 of power.

2 The energy providers in
3 Illinois should aggressively pursue wind and other
4 clean energy options. This would create more jobs
5 with a much more promising future than the fossil
6 fuel industry provides.

7 Finally, I would like to note
8 that the primary mission of the Illinois Pollution
9 Control Board is to enforce the state's
10 environmental laws and protect the public's health.
11 It is not to preserve the jobs of those industries
12 that violate these laws.

13 I urge the Board to deny this
14 application and require these plants to obey the law
15 or close.

16 Thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

18 Cora Koehler, K-o-e-h-l-e-r?

19 MS. KOEHLER: Hi there. My name is
20 Cora Koehler. I'm 19 years old and a student at
21 Elmhurst College. My family resides in Detroit.

22 To be here today, I'm missing
23 three classes, a day of work. That's how vital I
24 actually find this hearing.

1 My mother lives ten minutes
2 from Michigan's most polluted zip code, Del Ray.
3 She along with the entire Detroit community are a
4 scientific experiment because here people are poor.
5 Families cannot afford to move to another community.
6 They are also overlooked by the government due to
7 their lack of economic resources.

8 If anyone understands the
9 importance of a good job, it's definitely the people
10 of Detroit. While I'm in school, I live and breathe
11 the suburban air of Elmhurst, Illinois, a privilege
12 most do not understand. I stand here in solidarity
13 with a world of people who have been manipulated by
14 the fossil fuel industry. Not all of us have the
15 economic privilege of Dynegy, but that does not mean
16 that this corporation has the right to exploit my
17 human rights as well as the planet's rights.

18 The amount of carbon that
19 Dynegy plans to put into our precious atmosphere is
20 unethical to their very own workers as well as the
21 rest of civilization. We all deserve a lot better
22 than that.

23 The Illinois Pollution Control
24 Board should deny the variance because my health

1 matters. Your health does matter as well, and our
2 planet earth's health also matters.

3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Ellyn Jacobson?

6 MS. JACOBSON: Hi. My name is
7 Ellyn Jacobson, E-l-l-y-n J-a-c-o-b-s-o-n. I'm the
8 Sierra Club in Chicago and down here on the bus, I
9 was thinking of all sorts of things I really wanted
10 to say, and I realize I'm not as educated with all
11 the statistics that the previous speakers from the
12 Sierra Club have mentioned, but as a child that grew
13 up downwind from a coal mine and had their first
14 almost fatal asthma attack when I was 5 years old,
15 when you're 5 years old, to be taken into an
16 emergency room and have your wrist cut down to try
17 to bring air into your, oxygen into your blood, the
18 most important thing that you people can understand
19 is there's people's lives at stake.

20 I've suffered my whole life.

21 I've been in and out of emergency rooms. I've been
22 in and out of hospitals, and they all say it was the
23 exposure to a coal mine downwind for the first three
24 months of my life.

1 Thank you.

2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

3 Justin Uebelhor? You want to
4 spell your last name?

5 MR. UEBELHOR: Yes. Hi. I'm
6 Justin Uebelhor. The last name is U-e-b-e-l-h-o-r.

7 I want to thank you for
8 holding this important hearing. My father was a
9 union laborer who helped build a coal plant near my
10 hometown in the 1970s, and I really appreciate the
11 concern for jobs. However, I think that today there
12 are better alternatives.

13 I spent three years in Iowa,
14 and I saw firsthand how the wind industry has really
15 changed the state, bringing new jobs for workers and
16 new incomes for farmers through leases, so when I
17 look at my three nieces, this is the future that I
18 want for them, not an economy that is based on
19 environmentally destructive fossil fuels.

20 So I urge the Board to reject
21 Dynegy's request for a variance. Please don't delay
22 lifesaving clean air laws that were agreed to in
23 2006.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

1 Chris Johnson?

2 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you. My name
3 is Chris Johnson. I'm with the Sierra Club from
4 Chicago.

5 I'm a former teacher, and for
6 many years I was an editor of textbooks, history
7 textbooks, and I just wanted to bring a little bit
8 of history in.

9 For many years, my family and
10 I lived in Boston, in New England, and we could not
11 take our children fishing or swimming because of
12 acid rain, and these were from power plants coming
13 over from the Midwest.

14 Well, lo and behold, standards
15 were set, the power plants cleaned up, the acid
16 rain, through innovative methods, has been cleaned
17 up. That was 20 years ago. Now you can use those
18 lakes and rivers and streams.

19 So when I sit here and I hear
20 complaints about the corporate can't afford to do
21 this, corporations can't afford to do that, that's
22 not true. Corporations can change how they operate.
23 They can lower their pollution.

24 However, they have to be held

1 to standards, to pollution standards, and I would
2 like you to, therefore, deny the variance to Dynegy
3 and hold them to the pollution standards that the
4 state has set.

5 Thank you very much.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Mike Elliott? And I'll be
8 calling Jeff Green next. If you're in back, you may
9 want to move up.

10 MR. ELLIOTT: Hi. My name is Mike
11 Elliott (E-l-l-i-o-t-t). I'm a current teacher in
12 the Chicago Public Schools. I teach fourth grade
13 math and science.

14 I just have a few quick
15 comments.

16 I'm here representing the
17 fourth graders and their parents from Chicago Public
18 Schools.

19 In my classroom, about half of
20 my students have asthma, and every single one of my
21 students has a family member, an immediate family
22 member who has asthma or respiratory complications.

23 So why do they have asthma?
24 Because in the southeast side of Chicago, there is

1 just incredible concentration of industry in the
2 same way that communities across Illinois have the
3 same sort of respiratory complications because of
4 industry and pollutants.

5 So in my opinion, the
6 Pollution Control Board is responsible for cleaner
7 air in the entire state which includes downstate and
8 it includes Chicago, and it doesn't matter if the
9 community is white or black or brown. This simple
10 reality is that the air quality will be better in
11 Illinois if Dynegy has to follow the Multi-Pollutant
12 Standard in 2015 than 2020.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Jeff Green?

15 And I'll be calling Amy Allen
16 next.

17 MR. GREEN: Hi. My name is Jeff
18 Green. I'm from Frankfort, Illinois. I am a
19 founding member of Illinois Renewable Energy
20 Association. I am not representing them today.
21 Also, I have about 20 years of renewable energy
22 study. I've been involved in understanding how it
23 works and so forth, and in the last six or seven
24 years, I've been involved in understanding climate

1 change.

2 Unfortunately, for the workers
3 here, CO2 is just a big future problem. We are
4 going to be, at about 2100, we're going to be about
5 two degrees centigrade warmer, and we have to start
6 now, and so with the health problems, with the
7 future problems that our future generations are
8 going to face, it's time to move into investments of
9 100 percent renewable energy.

10 This has been studied.
11 Stanford has peer review papers out on this. There
12 are universities in Oregon and Washington State.
13 They have studied this also. There is a plan. We
14 can move forward with this. We can change and make
15 this a better place to live for children.

16 I had planned on doing this on
17 the health effects of children, but I see the people
18 before me have done an excellent job on that
19 already, and so it's a combination of several
20 things. I think all these workers could be employed
21 in the renewable energy industry. It is something
22 that would solve all the problems. For the next 40,
23 50 years, we can have jobs. We can have security.
24 We can have energy security. We can have a cleaner

1 environment. We can have all the things that come
2 together and make our society a better place.

3 Thank you for giving me this
4 time here.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Amy Allen?

8 Rose Gomez will be next.

9 MS. ALLEN: Hi. Thanks for having
10 me.

11 My name is Amy Allen, and I'm
12 a concerned citizen of Springfield, Illinois
13 concerned with the health and well-being of
14 Illinoisans now and in the future, and for that
15 reason, I ask that a variance not be granted.

16 Operating an unscrubbed coal
17 plant for five more years will result in tens of
18 thousands of toxic tons of SO2 over the life of the
19 variance estimated to cause 2,000 asthma attacks and
20 over a hundred premature deaths.

21 Dynegy is well aware of these
22 impacts agreeing to the MPS and opposing a variance
23 for Midwest Generation that granting the variance
24 would delay the benefits to the State of Illinois.

1 Dynergy is aware that the
2 plants are old and outdated and is choosing to
3 require them anyway, far from the arbitrary and
4 unreasonable hardship that must be demonstrated
5 under the law to receive a variance.

6 On the contrary, Dynergy is
7 actively seeking out the opportunity to acquire the
8 plants.

9 Dynergy has a toxic legacy in
10 Illinois having contamination resulting from coal
11 ash from its Vermilion plant seeping into the Middle
12 Fork River.

13 The Pollution Control Board
14 should hold Dynergy accountable for meeting the
15 standards that it agreed to.

16 Dynergy and Ameren have
17 presented a false choice between complying with MPS
18 and jobs. Instead, Dynergy should comply with the
19 standards they agree to and not expect their
20 employees and the citizens of Illinois to bear the
21 burden for their and Ameren's bad decisions in not
22 bringing the plants to compliance earlier.

23 There is a solution to this
24 that both would preserve jobs and comply with the

1 standard, and it's Dynegey and other companies'
2 responsibility to find that out and not to put the
3 burden on the citizens of Illinois, and for that
4 reason the variance, should not be granted.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Rose Gomez?

8 Barbara Gurtler will be next.

9 MS. GOMEZ: Hi. My name is Rose
10 Gomez, and I am a Sierra Club member, and the reason
11 why I am here from Chicago is because I grew up in
12 the city, in Chicago, and there were two recent coal
13 power plants that were closed last year in September
14 of 2012, so I know firsthand what the harmful
15 effects were of outdated, old, coal-fired power
16 plants, and they were closed because on a cost
17 benefit analysis both for the company that owned the
18 power plants and for people living citywide, there
19 were too many risks and costs to everybody involved,
20 and thank goodness that the power plants were
21 closed.

22 And so the reason why I am
23 here is because I am requesting that the variance be
24 denied for all the right reasons. It is in the

1 interest of all the people of Illinois and
2 neighboring states that feel the harmful effects
3 from the toxic pollutants that come from these power
4 plants.

5 Again, I ask that the variance
6 be denied, and as the Illinois Pollution Control
7 Board, you are accountable not to stockholders but
8 to people of Illinois, and for that reason, I
9 believe that this variance should be denied.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Barbara Gurtler?

12 Kevin Morrison will be next.

13 MS. GURTLER: Good afternoon, and
14 thank you for listening to us.

15 I am Barbara Gurtler from
16 Peoria, Illinois; G-u-r-t-l-e-r. I've lived in
17 Peoria for the last 47 years well within reach of
18 the Edwards power plant air pollution.

19 I have always been a promoter
20 of clean air and clean water, the two elements that
21 are essential for our lives. I am a runner and an
22 outdoor person, so clean air is important to me.

23 Now, I understand that you
24 employees of power plants don't want to lose your

1 jobs. I don't want to you to lose your jobs either,
2 but we also don't want family members sick from
3 polluted air.

4 Dynegey is not known with
5 goodness to its employees as you can check out by
6 the plant that they locked the workers out of in New
7 York State and then closed the plant, so the
8 economics of this proposed buyout is not guaranteed.

9 If the variance is granted, it
10 is almost certain that the conditions of the law
11 will not be met by 2020. We need to hear about the
12 economics of the people sickened by polluted air,
13 the doctor bills and the hospital bills, the days
14 lost from work, and you have heard some of that
15 today.

16 So there are two sides to the
17 economic story, and there are no guarantees that
18 things will be better if Dynegey's offshoot, the new
19 company, takes over.

20 So I'd urge the Illinois
21 Pollution Control Board to deny the variance for the
22 health of the residents of the State of Illinois.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

1 Kevin Morrison?

2 Bob Jorgensen will be next.

3 MR. MORRISON: Hello. My name is
4 Kevin Morrison. I thank you for letting me speak
5 here today.

6 I'm a recent graduate from
7 DePauw University with a major in political science
8 and environmental science, and I'm very passionate
9 about preserving our environment for the future.

10 Coal energy is not clean
11 energy. In these trying times, I know our economy
12 has been struggling, and I do not want to see anyone
13 losing their jobs, but coal jobs are not in the best
14 interest for any of our families or any of our
15 futures.

16 What we need is energy that is
17 clean, and for a good example, the reason why, coal
18 that is mined in Illinois cannot be burned in
19 Illinois. Illinois coal is incredibly filthy. That
20 is the reason why it is shipped to India and China.

21 The reason why that gentleman
22 was up here speaking today willing to buy scrubbers
23 for the machinery machines in those coal plants that
24 do not have them is because the coal that is mined

1 in Illinois already is more polluting than the
2 Wyoming coal that they would ship here.

3 Coal in itself is a dirty
4 energy source, and there are better sources that
5 need the help from our government to not fund the
6 fossil fuel industry and keeping them in high demand
7 in the United States but pushing for better energy
8 in this country.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Bob Jorgensen?

12 Patty Rykhus will be next.

13 MR. JORGENSEN: Robert Jorgensen

14 (J-o-r-g-e-n-s-e-n).

15 I'm Bob Jorgensen. I'm from
16 East Peoria, Illinois. I live about ten miles as
17 the crow flies from E.D. Edwards.

18 I'm here to asking you to deny
19 the request for another variance, another long-term
20 time that would allow huge amounts of pollution to
21 be emitted for an additional five years.

22 I'm asking you to protect the
23 health of everyone in central Illinois including all
24 the union workers that are here.

1 I wondered if we -- I won't do
2 it but I wonder how many of the union workers have
3 kids with asthma that have problems too and need to
4 be protected by the IEPA and you, the Pollution
5 Control Board. We did hear about the 125 estimated
6 premature deaths.

7 In 2006, I had open heart
8 surgery. I had my mitral and aortic valve replaced.
9 I had a bypass then also. Since 2006 I've had two
10 procedures to make my heart stay in normal rhythm.
11 I also take medication to keep my heart in normal
12 rhythm.

13 I'll be 65 in December. I'll
14 be 67 when E.D. Edwards was supposed to come under
15 compliance without a variance.

16 If Dynege gets this variance,
17 I'll hopefully be able to endure an additional five
18 years of life-threatening pollution, so I could be
19 one of those premature deaths.

20 Again, I don't want these
21 skilled union workers to be jobless. I'm a retired
22 union school teacher. I was very active in my union
23 and very proud of it, but I do want to increase my
24 odds of seeing my grandchildren graduate from

1 college to be healthy, nonasthmatic, productive, and
2 maybe union school teachers or union members working
3 in the trades.

4 Thank you for your time. I
5 appreciate it.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Patty Rykhus?

8 And I'll call Velma Walton
9 next.

10 MS. RYKHUS. Hi. I'm Patty Rykhus.
11 I'll go ahead and spell the last name. It's
12 R-y-k-h-u-s. I'm a retired scientist and business
13 and systems analyst, and I live on a small farm in
14 central Illinois downwind of a couple power plants.

15 We can do better. If Dynegy
16 is only prepared to move forward, if they don't have
17 to follow the current state laws of our State of
18 Illinois, then they should not move forward at this
19 time, period.

20 To me, it doesn't matter who
21 owns these plants. What affects me is continued
22 exposure to pollution at above our state standards.
23 There is an expectation of clean air well within our
24 state standards and an expectation for you, our

1 Pollution Control Board and our Illinois EPA, to
2 help control that.

3 If we allow yet another
4 variance, we have failed the people. To expect by
5 2020 to maybe meet the standards of 2006 is uncalled
6 for.

7 In order for Dynegy to receive
8 this variance, they must prove that it would be a
9 financial hardship on them. I do not feel they have
10 shown that proof.

11 For the sake of this hearing,
12 all other financial information is actually a moot
13 point. The ability and willingness to invest in a
14 cleaner environment is a choice, a choice that
15 Dynegy seems either unable or unwilling to take
16 right now.

17 If they're not able to make
18 that choice right now, how can we guarantee what
19 their future would hold.

20 The job situation in Illinois
21 as described by supporters of this variance is being
22 used as a pawn in an elaborate game of chess called
23 energy generation in Illinois that I also like to
24 subtitle jobs versus the environment. It does not

1 have to be that way. We need a paradigm shift. The
2 blue shirts in this room can work with the
3 fluorescent shirts in this room. It's the
4 corporation's call.

5 I challenge you, our Pollution
6 Control Board and EPA and Dynegy, go back to the
7 table. The current proposition would be what Dynegy
8 wants, but it's not in the best interest of the
9 people of the State of Illinois.

10 Any company with the intent of
11 purchasing and operating a fleet of antiquated
12 coal-fired power plants needs to bring more to the
13 table up front.

14 To those previous speakers
15 that have attempted to group the environmentalists
16 into a stereotype, shame on you. Saying that we are
17 not business savvy and that we are geographically
18 challenged is absurd.

19 I challenge all of you to go
20 to the federal EPA website. Look at the Toxic
21 Release Inventory, nomenclature is TRI, and also
22 look at the EPA Enforcement and Compliance site,
23 nomenclature of ECO.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Can you

1 start wrapping it up?

2 MS. RYKHUS: Okay. When you do,
3 you will gain an awareness of the impact these coal
4 mines really have on our environment. We need to
5 limit the damages up front for the people.

6 Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Velma Walton?

9 Jenny Nailing will be next.

10 MS. WALTON: Good afternoon. I'm
11 Velma Walton, a UAW retiree, and I'm new to the
12 group but I do love clean air.

13 My sister lost two sons to
14 asthma a few years ago, and they didn't get to do
15 the childhood thing that kids do nowadays, and I'm
16 here to support the clean air.

17 Thank you.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Jenny Nailing?

20 Gary Hall will be next.

21 MS. NAILING: Good afternoon. My
22 name is Jenny Nailing, and I'm a United Auto Worker
23 retiree, and I am from Peoria, and I support clean
24 air. I support a clean environment, and I have

1 grandchildren, adult grandchildren.

2 I've lived in Peoria most of
3 my life. I was born in southern Illinois, and my
4 adult grandchildren have asthma, and they are on
5 inhalers, and I have a great granddaughter, and I'm
6 a nana, and I want to be around for her. Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Gary Hall.

9 Ron Trimmer will be next.

10 MR. HALL: Gary Hall.

11 Ameren is a neighbor that
12 everybody hates. They're the ones up the street
13 that let their house go bad, their yard go bad, and
14 they pollute.

15 They get a variance from the
16 city, and right when you think you're going to get
17 them to clean up, they sell the house to somebody
18 else who wants the same thing they got.

19 I am for every one of these
20 union brothers and sisters keeping their jobs. I
21 see no reason why they should not keep their jobs.
22 All Dynegy has to do is get with this Board and say,
23 listen, we're going to do what Ameren said they were
24 going to do but they did not do.

1 I can't think of anything else
2 to say so I'll just say good-bye and let the next
3 person speak.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Ron Trimmer?

6 John Baker will be next.

7 MR. TRIMMER: I'm Dr. Ron Trimmer.

8 I'm with the Citizens Climate Lobby, the Alton
9 Chapter.

10 The stone age did not end when
11 we ran out of stones. The fossil fuel age will not
12 end when we run out of fossil fuel. It will end
13 because renewable energy is better and really
14 cheaper. It will end when we stop giving companies
15 like Dynegy permission to pollute.

16 Coal and oil pollution from
17 generating electricity causes 13,000 deaths a year
18 and nearly a trillion dollars in extra U.S. health
19 care costs.

20 The Joppa coal power plant
21 causes 40 deaths and over \$18 million in asthma,
22 bronchitis, heart and other medical expenses a year.

23 Agriculture is 40 percent of
24 the Illinois economy. Do we really want to bet the

1 farm against the laws of physics? Illinois is first
2 in soybeans, second in corn, fourth in hogs.
3 Farmers are dealing with extreme unpredictable
4 weather and heat, severe droughts one year, flooding
5 the next.

6 Nationally, in 2012, crop
7 insurance claims were \$17 billion. Illinois was hit
8 the hardest; \$3 billion in claims.

9 Within 30 years, the new norm
10 will be wetter planting and harvest seasons and
11 killer heat and drought growing seasons.

12 Warmer winters mean pest
13 problems. Corn yields will be less than half of
14 what they are now. The only way to raise hogs will
15 be in air-conditioned barns.

16 The Illinois Farm Bureau is
17 concerned. Crop insurance directors from across the
18 country recently met with climate leaders.

19 To protect farmers from the
20 ravages of climate change, we must leave 80 percent
21 of the known coal and oil reserves in the ground.
22 Almost half of Illinois' carbon pollution comes from
23 just five plants, three of which are now or will be
24 Dynegey's.

1 I respect the workers that
2 keep our lights on. They'll have a future in this
3 transition if Illinois will just fix and expand its
4 support of renewable energy.

5 Last year, Matt Reuscher got
6 laid off from the Coulterville coal mine. He landed
7 a job installing solar panels. Matt is making good
8 money in a career with a future.

9 We can replace coal power
10 plant jobs and coal mining jobs as we transition to
11 clean energy. What we cannot replace is the
12 productivity of our farmland which will steadily
13 decline in the years ahead unless we curtail the
14 carbon pollution that is heating up our world.

15 And I'm also an Ameren
16 stockholder and a member of the Midwest Coalition
17 for Responsible Investment.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 John Baker?

20 James Kipp will be next.

21 MR. BAKER: Hi. John Baker
22 (B-a-k-e-r). Good afternoon, and I want to thank
23 you for the opportunity to address the Illinois
24 Pollution Control Board.

1 I'm from the Baldwin station.
2 I work for Dynegy. I've been there 30 years. Prior
3 to that, I was a coal miner and member of the United
4 Mine Workers, and I work in a town of Marissa down
5 at St. Clair County, a town hit hard by the demise
6 of the coal industry back in the '90s, so I'm just
7 telling you a little bit about myself.

8 I am on the board of the
9 public library down there and also a member of the
10 zoning board so I've seen, especially on the
11 library, the economic effects of the demise of the
12 industry.

13 Having said that, both sides
14 have produced some great cases here, and I thank you
15 for objectively listening.

16 About my company, Dynegy, if
17 you look, we voluntarily entered a consent decree in
18 2005 to clean things up. Done a very good job of
19 that.

20 At the station, I'm
21 responsible for maintenance on electrostatic
22 precipitators. I've also been on the team of the
23 check out and the commissioning of the scrubbers and
24 also work with the guys on the daily operation of

1 that.

2 We're proud of that, not
3 because we had to do that but because we wanted to
4 do that. Dynegey is a very responsible corporate
5 citizen in the state, and I'm proud to be a part of
6 that, and I'm proud to tell you all that.

7 Every morning when I go to
8 work -- and, yes, I bicycle to work a lot, and I
9 thought I'd see more bikes here but there you go.
10 I'm proud when I see...because I remember 30 years
11 ago what the stacks looked like, and I'm proud to
12 see the change.

13 Dynegey is going to move
14 forward in a positive aspect to make these, and
15 we're asking for a variance. We're asking for a
16 little time to do that to get things engineered,
17 designed properly, and move forward with that.

18 So thank you for your time.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 James Kipp?

21 Kathy Roemmel will be next.

22 MR. KIPP: Hello. My name is James
23 Kipp (K-i-p-p), and I've been with Dynegey for 29
24 years, and I work out of our O'Fallon office, and

1 over the 29 years, I've watched our industry change
2 and adapt. I've watched Dynegy change and adapt,
3 and I'd like to tell you I'm extremely proud of how
4 we've done our investments and our achievements in
5 the environmental area.

6 And as John elaborated a lot
7 more than I could, you know, I think that the issue
8 here is not that will we or won't we do it. It's
9 just allowing us time to do it, and that's what the
10 variance is.

11 I'm also born and raised in a
12 small town in southern Illinois, and I've watched
13 these small communities just degrade based on and
14 due to the economic challenges they have, and if we,
15 you know, if we turn this variance down, I just see
16 that multiplying to these communities and to the
17 people of these communities even more and more.

18 So I'd ask you to support the
19 people in these small communities and support this
20 variance and pass it.

21 Thank you.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Kathy Roemmel?

24 And Deb Koenig (K-o-e-n-i-g)

1 will be next.

2 MS. ROEMMEL: Thank you. I'm Kathy
3 Roemmel from Belleville, Illinois; R-o-e-m-m-e-l.
4 I'm currently the manager at the Dynegy Wood River
5 Power Station in Alton.

6 Over the years, I've had the
7 opportunity to work at numerous plants and
8 facilities in Illinois in various functions -- in
9 engineering, maintenance and operation roles. I'm
10 very proud to say I've been an employee for 34
11 years.

12 These plants, this company has
13 been my life. These plants, this company has been
14 my family's life. In fact, these plants are my
15 family.

16 I truly believe that these
17 plants can be and will be successful under Dynegy.
18 I'm here today to ask for your support in granting
19 this variance.

20 Thank you for this
21 opportunity.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Deb Koenig?

24 MS. KOENIG: Thank you for the

1 privilege to speak today.

2 I'm the admin. manager at the
3 Wood River plant, Dynegy's Wood River plant. The
4 plant sets at the corner of East Alton, Wood River,
5 and Alton, and that is a struggling community where
6 industry has left, so many jobs have left, and so
7 many people have left the communities because they
8 can no longer find jobs. Dynegy and the Wood River
9 Power Station has remained strong.

10 I've been there 34 years.
11 I've raised two children. My husband and I live in
12 Godfrey, Illinois, and we've enjoyed living there
13 and lived there very well because of Dynegy.

14 The plant itself is a plant
15 that also faces challenges, but I think that Dynegy
16 has shown its command for wanting to be a good
17 environmental citizen and concedes that they want to
18 have the time to do that in the new plants that they
19 would like to purchase.

20 Thank you for allowing me to
21 speak.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Joe Lloyd?

24 Debbie Lewis will be next.

1 MR. LLOYD: Good afternoon. Thank
2 you for hearing my comments today.

3 I'm Joseph Lloyd with Dynegy,
4 Managing Director of Health and Safety. I've been
5 part of the Dynegy team for seven years now.

6 Our family relocated from
7 southern Pennsylvania here about five years ago, and
8 we live in Swansea, Illinois. We moved in order to
9 pursue greater opportunities with Dynegy. Those
10 opportunities were created when Dynegy purchased my
11 power plant, the Ontelaunee Energy Center where I
12 was plant manager.

13 This variance will allow me
14 and other Dynegy employees to continue to be
15 employed and provide future opportunities. It will
16 also allow our family to continue to support our
17 daughter who's a second year student at SIU-E and
18 allow us to prepare our son, a sophomore in high
19 school, to pursue his engineering degree at U of I.

20 The variance request not only
21 impacts my family directly but also the hundreds of
22 other families whose children attend local schools
23 where our plants are located supported by the tax
24 revenues from Dynegy.

1 I ask that the Board support
2 our variance request so Dynegy can continue to
3 support the Illinois families and our communities.

4 Thank you.

5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

6 Debbie Lewis?

7 Randy Short will be next.

8 MS. LEWIS: Hi. My name is Debbie
9 Lewis, L-e-w-i-s like Lewis & Clark. I was born and
10 raised in southern Illinois. I don't know if any of
11 you know where Modoc, Illinois is. I'm actually
12 five miles south of there so I'm kind of out in the
13 country.

14 I have worked at Baldwin
15 Energy Complex now for a little over 39 years. It's
16 where my family grew up. It's where I grew up.
17 It's where I work. It's where I spend my money.
18 It's where all my family wants to belong. We enjoy
19 not only the lifestyle there. Our ethics are that
20 we work hard, play hard, but we believe that also
21 aligns with Dynegy.

22 I'm proud to say that I work
23 for Dynegy. One of their values is to do the right
24 thing, and I know that they will. When they say

1 they're going to do something, they do it, and they
2 prove that with their employees.

3 So I would like to ask you to
4 please consider the variance.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Randy Short?

8 Greg Robert will be next.

9 MR. SHORT: Hi. I'm Randy Short.
10 I'm the plant manager at the Baldwin Station. I'm
11 proud of the environmental record at Baldwin and our
12 safe low cost energy that we've provided for years.

13 We have approximately 250
14 employees there, and we support the communities, and
15 they're a large taxpayer in our area.

16 In my 22 years at Dynegy, I
17 worked at four coal plants, and in every one of the
18 cases in the communities, we are relied on to
19 support with our taxes, our employee's involvement,
20 on school boards, and other initiatives.

21 For me personally, Dynegy has
22 helped support my family. I have two daughters and
23 my wife, and we've moved around Illinois because of
24 the jobs that Dynegy has provided us, and I

1 encourage the Illinois Pollution Control Board to
2 support the request to preserve the jobs that Dynegy
3 provides at the coal plants that we are interested
4 in buying.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Greg Robert?

8 Joe Kimlinger will be next.

9 MR. ROBERT: Good afternoon. My
10 name is Greg Robert (R-o-b-e-r-t). I'm the director
11 of maintenance for the Dynegy coal fleet. I've been
12 employed by Dynegy for 35 years, and I would ask the
13 Illinois Pollution Control Board to consider the
14 variance for us.

15 We try to be a good steward,
16 and we've already shown that with our Havana Power
17 Station by putting the scrubbers and baghouse in
18 along with the Baldwin Power Station with three
19 scrubbers and three baghouses, and I know that our
20 company will do the right thing. I'm asking you to
21 consider doing the variance for us.

22 Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

24 Joe Kimlinger?

1 Dave Glosecki will be next.

2 MR. KIMLINGER: Good afternoon,
3 ladies and gentlemen of the Board.

4 My name is Joe Kimlinger
5 (K-i-m-l-i-n-g-e-r). I'm a lifelong resident of
6 Illinois. I currently live in Waterloo, Illinois
7 and have for the past seven years. Previously I
8 lived in Monticello, Illinois for 14 years while I
9 worked for Illinois Power.

10 I have worked for Illinois
11 Power and Dynegy for nearly 22 years. During my
12 career there, I've worked at engineering, finance,
13 environmental, construction, and project groups.
14 Over the past six years, I'm proud to say that I was
15 a project manager over the scrubbers that we
16 installed at Havana and Baldwin; a very successful
17 job. Again, I'm proud that I was a part of it at
18 Dynegy.

19 I moved into the area, back in
20 the area about 22 years ago to begin work at IP, and
21 I've lived in the southern half of the state ever
22 since. I'm a lifelong or, I'm sorry, I'm a
23 long-time Dynegy employee and hope to work there
24 many more years.

1 I know many Dynegy employees
2 that live in the Waterloo and surrounding areas, and
3 loss of jobs would be a detriment to our town and,
4 as it's been said before, a lot of the small towns
5 in the area.

6 I encourage the Board to
7 support this request and help keep Illinois families
8 and communities strong.

9 Thank you for your time.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Dave Glosecki?

12 Robin Garlish will be next.

13 MR. GLOSECKI: My name is Dave
14 Glosecki. That's G-l-o-s-e-c-k-i. I'm currently
15 employed as the director of maintenance at Dynegy's
16 Baldwin plant. I'm a 28-year employee of Illinois
17 Power, the first version, and subsequently Dynegy.

18 I'm a lifelong Illinois
19 resident. I grew up in Montgomery County. Went to
20 Hillsboro High School. Actually worked at the
21 Coffeen plant as a laborer, and I stand in support
22 with all those folks. The money that I earned as a
23 laborer after high school helped put me through
24 college, brought me back to Illinois to enter the

1 working world and continued to work hard to provide
2 energy in a safe, environmentally sensitive, and
3 cost-effective method for our state and our
4 citizens.

5 The folks at Dynegy have a lot
6 of passion about doing the right thing, making sure
7 that we provide quality, safe, cost-effective,
8 environmentally friendly energy to those citizens.

9 I encourage you to consider
10 our petition for the variance.

11 Thank you for your time.

12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

13 Robin Garlish?

14 Rachel Casey will be next.

15 MS. GARLISH: I'm Robin Garlish,
16 R-o-b-i-n G-a-r-l-i-s-h, and I am a local resident
17 who lives close to the Ameren Edwards coal plant in
18 Peoria.

19 I've never seen so many
20 breathing-related problems until moving with my
21 family to the central Illinois Peoria area. We
22 moved here because it's a beautiful state. There
23 were plenty of jobs. It was around the time Diamond
24 Star started building up. The trails, the waters,

1 we do a lot of boating and hiking.

2 I am the same as any one of
3 you employees and others that are here today. I'm a
4 hard worker. I consider myself a good mother. I
5 have good children so that helps. I have put a
6 child through law school. I still have a child at
7 home who is in high school.

8 My family moved to this area
9 in 1986, and this is when our respiratory problems
10 have started. My son has developed skin disease,
11 eczema, which is in the asthmatic family.

12 I have developed now a
13 bronchial asthma which struggling with pretty heavy
14 right now, and unfortunately now, I know what my
15 daughter goes through who is a chronic asthmatic
16 since childhood.

17 It's hard as a parent to not
18 see your child breathe. It's hard to see them
19 struggle. I've had to perform child CPR on her
20 because she could not catch her breath. It breaks
21 your heart when you watch her struggle and cough,
22 and a normal person you would say, just get a drink
23 of water, you'll catch your breath. In these
24 conditions that she has, that won't work.

1 Most all of our visits have
2 turned into long-term admittances at the Peoria OSF
3 St. Francis Hospital. She fights for her breath.
4 Her chest gets tight. Her face gets discolored. We
5 go up. This happens. It's almost like it's just
6 one of our regular routines. She goes into the
7 oxygen tank. She gets on prednisone. Prednisone
8 has side effects. We have to do what you call I
9 guess the better of the worst.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Could you
11 wrap it up?

12 MS. GARLISH: Okay. I will.

13 Somebody came up to me just a
14 little bit ago who had a vest on, and they said with
15 a little bit of a tear in their eye that what we are
16 doing is right. They said that we're on different
17 sides of the fence but they said please keep doing
18 what you're doing. They didn't say anymore. They
19 had to walk away. They had a tear in their eye.

20 When I tutor at my daughter's
21 school, 75 percent of the kids -- I'm probably even
22 minimizing -- have inhalers.

23 My mother-in-law is dying of
24 stage 4 cancer in her lymph nodes. She was born and

1 raised in this area. My aunt has died from brain
2 cancer. Everyone in the area I live in in Pekin has
3 cancer in their family or asthma in their family.

4 When I have learned the
5 statistics, this is a very high cancer, high
6 asthmatic area. I think that we can change for the
7 better.

8 I also take it for granted,
9 like somebody said, when I turn on the light switch,
10 but I don't take it for granted when my child --

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Ma'am, I'm
12 sorry. I'm going to have to cut you off. Thank
13 you.

14 MS. GARLISH: Okay. I don't take
15 life for granted.

16 Thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

18 Rachel Casey?

19 Winston Freund will be next.

20 MS. CASEY: My name is Rachel
21 Casey. I work for Ameren Energy Resources. I've
22 been employed with them since 2008. I have worked
23 in several different departments under generation,
24 project controls, environmentals. I do operation

1 support now. I'm their document control
2 administrator.

3 I handle all of our procedures
4 which include safety, some environmental,
5 operational, administrative.

6 Everyone has a story.
7 Everyone here has a story, and I thank you for
8 hearing all of ours. Everyone is just as important
9 as the next person. Some of us are fighting for our
10 jobs. Others want clean air.

11 You know, these communities
12 are our family. They're our jobs. They're not just
13 fellow employees, you know, these are my friends.
14 This is who I spend the majority of my 12-hour day
15 with, you know, and what happens with these plants
16 and with this variance applies to all of those
17 people that I care about and, you know, we
18 appreciate that you granted the variance last year,
19 and we ask that you approve the variance this year
20 as well.

21 Thank you.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Winston Freund?

24 Steve Richard will be next.

1 MR. FREUND: F-r-e-u-n-d.

2 Hi. My name is Winston
3 Freund. I also work with Ameren. I've worked in
4 the Collinsville office near St. Louis. I live in
5 O'Fallon. I started my career with the utility at
6 CIPS here in Springfield and have been with them and
7 Ameren for 33 years now.

8 I currently support the
9 plants, all the AER plants, and I can tell you that
10 this company, their values, it is outstanding. When
11 they say they're going to do something, they do it.
12 I've been around Dynegy people and their staff and
13 they also, whatever they say they do.

14 I think the chart over here
15 shows a lot about that.

16 I'm very fortunate that I have
17 had a good paying job. I've been able to put my
18 three daughters through college. I'm also very
19 fortunate that they live in the St. Louis area.

20 Jobs are important, yes. If
21 this variance isn't granted, it could have an impact
22 on me, yes, but the main thing that I look at is the
23 communities and stuff, that it is the trickle down
24 effect. You know, I want my kids to have the same

1 opportunities as me, and as you start losing jobs
2 and stuff, you know, I'd like to see jobs stay in
3 Illinois. I've lived here most of my life, so I'm
4 proud of the state, and I'd like to see you grant
5 the variance. I appreciate it.

6 Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Steve Richard?

9 Tom Gannon will be next.

10 MR. RICHARD: Hello. I'm Steve
11 Richard, and I thank you for the opportunity to
12 speak to you today.

13 I live in Glen Carbon,
14 Illinois, and I work in Collinsville for Ameren
15 Energy Resources. My family members are lifelong
16 Illinois residents. I have three children. They go
17 to Illinois schools. Two of them go to Illinois
18 colleges, and I'm a 32-year employee with Ameren and
19 Illinois Power and Dynegy, and I have helped build
20 the FGD scrubbers at Coffeen and Duck Creek and
21 project oversight and cost management and savings
22 saving millions actually from where we were on our
23 estimate.

24 There are employees at these

1 companies that continually look for ways to be
2 environmentally responsible to the State of
3 Illinois. I really, like many here who love clean
4 air, I love clean air. I love Illinois. I love my
5 family, as all of you do, and I believe that we can
6 get there where we need to be by working together.

7 I ask for your support for the
8 sake of my family, for the sake of my children, for
9 the sake of the communities in Illinois, and trust
10 that you will make a decision like you had last year
11 and urge you to vote for the variance.

12 Thank you very much.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Tom Gannon?

15 Al Toennies -- I'm not sure if
16 I'm saying that right -- will be next.

17 MR. GANNON: Hello. Thank you for
18 the opportunity to speak today.

19 My name is Tom Gannon. I'm
20 from St. Louis, Missouri, and I work in the
21 Collinsville, Illinois office's project cost control
22 support group.

23 I do have four kids in college
24 currently and a daughter who's studying law, and she

1 wants to become an environmental lawyer, and I would
2 encourage you to support the variance.

3 Thank you for your time today.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 All Toennies?

6 Tamika Cole will be next.

7 You want to go ahead and spell
8 your name?

9 MR. TOENNIES: Sure. Al Toennies
10 (T-o-e-n-n-i-e-s), and I want to thank you for
11 letting me speak today.

12 I'm from Damiansville,
13 Illinois, a small town in southern Illinois, born
14 and raised there. I work out of the Collinsville
15 office. I've been working for Ameren for 26 years
16 and 34 years in the industry.

17 We've come a long way. I
18 remember when we used to walk across the turbine
19 floor and leave tracks. Now you can practically eat
20 off of them.

21 I've watched the electric
22 utilities evolve into a competitive industry, and to
23 my amazement, we do see emissions became one of the
24 fiercest competitions when at the time we really

1 didn't need to be. We were meeting standards, and
2 yet, being the lowest emissions producer was huge.

3 I initially wondered why. You
4 know, competition is all about profit, but it didn't
5 take long. I was really proud to be part of that.

6 In recent years, you know,
7 we've continued to try, you know, to be good
8 environmental stewards as best we can, but we've hit
9 some economical circumstances that were unavoidable.

10 We'd like to continue to be
11 environmental stewards, and we will be to the best
12 we can. We just need a little more time so I
13 respectfully request the Board approve the variance
14 request.

15 Thank you.

16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

17 Tamika Cole?

18 Carrie Smith will be next.

19 MS. COLE: Good afternoon. My name
20 is Tamika Cole. That is T-a-m-i-k-a C-o-l-e. I am
21 a sales representative for Ameren Energy Marketing
22 based out of Collinsville, Illinois, and with my
23 job, my job is to travel across the state and talk
24 to small business owners, residents, municipalities,

1 large corporations regarding competitive energy
2 supply, so that's what I do, and everywhere I go, I
3 run into people who have a relationship with Ameren
4 or Dynegy. I hear people say, you know, my
5 grandfather worked for CIPS or Illinois Power, and
6 what these plants mean to these communities is just
7 phenomenal. Some of these small communities, that
8 is the industry, so I would ask that the Board think
9 about the economic impact that this has on those
10 particular communities.

11 And then I also want to talk
12 about the fact that this is a delay, not a denial,
13 of actually getting some of the scrubbers in and
14 taking some of the environmental impact off of the
15 State of Illinois. This is a delay, not a denial,
16 and when you think about using alternative forms of
17 electricity and thinking about the technology that
18 is needed and the costs associated with the
19 alternative forms of electricity, that's a huge
20 burden.

21 If you close down some of
22 these plants and you really think about it, people
23 are out of work, and you think about who's going to
24 pay for all of these upgrades, it's going to be the

1 residents of the State of Illinois. Your
2 electricity costs will go higher.

3 So when you consider the
4 environmental impact as simply a delay and not a
5 denial versus the cost of higher power prices that
6 we'll have to get from some other place across the
7 country who is not environmentally friendly as
8 Ameren and Dynegy, I'd ask that you take that into
9 consideration as well.

10 Thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

12 Carrie Smith?

13 Mike Apple will be next.

14 MS. SMITH: Hello. My name is
15 Carrie Smith. I am a sales representative with
16 Ameren Energy Marketing just like Tamika. We work
17 out of the Collinsville, Illinois location, and I am
18 here in support of the approval of the variance.

19 You know, one thing that I
20 wanted to stress is that the environment is
21 important to us all. You know, we want to make the
22 changes. We know that there are changes that need
23 to be made, and we're just asking for a little bit
24 more time to make those changes.

1 The approval was made for
2 Ameren. The same market conditions stand today, so
3 when Dynegy takes over, we just need a little bit
4 more time just like Ameren did and we will make the
5 changes.

6 Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Mike Apple. Is Mike here?

9 Tim Dion will be next.

10 MR. APPLE: My name is Mike Apple,
11 A-p-p-l-e just like the tree. I work at the Newton
12 Power Station. I worked there for almost 35 years,
13 and I've seen a lot of change in that length of
14 time. I think we are good stewards of the
15 environment, and we do our best, and we go to great
16 lengths to protect the environment, and I think that
17 you should grant Dynegy this variance.

18 Thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 Tim Dion?

21 Lance Farmer will be next.

22 MR. DION: Thank you. My name is
23 Tim Dion. I work at the Newton Power Station in
24 Jasper County, Illinois. I've lived within about

1 seven miles distance of that power plant my entire
2 life growing up as a kid there, and I know that the
3 economic benefits that this plant provides to Jasper
4 County are unimaginable for somebody who doesn't
5 live there. I mean, if our business were to close
6 down, the impact to the entire county would be
7 devastating, and there's a lot of evidence in the
8 case docket that supports that.

9 But I do want to say that my
10 job at the power station is to supervise the people
11 that run the equipment. I'm an operations
12 supervisor, a shift supervisor, and I know that we
13 are continuously looking at the emissions that the
14 plant produces, and we do take a lot of pride in
15 being world class on some of our environmental
16 rules.

17 You know, the Newton Units No.
18 1 and 2, we were the No. 1 and 2 low NOx producers
19 in the country here a few years ago, and we're close
20 to the top of that list now. We do take a lot of
21 pride in limiting our emissions and operating our
22 plant in a safe and responsible manner.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

1 Lance Farmer?

2 Paul Hardiek will be next.

3 MR. FARMER: Hello. My name is
4 Lance Farmer. I'm from the Newton power plant. I
5 live in Effingham Illinois.

6 I've been in the industry for
7 over 25 years, been in maintenance for six, and over
8 those 25 years in the industry, we've seen a lot of
9 change in being good environmental stewards in
10 coal-fired generation. That has not come without
11 cost. It has not come without effort. We see both.
12 At the Newton Power Station, we see the expense
13 being put out and we see the effort being put out.

14 The average, what we're asking
15 for for the variance, the numbers will be in
16 compliance with what the weighted average would be,
17 and we see that in this economic turndown, the
18 ripple effect that the communities would suffer
19 would be for there, not only in loss of jobs but in
20 the cost of power and price.

21 So as we teach our students
22 and our kids to be good stewards, to have a reality
23 when it comes to having to make decisions and pass
24 the stewardship on for future generations, I ask you

1 to support the variance.

2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

3 Paul Hardiek?

4 John Marschewski will be next.

5 Can you spell your name?

6 MR. HARDIEK: Good afternoon.

7 Sure. It's Paul Hardiek (H-a-r-d-i-e-k), and I
8 thank you for the opportunity this afternoon to
9 address the Board here.

10 I was here also last year at
11 this time with the AER when you guys did grant the
12 variance.

13 I'm production superintendent
14 at Newton Power Station. Lived in the local area
15 there for my entire lifetime. I've been at the
16 plant for 15 years. Born and raised on a farm.
17 Also graduate from the U of I. A lot of my classes
18 were environmental, and I took them very seriously
19 and very proud to say at Newton Energy Center, we do
20 an excellent job in environmental compliance.

21 You've heard testimony from
22 some of the folks that work at the plant. I say
23 visually they work hard every time monitoring,
24 operating the units, repairing, complying.

1 John Marschewski?

2 Jim Marshall will be next.

3 You want to spell that?

4 MR. MARSCHEWSKI: Yes. My name is'
5 John Marschewski (M-a-r-s-c-h-e-w-s-k-i).

6 I live in Effingham, Illinois
7 with my wife and three young boys, and I've worked
8 at the Newton Energy Center for six years.

9 Just like Paul, I was here
10 last year during the variance request, and I just
11 want to make a couple quick notes.

12 One of those is to me, this
13 appears that this variance request is just to
14 maintain the status quo. There's already been a
15 variance granted, and this would just maintain the
16 conditions that were granted under that variance,
17 which I don't know all the numbers because I have
18 not studied them, but it's my understanding that
19 that would actually result in a net positive or I
20 guess it would be negative emissions as would be
21 required by current law.

22 The other point I wanted to
23 make is someone mentioned that nothing is
24 guaranteed, and that is definitely a true statement.

1 We all know there's really only two things
2 guaranteed, death and taxes, and I think taxes is
3 quickly catching up with death.

4 There is nothing guaranteed.
5 All of us could lose our jobs tomorrow. I realize
6 that. I've been through that unfortunately in
7 previous employers, but what I do know is I do have
8 a better guarantee if the variance is granted.

9 My big fear is if the variance
10 would not be granted and this transaction would not
11 go through, Ameren has already announced that they
12 are done with power generation in Illinois, and to
13 me, that doesn't give me much of a guarantee at all.

14 Thank you for your time.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 Jim Marshall?

17 Roy Moore will be next.

18 MR. MARSHALL: Thank you for the
19 opportunity to speak today. I appreciate it. My
20 name is Jim Marshall.

21 I come to you today from
22 Crawford County. I work at the Ameren facility at
23 Newton as a technical services superintendent. That
24 facility is in Jasper County. I point that out just

1 to remind you that the size of that facility
2 actually impacts several communities, not only
3 Jasper County but the adjoining counties which are
4 several and somewhat far reaching.

5 . So I would echo many of the
6 comments that have already been shared with you
7 today about our desire to be good environmental
8 stewards, but I also want to emphasize the
9 importance of that facility to southern Illinois.

10 There is not a lot of industry
11 in the southern Illinois area, and a loss of any of
12 these facilities, especially in the rural
13 communities, would have a very significant impact on
14 the economic viability of the communities as well as
15 education, the ability for people to stay and work
16 in those communities.

17 So I've come to you today to
18 basically tell you I'm in support of this variance
19 and ask for your support as well.

20 Thank you.

21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

22 Roy Moore?

23 Larry Quick will be next.

24 MR. MOORE: Good afternoon. I'm

1 Roy Moore. I reside in Newton, Illinois. I work at
2 Newton Power Station. I've worked around Newton
3 Power Station for 36 years. I'm a certified welder.
4 Fifteen of those years I worked for the
5 Boilermakers, 21 years for CIPS, Ameren, soon to be
6 Dynegy. I'm also the chairman for IBEW Local 702
7 bargaining unit.

8 This variance is very
9 important to all of us employees. The bargaining
10 unit supports this variance. We need this.

11 We are very good stewards of
12 the State of Illinois when it comments to our
13 environment. Nothing pleases us more than to go
14 home every night with clean air and clean water.

15 This variance will impact our
16 employees, our families and our communities. Please
17 support this request. It's very important.

18 Thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 Larry Quick?

21 Lance Stanley will be next.

22 MR. QUICK: Hi. My name is Larry
23 Quick. That's Q-u-i-c-k. I work in the storeroom
24 as a stockman at Newton Power Station. I started at

1 the plant at age of 19 in January of 1980 and have
2 been employed there for 33, soon to be 34 years.
3 I'm also a proud member of the IBEW 702.

4 I've been married for 26
5 years, and I have an 18-year-old son who's attending
6 his first year of college aspiring to be a sports
7 broadcaster.

8 Since the first moment I
9 walked into the plant, it soon became obvious of the
10 importance of pollution control at our facility.
11 Many an acronym started becoming a regular part of
12 our vocabulary -- NOx, SO2 SO3, low NOx burners,
13 electrostatic precipitators, ACI, calcium bromide,
14 the list goes on and on.

15 Cleaning the emissions going
16 through our stacks was just a part of our business.
17 No matter what company owned our power plant, we
18 continued to spend millions upon millions of dollars
19 to now over a billion dollars on state of the art
20 equipment not only to meet standards but to exceed
21 them. Our nitrous oxide numbers have been for
22 decades and continue to be among the nation's
23 leaders.

24 Now we have sitting behind our

1 plant a small city that we call a scrubber that is
2 well under construction. This scrubber, when
3 finished, will allow our power plant to continue for
4 decades producing affordable, reliable electricity
5 while also at the same time meeting the strictest
6 pollution guidelines in the country.

7 In 2008, the economic downturn
8 hurt everyone in this country. The electric
9 industry has been hard hit as well.

10 Ameren has already spent
11 hundreds of millions of dollars installing a state
12 of the art scrubber at Coffeen Power Station and
13 last year petitioned the State of Illinois Pollution
14 Control Board for a variance to allow them more time
15 to be able to afford finishing the scrubber at
16 Newton.

17 Now Dynegy is asking for the
18 same variance as they are purchasing the AER coal
19 fleet from Ameren. This variance is extremely
20 important to the power plants involved.

21 While the Newton scrubber
22 construction goes on, other pollution control
23 modifications are being implemented and tweaked for
24 greater performance. We have had the construction

1 of refined coal technology equipment at Newton which
2 has been in service for several months now.

3 When people think of
4 coal-fired power plants, we hope they don't get a
5 picture of smokestacks belching out black smoke like
6 some steel smelting plants in Hammond, Indiana from
7 the early '70s. This is so far from the truth. We
8 invite you take a tour of our plant.

9 As you're coming down the road
10 to Newton and you look up in the sky towards the
11 smokestacks, you'll probably be thinking are they
12 running today. This is the product of all the
13 technology that has been put in place and the money
14 spent on clean emissions. We think you'd be amazed
15 at the cleanliness of our coal-fired power plants.

16 Finally, these power plants
17 have good hard working people who provide a good
18 living for their families as well as bolster the
19 communities they live in with a robust tax base and
20 a daily injection of currency into their local
21 economies. Vast amounts of suppliers around the
22 state benefit from this business. These decisions
23 affect so many people.

24 The power plant folks also are

1 large contributors to agencies that help people get
2 on their feet such as United Way and many other
3 organizations like them.

4 Members of the Illinois
5 Pollution Control Board, we are not trying to skirt
6 our environmental responsibilities, but not unlike
7 the automobile industry after 2008, we just need a
8 little time to fiscally get across this bridge
9 through a poor economy and finish the scrubber
10 without decimating our company and the jobs that it
11 provides.

12 We thank you for the
13 opportunity to be heard today. We urge the Board to
14 grant the variance request.

15 Thank you.

16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Lance
17 Stanley?

18 Keith Trimble will be next.

19 MR. STANLEY: Hi. My name is Lance
20 Stanley. I'm a resident of Olney, Illinois. I am
21 employed at Newton Energy Center. I have worked at
22 Newton Energy Center for 21 years in the electrical
23 department. I'm here today to ask the Board to
24 consider approval of the variance.

1 I'd like to point out that
2 Newton Energy Center has met or exceeded all
3 emission standards, and the variance will lead to a
4 greater overall reduction in SO2 over the life of
5 the agreement.

6 I would also like the Board to
7 consider the potential to affect jobs and
8 communities in southern Illinois.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Keith Trimble?

12 John Cooley will be next.

13 MR. TRIMBLE: Good afternoon.

14 Ladies and gentlemen, I want to thank you for the
15 opportunity to speak. My name is Keith Trimble.
16 I'm employed at Newton Power Plant located in Jasper
17 County, Illinois as an IE tech which is
18 instrumentation electrical technician. I'm also a
19 member of IBEW Local 702.

20 I don't want to sit here and
21 waste a lot of your time. It's been a long day and
22 I know it's a much longer day for you guys so I do
23 want to be brief.

24 I have lived in Jasper County

1 with the exception of a couple years for college my
2 entire life. I was born and raised on a farm, and
3 I'm currently raising my family on that same farm.

4 Me and my colleagues have
5 talked about the devastation of the economic impact
6 to this county if the plant were to close. When you
7 have a plant that accounts for approximately 50
8 percent of the tax base in a county, the closing of
9 it would be devastating, so I ask that you support
10 the variance.

11 And on a personal note, I
12 remember growing up as a kid on that farm. The
13 first time I remember seeing the Milky Way was on a
14 fishing trip in Canada. Today I can go outside on
15 any cloudless moonlit night and see the Milky Way,
16 and I contribute a lot of that to what you guys have
17 done. The air is much cleaner than it was, and
18 there's still more to do, but we need to work with
19 the economic hardships, so we need to work with the
20 plan that has been submitted. It's a good plan and
21 I hope you support it.

22 Thank you very much.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

24 John Cooley?

1 Mike Kollerg will be next.

2 MR. COOLEY: Good afternoon. I'm
3 John Cooley (C-o-o-l-e-y). I thank you for your
4 time this afternoon. I'm the director of the Newton
5 Energy Center.

6 My team as you have heard from
7 is very committed to providing a clean environment.
8 We've invested a substantial amount of money over
9 the years at the Newton Energy Center to produce
10 energy efficiently and cleanly.

11 We have a significant impact
12 on the surrounding community, both direct and
13 indirect, in terms of economics. We have a team
14 that is truly dedicated to maintaining clean air and
15 water because our facility sits in the midst of one
16 of the largest reserves here. We have state-managed
17 fishing and wildlife. That area and our
18 relationship with the Illinois Department of Natural
19 Resources is outstanding.

20 So as our team mentioned, when
21 you think dirty coal, that leaves your mind when
22 you're coming down the road and come up to Newton
23 Energy Center. It's very difficult to tell if our
24 units are on. Our facility is very clean and

1 organized. Our employees take a great deal of pride
2 in the way we manage and run the plant.

3 I am here today to ask you to
4 help us continue being a critical energy provider in
5 the State of Illinois. We think we have a great
6 economic benefit to southern Illinois, and I
7 encourage you to support us in the variance and help
8 us to move forward.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Mike Kollerg, K-o-l-l-e-r-g?

12 Okay. Marcus Helton?

13 MR. HELTON: Hello. My name is
14 Marcus Helton. I'm from Metropolis, Illinois. I
15 work with Joppa Power Plant. I've been there six
16 years. I have a wife and a daughter.

17 This could be devastating to
18 my community, well, my family first, then my
19 community, and it could be bad for all of southern
20 Illinois.

21 Southern Illinois has ran off,
22 or Illinois, southern Illinois has ran off many good
23 jobs it seems like in the past. We can't afford to
24 have another one.

1 I support the variance.

2 Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

4 Nate McCuan?

5 Chris Goebel will be next.

6 MR. MCCUAN: Thank you. My name is
7 Nate McCuan (M-c-C-u-a-n). I live in Massac County.
8 I've lived there my whole life. I'm an employee at
9 the Joppa plant. I've been there about five years.

10 I won't take much of your time
11 because a lot has already been said that I was going
12 to say, but, you know, I ask you to grant the
13 variance for obvious reasons. I'm an employee at
14 the Joppa plant. I'd like to keep it that way, but
15 also, there's other reasons.

16 I have, you know, three small
17 kids. I have two boys, and my youngest is a
18 5-year-old girl. If the Joppa plant closes, the
19 schools in that area are going to close. They might
20 make it a year or two but that's about it, and this
21 is a rural area. I really don't want my 5-year-old
22 daughter getting on the school bus when it's dark in
23 the winter and getting off when it's dark. I don't
24 know if any of you have kids but you can probably

1 relate to that.

2 You know, like Marcus has
3 said, there's been too many jobs lost, and if I was
4 to lose my job, it wouldn't be the end of the world.
5 I could get another job and so can some of these
6 people in this room, but it probably won't be in
7 Illinois, so I would just like for you to allow the
8 variance.

9 Thanks.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Chris Goebel?

12 Bruce Parker will be next.

13 MR. GOEBEL: My name is Chris
14 Goebel (G-o-e-b-e-l). I am from Eldorado, Illinois
15 down in southern Illinois. I work at the Joppa
16 plant. I've worked at Joppa for eight years as an
17 employee for the Joppa plant. I worked as a
18 contractor for 13 years at the same plant. So for
19 almost 20 years, this plant has supported myself and
20 my family.

21 I'm asking you guys to grant
22 the variance so I can continue to raise my family
23 and take care of my home and life.

24 Thank you.

1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

2 Bruce Parker?

3 Sam Freeman will be next.

4 MR. PARKER: My name is Bruce
5 Parker (P-a-r-k-e-r), and I'm the senior
6 environmental engineer at the Joppa generating
7 station and a resident of Massac County, Illinois.
8 I've been employed at the Joppa station for 24
9 years.

10 I support Illinois Power
11 Holdings' request for a variance from the Illinois
12 Multi-Pollutant Standard.

13 In September of 2012, the
14 Illinois Pollution Control Board granted Ameren a
15 variance from the Multi-Pollutant Standard
16 recognizing both the environmental and economic
17 benefits of the variance.

18 Illinois Power Holdings is
19 asking that the variance continue with the same
20 economic and environmental benefits but under
21 different corporate ownership.

22 The Joppa Generating Station
23 as well as the other Ameren facilities have an
24 excellent record for compliance with environmental

1 regulations. My sole job at the Joppa station is to
2 ensure we meet all environmental regulations.

3 We've spent millions of
4 dollars at the Joppa station alone to comply with
5 the MPS rule and have achieved significant
6 reductions in SO2 and mercury emissions.

7 The Joppa station, as well as
8 the other Ameren facilities, provides jobs and
9 revenue to the surrounding area through taxes and
10 contributions. The reissuance of the variance to
11 include Illinois Power Holdings is an integral part
12 of the transfer of the Ameren facilities to Illinois
13 Power Holdings.

14 Without the variance, Illinois
15 Power Holdings will be forced to close both the
16 Joppa and Edwards Station starting in 2015.

17 The closure of the Joppa
18 station would be devastating not only to myself but
19 to the southern Illinois community. My employment
20 with Joppa has allowed me to put three kids through
21 college and provided excellent health care to my
22 family and hopefully retirement for me.

23 Massac County has seen the
24 closure of many area businesses, the most recent

1 closure and layoff of over a thousand people from
2 the United States Enrichment Corporation in nearby
3 Paducah, Kentucky. Equivalent paying jobs are
4 nonexistent to replace those from shutting down the
5 Joppa station.

6 Without the taxes paid by the
7 Joppa station, the local school district would have
8 to make significant reductions to the education
9 program.

10 Granting the variance would be
11 a win-win for the employees, the community and the
12 environment.

13 Again, I urge the Board to
14 support and grant Illinois Power Holdings' request
15 for the variance.

16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

17 Sam Freeman?

18 Mike Pierson will be next.

19 MR. FREEMAN: Hello. My name is
20 Sam Freeman. I work at Joppa, Illinois plant, EEI.

21 I support the variance for the
22 reason of education. Schools would definitely close
23 down in my community. We don't have a lot of
24 newcomers in our community already, and we're going

1 to lose a lot of jobs if it does close down.

2 We are good stewards to the
3 environment. We care about the environment. We
4 take steps, we check equipment every day to make
5 sure it's done right, and that's all.

6 Thanks.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Mike Pierson?

9 Micky Jacobs will be next.

10 MR. PIERSON: My name is Mike
11 Pierson (P-i-e-r-s-o-n). I was born in Frankfort,
12 Illinois and raised here; graduated; left
13 Springfield, Illinois when I went in the service;
14 came back and there wasn't any jobs in Springfield,
15 Illinois. That's how I found a job in 2004 at Joppa
16 Power Station.

17 To say it would be a loss, a
18 great loss, is an understatement. I said the same
19 speech last year. Every day we have a meeting at
20 8:30, the environmental engineers like Mr. Parker,
21 Mr. Skates, and another one that didn't make it here
22 today.

23 Every day at that meeting
24 there's questions: Why did this do this. Why did

1 this do that. Our boss, Mike Pullen, manager of the
2 plant, asked the right questions. Why, what, who
3 and how are we going to fix this and keep this from
4 happening again.

5 We've been on top of this
6 environmental situation down there at Joppa even
7 though we are not scrubbed. We do refined coal. We
8 do low NOx burners. We do the low sulfur coal. I
9 ask that you grant this variance because it's the
10 same standards that Ameren asked for last year.
11 We're changing the name. That's all we're going to
12 do, but we're going to keep being environmentally
13 friendly.

14 Thank you.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 Micky Jacobs?

17 And Mike Pullen will be next.

18 MR. JACOBS: I'm Micky Jacobs. I
19 work at the EEI plant in Joppa. I've lived there my
20 whole life. My grandpa retired from EEI. He worked
21 there for, I don't know, 30 years. He's been
22 retired for 25 years. He's in great health; 82.
23 I've got a 4-year-old son. He doesn't have asthma.

24 I just hope you all give us

1 the variance so we can stay open and I can stay at
2 work.

3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Mike Pullen?

6 Kent Kent Quertermous will be
7 next.

8 MR. PULLEN: Hello. My name is
9 Mike Pullen (P-u-l-l-e-n). I work at the Joppa
10 plant in Joppa, Illinois. I live in Metropolis
11 Illinois, the very southern tip of the state, home
12 of Superman.

13 I got up at 4 o'clock this
14 morning along with 47 of my co-workers because we
15 felt this was a very important day for us. We drove
16 five hours. I wanted to be here to show our support
17 to Dynegy in the Joppa plant.

18 I currently serve as the plant
19 manager of the Joppa plant, and I want to tell you a
20 few things that I think are important about our
21 plant and our employees.

22 I want to share with the Board
23 that the employees take our environmental
24 responsibility seriously, and we work hard every day

1 to protect that environment, to work safely, and to
2 perform at high levels, and those are commitments
3 that we don't waiver for. We do not sacrifice
4 production for the environment or for safety.

5 I also have the privilege to
6 serve on our plant contributions committee, and I'm
7 proud to report that the Joppa plant and Ameren and
8 Dynegy I'm sure will continue. It is very generous
9 to our local communities. We support many community
10 functions and local charities -- the United Way, the
11 Relay for Life, the Lions Club Telethon, the boy
12 scouts, the girl scouts, project graduation, little
13 league baseball teams. You know, the list goes on.
14 I could stand up here for a long time, but I'm very
15 proud of the support that our plant gives and that
16 I'm able to contribute to that.

17 I also have served for eight
18 years on the Massac Unit 1 School District, and most
19 recently, I was fortunate enough to serve as its
20 president, and I've seen firsthand the financial
21 pressures that the school districts in Illinois face
22 and fully recognize the importance of the tax
23 dollars that come from our local businesses and our
24 local community, and the Joppa plant is one of the

1 major tax supporting bodies in our community.

2 I would just ask the Illinois
3 Pollution Control Board to please support the
4 variance requested by Dynegy.

5 And thank you for your time
6 today.

7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

8 Kent Quertermous?

9 Rob Faglier will be next.

10 Would you spell your name,
11 please?

12 MR. QUERTERMOUS: It's
13 Q-u-e-r-t-e-r-m-o-u-s.

14 Hello my name is Kent
15 Quertermous. I live in Paducah, Kentucky, and I
16 work at the Joppa steam plant. I've only been there
17 a year. I'm the very last one that they hired over
18 there. I would like to continue to work over there.
19 I've got a wife of 32 years. I've got a grandson
20 that I'm raising, and I'm electrician there at the
21 plant and a member of the Local 148 union, Operators
22 Union, and also IBEW Local 816.

23 I can't really add anything to
24 what's already been said. I mean, everything pretty

1 much has been said. I would just like to reiterate
2 about the reliability of these coal-fired plants.
3 They are a whole lot more reliable than, you know,
4 say that the wind don't blow or the sun don't shine,
5 whatever. The power plant, the coal-fired power
6 plant is still going to be operating. If it don't
7 operate, people's lives are going to be affected,
8 people in hospitals, people at home that has to rely
9 on the power to be there when it's needed.

10 I remember, I went through the
11 ice storm in 2009, and I was without power for a
12 week, and, I mean, I didn't realize how much I took
13 for granted, you know, until it came back on. I
14 mean, it was great, you know.

15 So I'm in support of this
16 variance, and that's all I've got to say.

17 Thank you for your time.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Let's just take a five-minute
20 break.

21 (Recess taken.)

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. We'll
23 go back on the record.

24 I just want to remind you that

1 if you are unable to give your full comment today,
2 you can still submit written comment to the Board by
3 September 24th.

4 I'd like to resume our
5 three-minute or less comments with Tracy McFadden.

6 MR. McFADDEN: Good afternoon. My
7 name is Tracy McFadden. That's M-c-F-a-d-d-e-n. I
8 live in Elburn, Illinois which is about an hour and
9 a half west of Chicago. I'm an airline captain and
10 a military veteran of the first Gulf War.

11 I'm here today to urge the
12 Illinois Pollution Control Board to deny a variance
13 to Dynegy Energy, a Texas company, to operate these
14 coal fire electric plants in question.

15 There are, of course, a
16 variety of reasons to deny this variance but I'd
17 like to just focus on what personally seems wrong.

18 First, the issue of health
19 seems of paramount importance and has been brought
20 up numerous times here today.

21 I have two wonderful
22 daughters, and their future and their children's
23 future is very important to me. The air quality in
24 our State of Illinois would be much better if Dynegy

1 is required to install pollution controls by 2015
2 versus 2020.

3 Second, I believe that the
4 only motive for this variance is profit. It's not
5 to provide jobs nor to care about our health or the
6 environment nor do they care about the local economy
7 at all. Dynegy doesn't own these power plants.
8 They're just sniffing around. They're speculating,
9 seeing if they can dupe our state environmental
10 regulators to violate EPA standards so they can
11 stuff their pockets with cash.

12 Dynegy Corporation of Texas,
13 keep in mind of Texas, should not be allowed to
14 pollute our air that my family in Illinois has to
15 breathe.

16 Also, I want to stand in
17 solidarity with the union brothers and sisters in
18 this room. I've never worked a nonunion job in my
19 life nor would I ever. I come from a family of
20 strong union leaders. My father still holds the
21 record from the UAW for the most consecutive times
22 elected as a union shop steward in the UAW so the
23 last thing I ever want to see is a loss of a union
24 job, but it's Dynegy Energy that's making it seem

1 like we have to choose, making us choose clean air
2 or jobs.

3 If they had been keeping up
4 with the law, if they had been investing in cleaner
5 energy sources, we wouldn't have to make this false
6 choice. As citizens of Illinois, we expect to be
7 protected by our Pollution Control Board from harm,
8 and I hope you can see it in your hearts and your
9 lungs to protect us by denying this variance.

10 Thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

12 Alyssa McMillen?

13 MS. McMILLEN: Hello, Illinois
14 Pollution Control Board, and thank you for allowing
15 me to speak today.

16 My name is Alyssa McMillen,
17 A-l-y-s-s-a M-c-M-i-l-l-e-n, and I am a student at
18 Illinois Central College in East Peoria, Illinois,
19 and with my education, I have acquired great
20 knowledge of the imperative concerns facing climate
21 change and pollution that cause both health and
22 economic hardships.

23 With my growing concern of my
24 own health as well as my not yet conceived children,

1 I have become active in the fight for sustainable
2 practices, especially clean energy. Being informed
3 of the many chemicals entering the air from the
4 Edwards coal plant in my area has left me cold. A
5 variance should not be considered for a plant that
6 will cause an estimated 2,000 asthma attacks and 125
7 premature deaths that would result from this
8 requested five-year variance.

9 I understand the advocacy
10 for withholding employment for people and their
11 families. I also understand the health conditions
12 due to pollution of sulfur dioxide, mercury,
13 arsenic, acromion, etc. into the air will inevitably
14 cause both children and adults to miss imperative
15 days of work and school.

16 I also note that Dynegy is
17 well aware of the health risks associated with their
18 continued adoption of these outdated plants. It is
19 obvious that the corporate gain and shareholders of
20 their agency are much more important.

21 With Dynegy's immoral request
22 and unflattering history, I ask the Pollution Board
23 and the EPA to strongly consider the health of the
24 community and the very strong movement of our

1 country towards clean energy and the eradication of
2 outdated procedures that do nothing but harm our
3 society. It is the future generations that count on
4 this decision.

5 I would like to end with an
6 anonymous quote that I find very relevant to this
7 hearing. If economy is more important than
8 environment, try holding your breath while you count
9 your money.

10 Thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
12 Rob Faglier.

13 MR. FAGLIER: You want me to spell
14 it?

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Yes, please.

16 MR. FAGLIER: F-a-g-l-i-e-r. I
17 work at Electric Energy. I've been there eight
18 years, Joppa plant. I'm from Carterville, Illinois.

19 The fact is I'm for the
20 variance. The simple fact is if we don't get it,
21 I'm not going to have a job. These guys right here,
22 they're not going to have a job. It's pretty
23 important, pretty important to me and my family.

24 It's twofold; I mean, it's on

1 the same page. My wife is a professor at Southern
2 Illinois University. She studies children with
3 learning disabilities, dyslexia, ADHD.

4 There's not that many jobs,
5 high paying jobs around that area, and I would
6 probably have to relocate I'm most certain.

7 With that, my wife would go
8 with me. She is the only neurological psychologist
9 in the southern region of Illinois that does the
10 specialization that she has for studying that at the
11 university. She brings in millions of dollars of
12 grant money for that university, and the region
13 relies on her helpful for her expertise. People
14 come for 200 miles around to bring the kids to see
15 her and get studies done, and she's going to go with
16 me. I mean, if I lose my job, that's another
17 impact. She's going to go with me, and that's going
18 to impact this area, the region, the southern half
19 of Illinois, and in that, I hope that you all with
20 will support the variance.

21 Thank you.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Andy Stevens?

24 Everett Ramage will be next.

1 MR. STEVENS: That's Stevens with a
2 "v."

3 I didn't really have a highly
4 planned statement.

5 I have to say for myself if
6 the situation for me personally was different, I
7 would be here with these guys. I would have on one
8 of these high vis yellow vests fighting for my job.
9 That's if my job was on the line, I mean, I would do
10 anything that I possibly could to try to save it,
11 but I'm not in that situation.

12 I'll step back a little bit.
13 I have more of an overview of the situation, and I
14 can say that we shouldn't be in the situation where
15 we're actually trying to make this choice between
16 people having jobs and being able to breathe. It's
17 not the kind of thing that we should be fighting
18 about.

19 What we should be fighting
20 about is seeing about how we're going to pay for
21 those scrubbers and how we're going to get Dynegy or
22 IPH to step up, buy the scrubbers, install the
23 scrubbers, continue running the plants, continue
24 employing these people, keep the air clean and

1 everybody wins.

2 Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

4 Everett Ramage?

5 Kady McFadden will be next.

6 MR. RAMAGE: My name is Everett
7 Ramage (R-a-m-a-g-e). I'm an employee of the Joppa
8 Station. I'm a union employee. I've been there ten
9 years. I'm a veteran of the United States Navy. I
10 worked at the nuclear plant in Kentucky and the
11 lignite coal plant in Texas.

12 Anyway, I'm 59 years old, and
13 I've never been healthier in my life, and I'm asking
14 the Board to approve this variance so Dynegy can
15 continue to vest millions of dollars in equipment
16 and improve the efficiency and cleanliness of the
17 plants and provide jobs for thousands of people in
18 Illinois, and another thing, it would be cheap power
19 for future of the State of Illinois. It would be
20 reliable and cheap.

21 Thank you.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Kady McFadden?

24 David Helton will be next.

1 Kady is not here?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She'll be
3 back.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: I'll come
5 back to her.

6 David Helton?

7 MR. HELTON: David Helton
8 (H-e-l-t-o-n). I work at the Joppa plant. I've
9 been there about 23 years.

10 I'm a father of three sons.
11 They don't have asthma, and I'm thankful for that,
12 and I'm concerned about clean air. I have three
13 sons and I want them to be able to breathe clean air
14 but I also want them to be able to live, to have
15 jobs, for me to have a job possibly for my sons or
16 somebody else's son to have a job.

17 I think back when I started 23
18 years ago, I remember when I came there, we were
19 just getting started on environmental thing. I
20 remember we had guys that they trained to go out and
21 sit in lawn chairs and watch the stack. I don't
22 know if you guys remember that far back, and I'm
23 thinking, what are those guys doing, and I watched
24 continuously monitoring equipment come in in the NOx

1 projects to reduce NOx, the projects put in to
2 reduce mercury. We've burned a different kind of
3 coal to lower our emissions, so we had to make more
4 additions.

5 Well, I've seen millions of
6 dollars and thousands of man-hours spent on that
7 plant, and I've watched operators back down to
8 generation to drop emissions. If NOx was too high
9 or opacity was too high, I watched them back those
10 units down to sacrifice generation to meet those
11 because that's what we're required to do.

12 I think that what they're
13 asking for is a win-win, and as far as what Dynegy
14 is sniffing for, they're asking for the same thing
15 Ameren got last year. Nothing else.

16 Please support this. Thank
17 you.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Angel Sides?

20 Idriss Sharief?

21 Then Chris Gates will be next.

22 Oh, I'm sorry. Are you --

23 MR. SIDES: Angel Sides.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: You're

1 Angel. Okay. Then why don't you go first.

2 Then we'll have Idriss and
3 Chris.

4 MS. SIDES: I too have asthma, but
5 also, I'm here just as an environmentalist. James
6 Hansen, a scientist from the NASA Goddard Institute,
7 was quoted in the New York Times mentioning the
8 phrase "end game" concerning global warming yet why
9 isn't the media talking about this? It is because
10 our media is sponsored by the coal and oil industry,
11 and that is the mainstream media that is anything
12 with a commercial.

13 People still do not realize
14 that they should only trust independent media such
15 as free speech, television, and independent
16 research.

17 The mainstream media prevents
18 a revolution. The mainstream media puts out talking
19 points and propaganda which is the intention of the
20 elite few who dominate our economy.

21 I am positive if people were
22 informed, they would have the intelligence and will
23 to refuse to be a whore to such a corrupt system
24 because that has always been the spirit throughout

1 the millennium, to protect our children and future
2 generations.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Are you
4 done, Angel?

5 MS. SIDES: Yes.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Idriss?

7 MR. SHARIEF: Good afternoon,
8 ladies and gentlemen. I'm very happy to be here to
9 address just my short note.

10 My name is Idriss Sharief,
11 I-d-r-i-s-s S-h-a-r-i-e-f. I used to live with
12 clean air in my home country. When I arrive in the
13 United States, I started to feel the change in my
14 air and environment.

15 This plant pollutes our air,
16 and they should have to obey the original state law
17 without delays.

18 I agree that there should be
19 quick action to save the humanity by using better
20 technology that we have before it will be too late.
21 What are we going to be telling our coming
22 generations about this matter.

23 Please, my full respect to all
24 of you here. I'm asking your part to protect our

1 environment and at the same time the plant
2 employees.

3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

5 Chris Gates?

6 Eric Deasel will be next.

7 MR. GATES: I'm Chris Gates. I've
8 been at Joppa Generating Station for 20 years. For
9 seven years before that, I was with southern
10 company. Obviously it's my job. There's great
11 value to my family. You've heard that over and
12 over.

13 I've also got a son with
14 respiratory distress problems, and I'm the chemist
15 at the plant so I see the pollution control data,
16 and you better believe I wouldn't have any son there
17 in the shadow of the plant if I thought that our
18 emissions were harming his asthma, but in reality,
19 there has been no causal link scientifically between
20 asthma and pollutants from power plants. That's not
21 my opinion. That's been stated unequivocally from
22 the National Institute of Health in repeated studies
23 so we can emote. We all fell sorry for people that
24 have asthma. We don't want people to be sick, but

1 shutting down power plants is not the cause, or it's
2 not the cure because it's not the cause.

3 MS. SIDES: That is not independent
4 the research.

5 MR. GATES: Yes, it is.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Wait a
7 minute.

8 MR. GATES: I didn't interrupt you
9 when you were up here.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Do not
11 interrupt a public comment.

12 MR. GATES: I've got a James Hansen
13 quote for you here in just a minute too.

14 Also, we don't have to wonder
15 what will happen on a 95 degree day in August 2015
16 if we shut this plant down because we see it in
17 Europe right now. There are rolling blackouts in
18 Europe because they sacrificed their coal plants on
19 the altar of sacrifice without having any
20 infrastructure to handle the volatility of the grid.
21 So now they're having blackouts because they're
22 relying on renewable energy which is not constant
23 feed to the grid.

24 So we could very easily be

1 looking at a scenario where if we shut these plants
2 down because we don't get the variance that we're
3 sitting around fanning with a magazine in August of
4 2015 waiting for the wind to blow in our 36 dollar a
5 megawatt subsidized windmill.

6 I like clean air. I'm an
7 outdoorsman. My son and I are outdoors a lot, but I
8 also like air conditioning, lights, schools,
9 hospitals and heart/lung machines.

10 We need power. We need steady
11 stable power. We don't want to go where Europe has
12 gone.

13 James Hansen also said, he
14 likened coal trains going into power plants to the
15 trains going to Auschwitz, so I'm not sure I want to
16 use James Hansen as my standard there for logical
17 reasoning.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

19 Eric Deasel?

20 Ronnie Douglas will be next.

21 MR. DEASEL: Hi. My name is Eric
22 Deasel (D-e-a-s-e-l). I work at EEI Joppa. I've
23 been an electrician there for three years. It
24 provides a great life for me and my wife, and every

1 day when I go in there, I can think that my great
2 grandfather built this plant, helped build it; I
3 mean, all the men that were there that built it,
4 lots of people in our community helped construct
5 that plant, and I hear stories from them, from their
6 children and their grandchildren, and I know that my
7 grandmother worked there, and here I am working
8 there now.

9 I ask you to approve this
10 variance so I can continue working there and be able
11 to tell my children about what this job has done for
12 me.

13 Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 Ronnie Douglas?

16 Kiersten Sheets will be next.

17 MR. DOUGLAS: Thank you for the
18 opportunity to speak to you today.

19 My name is Ronnie Douglas. I
20 live in Metropolis, Illinois. I've worked at EEI
21 Joppa power plant for almost 25 years. EEI has
22 provided a good living for my family and the
23 financial means to allow my children to attend
24 college.

1 EEI is very committed to
2 environmental compliance. We have rules and
3 procedures in place that require us to do whatever
4 is necessary to maintain compliance up to and
5 including shutting down units, and I've seen this
6 happen before.

7 Failure to grant this variance
8 could very well result in shutting down the Joppa
9 plant. The loss of the Joppa plant would result in
10 a huge negative effect on the local economy both
11 through the direct loss of jobs and payroll taxes
12 and the trickle down effect on local businesses and
13 vendors.

14 Before lunch, I listened to a
15 person describe how difficult it is to find a good
16 paying job in southern Illinois that provides
17 insurance. That person was absolutely correct. It
18 is very difficult.

19 21 years ago, my son was born
20 with a serious medical problem. Without the
21 insurance EEI provided for my son's medical care and
22 the support of my co-workers, I don't know what my
23 family would have done.

24 Granting this variance would

1 support environmental standards and result in a net
2 benefit to air quality. Therefore, for these
3 reasons, I'm asking the Board to support this
4 variance request.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

7 Kiersten Sheets?

8 Mark Jones will be next.

9 MS. SHEETS: Hello. My name is
10 Kiersten Sheets. That's K-i-e-r-s-t-e-n
11 S-h-e-e-t-s.

12 Thank you for allowing this
13 public hearing today.

14 My request to the Illinois
15 Pollution Control Board is that you deny the
16 petitioners' request for variance.

17 My comments today since I am
18 from the Peoria area will focus on the Edwards
19 plant.

20 In the Illinois Pollution
21 Control Board's questions to petitioners filed in
22 August, question No. 1, Part B, asks for an
23 explanation as to how petitioners will cap their
24 sulfur dioxide emissions at 2012 levels.

1 In July of this year, the
2 USEPA found current levels of sulfur dioxide at the
3 Edwards plant are at a poisonous level, and the air
4 is unsafe to breathe around the Edwards plant.

5 It is obviously a public
6 threat to health for you to allow this plant to
7 continue polluting the air in and around the Edwards
8 plant area.

9 Many points on the request for
10 variance have been made on economics. It's been
11 stated there are over 400 jobs associated with the
12 Edwards plant, both direct and indirect.

13 Please consider the fact that
14 there are thousands of people who live in the
15 polluted air of the Edwards plant, and their health
16 is on the line as well. They suffer significant
17 health problems because of this plant, possibly not
18 directly but certainly indirectly.

19 The total economic picture is
20 not presented in the petitioners' request for
21 variance, and although there are many people here
22 who are requesting that you save their jobs, there
23 are many more people who are not here that would
24 make the request that you save their air.

1 The economic total of health
2 problems is ignored in this request for variance.

3 Another point to consider was
4 made earlier today, and I'll just repeat it; that
5 Dynergy is not, or Illinois Power Holdings is not the
6 owner of these coal plants yet, and it seems
7 illogical and against procedure for them to be
8 asking for a variance at this point.

9 And I think that would be all
10 for my comments, so thank you very much.

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

12 Mark Jones?

13 Kady McFadden will be next.

14 MR. JONES: Hello. My name is Mark
15 Jones, and I'm born and raised in southern Illinois
16 my whole life. I'm a supervising engineer at EEI in
17 Joppa, Illinois. I supervise mechanical engineering
18 performance and reliability engineering, and I've
19 worked there are for 11 years.

20 I'm also part of Ameren AER's
21 improvement team. In that team, we strive to
22 increase plant efficiency which in turns also
23 reduces emissions, so there are things being done to
24 reduce emission rates.

1 EEI provides not only good
2 jobs for an area where jobs are difficult to find
3 but also benefits the entire community. In 2012
4 alone, EEI's approximately 170 employees donated
5 approximately \$50,000 to organizations like Relay
6 for Life, Lions Club Telethon that helps disabled
7 people in the area, Rebuilding Together, United Way,
8 and numerous other community activities.

9 These organizations rely on
10 EEI for financial support to save and improve lives.
11 I urge you to grant the proposed variance so that we
12 as employees can continue improving lives in our
13 communities.

14 Thank you.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 Kady McFadden?

17 Roger Kerley will be next.

18 MS. McFADDEN: Hello. My name is
19 Kady McFadden, K-a-d-y M-c-F-a-d-d-e-n.

20 Thank you for being here. I'm
21 an organizing representative of the Sierra Club. I
22 wanted to share a little bit about Dynegey's
23 justification for the variance because I don't buy
24 it. I hope you guys don't buy it, and I really hope

1 you guys don't buy it.

2 In order to qualify for
3 receiving the variance, Dynegy must prove that
4 following the MPS would create undue financial
5 hardships. Dynegy has no hardships other than those
6 it has decided to create or acquire.

7 In December of 2012, Ameren
8 announced an abrupt exit from the coal merchant
9 business in Illinois. Despite having a variance in
10 hand, Ameren determined that its power plants were
11 not profitable.

12 Subsequently, Dynegy announced
13 it would buy the plants. The CEO of Dynegy has said
14 that this purchase which would significantly
15 consolidate the market in Illinois under Dynegy's
16 ownership would give the company greater bargaining
17 leverage.

18 Presumably, Dynegy is well
19 aware of the risks associated with purchasing an
20 aging fleet of power plants yet it has determined
21 that the potential corporate gain is worth the risk.

22 This risk or hardship has not
23 been arbitrarily or unreasonably imposed. To the
24 contrary, the company has sought out the risk.

1 Dynergy also argues that the
2 Board must consider how little funds Dynergy has, a
3 Dynergy subsidiary of Illinois Power Holdings has
4 access to while it considers whether the company can
5 afford to spend money on lifesaving pollution
6 controls.

7 However, this unfunded company
8 has not suddenly fallen on hard times or faced
9 unknown changes in the market. A financial report
10 by ACM Partners released last week exposes the
11 Illinois Power Holdings was set up and was very
12 intentionally unfunded by its parent Dynergy to allow
13 the wealthy parent corporation to protect itself
14 from significant costs that come with operating an
15 aging fleet of coal plants.

16 This means that the deal is
17 set up in a heads they win, tails they win scenario,
18 but either way the coin falls, families in Peoria
19 and across the state will continue to get sick from
20 these aging polluting coal plants.

21 Corporations should be allowed
22 to take risks, but where Dynergy's plan goes too far
23 is by asking the Pollution Control Board to be a
24 participant in the scandal to fix the market to

1 allow the corporation to operate free and clear of
2 the need to comply with critical lifesaving
3 pollution reduction requirements.

4 A self-imposed risk is far
5 from the arbitrary and unreasonable hardship that
6 warrants such a variance from such a critically
7 important lifesaving law.

8 Second, Dynegy is improperly
9 asking the Board to grant a hypothetical variance
10 for plants it does not even own yet. Dynegy has
11 said it will only purchase the plants if it receives
12 the variance, so essentially, Dynegy is looking for
13 a green light on a risky business deal by asking the
14 Board for an advisory opinion before it goes through
15 with this deal.

16 This would set a dangerous
17 precedent for the Board allowing them to consider
18 requests from any company for a variance no matter
19 how speculative the potential for future ownerships
20 of these plants will be.

21 Third, Dynegy's variance will
22 delay the benefit of cleaner air to residents across
23 Illinois. I'm not going to go into that because I
24 know you guys have heard from many people today,

1 many citizens who have suffered the effects from
2 these coal plants, and I hope that's what you sort
3 of remember when considering this variance.

4 Thank you.

5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

6 Roger Kerley?

7 Josie D'Avolio will be next.

8 MR. KERLEY: Hello. I'm Roger
9 Kerley (K-e-r-l-e-y). I live at Cypress, Illinois,
10 and for people that don't know, I said last year,
11 it's 25 miles north of Cairo so I'm in southern
12 southern Illinois.

13 I work at EEI at Joppa. I'm
14 in the Operating Engineers Local 148, and I'm the
15 chief steward down at Joppa for the union.

16 I've been a plant mechanic
17 there for almost 25 years this coming October, so
18 I've been there for a while and seen a lot of things
19 going, and I do believe that we have tried to be
20 good stewards down there with different pollution
21 problems we've had in the past.

22 I think this closing, if we
23 close down there, if we did close down there, it
24 would affect the community in big vast ways, schools

1 and different things.

2 We've recently seen closures
3 on things down there. We seen the Tamms prison
4 close which is just 15 miles from where I live also,
5 so I do know what happens on those closings and
6 stuff. It is bad for the communities and everything
7 down there.

8 So I just hope that the Board
9 will approve this variance so we can continue
10 operating in the future for many younger people down
11 there.

12 Thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Josie D'Avolio?

15 And Anthony Jones will be
16 next.

17 MS. D'AVOLIO: Hi. My name is
18 Josie D'Avolio, and I am a member of the Sierra
19 Club, or a volunteer. J-o-s-i-e; last name
20 D-'-A-v-o-l-i-o.

21 I don't really have a speech
22 that I have written up to plan up here and talk but
23 I've seen a lot of you come up here and witnessing
24 people who have children or family members who have

1 had asthma, and I've also seen Dynegy employees who
2 really want this variance to pass, and I feel that
3 you're compromising with life. What's more
4 important than air and water?

5 If we pass this variance, we
6 will not be able to reverse any of it. You can't go
7 back and change that. I don't want to be, I don't
8 want America, I don't want Illinois to be another
9 China. It's bad enough all our jobs are being
10 shipped overseas, and I think for the employees of
11 Dynegy, I understand your jobs are on the line.
12 Unfortunately, whoever is in charge is making you
13 compromise your job for clean air.

14 If you pass this variance,
15 it's just as bad as fracking. We're living in
16 climate change. All you have to do is turn on the
17 TV. Colorado is flooding with water. People are
18 dying. Wild fires everywhere. This variance will
19 only add on to our climate change, and I'm asking
20 the Board, please do not pass this variance.

21 Thank you for your time.

22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

23 Anthony Jones?

24 Julie Mark will be next.

1 MR. JONES: Hello. My name is
2 Anthony Jones. I'm a union officer with Operating
3 Engineers 148 and a maintenance welder at EEI in
4 Joppa.

5 My son attends Maple Grove
6 Elementary at Joppa. My wife works there, and I can
7 tell you that if these variances aren't granted,
8 more than likely I'm going to lose my job within a
9 certain amount of time. My son's school will
10 probably close. He'll have to go to school 20, 25
11 miles from where he lives. My wife won't have a
12 job, and this is not a single story. This is a
13 story that will be the same for a lot of people in
14 the area.

15 And I've heard the word
16 southern Illinois thrown around a lot today, and, I
17 mean, if you look at the map where the Joppa station
18 is at, I mean, these counties down there are a whole
19 nother world from the places we're talking about.
20 These are the poorest counties in the state, and if
21 EEI closes, it won't be a loss of some of the good
22 jobs. It will be a loss of the only good jobs in
23 that area.

24 And I would just ask that you

1 grant the variance to Dynegy.

2 Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

4 Julie Mark?

5 Lucas Schneider will be next.

6 MS. MARK: My name is Julie Mark.

7 I'm a citizen of Illinois, a resident, and a
8 concerned parent. I also have worked with Fortune
9 100 companies for over 18 years for them, a
10 consultant to them, actually own compliance of
11 Discover card for marketing for a while, and never
12 in that time did I have a single conversation with
13 management about which regs we were going to comply
14 with or not. The assumption was we complied with
15 all of them on time or we wouldn't get to do
16 business.

17 I'm down here because I think
18 that your job is important. The EPA is important.
19 I'm asking you, please protect Illinois residents
20 and force companies to comply with the law or choose
21 to do a different kind of business period. It's as
22 simple as that.

23 We shouldn't be having to
24 discuss whether companies are getting variances on

1 things that affect people's safety. Those things
2 that I had to implement had nothing to do with
3 public health, the quality of air or water. This is
4 too important for Illinois, and it sets a very
5 dangerous precedent to even consider granting
6 variances, so I'm asking you to deny it.

7 Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

9 Lucas Schneider?

10 Daniel Jeffords will be next.

11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Thank you for the
12 opportunity. My name is Lucas Schneider, L-u-c-a-s
13 S-c-h-n-e-i-d-e-r.

14 Thank you again for the
15 opportunity to speak with you today.

16 I am a member of a great team
17 at Joppa, you know, a great team that looks after
18 our environment. My job is to look at emissions,
19 air emissions. My job is also to make sure that all
20 of our air emissions monitoring equipment is working
21 precisely and accurately.

22 I work with other people to
23 make sure that they come in and validate that our
24 equipment is working properly.

1 I have worked at Joppa for
2 seven years. Before that I was an intern. They
3 allowed me to work there as an intern. I graduated
4 from the University of Illinois, and I learned a lot
5 from my team.

6 The other thing that I want to
7 talk about is family. You know, electric energy is
8 a family, and if we look back within my family, I've
9 noticed they've also been part of that team. My
10 grandfather was a pipefitter. He worked and was
11 actually the foreman for our water plant which helps
12 us create steam that can run our turbines. My
13 father was a pipefitter, and he worked as a
14 pipefitter through college and became an engineer
15 and started his own small business, and that
16 engineering company consulted to Electric Energy. I
17 work at Electric Energy now.

18 My dad also created another
19 business, another environmental business that is
20 used to absorb hydrocarbons. Hydrocarbons is oil,
21 and we use that in our spill prevention, so that's
22 another thing that contributes to our community.

23 My wife's grandfather, he
24 actually was in the process as an iron worker to

1 construct the plant that we work at.

2 At Joppa, we do a lot of
3 things with charity. We've talked about the
4 telethon. We've talked about the United Way. Those
5 are great things that we do to add to our community.

6 One of the things that I'm
7 directly involved with is something called a boy
8 scout day where we have 150 to 175 boy scouts come
9 into the plant on a Saturday and we teach them five
10 to six merit badges. That's how invested we are in
11 our community. We understand that the young men
12 will turn into men that will run this country, and
13 we know that the scouts honor their country. They
14 emphasize that in their scout law.

15 The other thing I want to talk
16 about is our plant manager mentioned Little League.
17 When I was 9, 10 years old, I played on Electric
18 Energy's baseball team; made a lightning bolt on the
19 front of our uniform. And one of my favorite things
20 when I was younger was this movie called The
21 Natural, Roy Haas, and on Roy Haas's bat was a
22 lightning bolt, and that bat was used to hit home
23 runs, and he hit all kinds of home runs, and the one
24 thing that I think and I know for sure is this is

1 going to be a home run if this variance is granted
2 because the marvelous thing about this variance,
3 it's a net reduction in SO2 emissions, so we reduce
4 emissions right off the bat. That's the great thing
5 about it. It's over a longer period but it's a
6 reduction in emissions.

7 And that's why I would like to
8 ask for you to grant this variance.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Daniel Jeffords?

12 Victor Holland will be next.

13 MR. JEFFORDS: Hello. Daniel
14 Jeffords (J-e-f-f-o-r-d-s). I'm from the Joppa EEI
15 plant, and I belong to the IUOE Local 148, and I'm
16 here to ask the committee to grant this variance for
17 several reasons.

18 You know, I've heard both
19 stories from both sides. It looks to me like we're
20 both on the same wavelength, and we do want clean
21 air. We also want jobs.

22 I don't think we're asking or
23 Dynegy is asking anything more than just for the
24 variance that Ameren had, so, you know, for the jobs

1 and for clean air, I think that, you know, we're on
2 the right track, so I'd appreciate if the Board
3 would vote in that direction.

4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
5 Victor Holland?

6 Michael Clark will be next.

7 MR. HOLLAND: Hello. I'm Victor
8 Holland (H-o-l-l-a-n-d). I'm a resident in
9 Metropolis, Illinois, and I'm a 31 year second
10 generation employee at Electric Energy. I'm a plant
11 mechanic and member of Local 148 IUOE.

12 Our plant is located in one of
13 the four southernmost counties in the state, and the
14 unemployment rate down here ranges from 9-1/2
15 percent in Massac to 12 percent in Alexander.

16 If there's any way, we need
17 this variance to stay in operation. Our counties,
18 cities and school districts cannot afford the loss
19 of more tax base and the exodus of young people due
20 to our lack of jobs.

21 Please pass this variance.

22 Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

24 Michael Clark?

1 I'm married, got a wife, two
2 kids, one 4, one 8. None of us got asthma. None of
3 my family got asthma. We've lived around that area
4 my entire life. I just ask you pass this variance.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Darin Gray?
7 Julie Wilke will be next.

8 MR. GRAY: My name is Darin Gray,
9 D-a-r-i-n G-r-a-y. I live in Metropolis, Illinois.
10 I work at the Joppa Plant, Electric Energy.

11 I've heard a lot of things
12 that we compromise our air, but one thing that we do
13 not compromise on at our plant and I don't think any
14 of the Dynegy or the AER facilities do either is
15 environmental issues or issues that could be safety
16 issues to our employees. We will drop everything to
17 address those two things. We want to be good
18 stewards for the environment and good stewards for
19 the employees that come to work there every day.

20 That being said, whenever we
21 don't compromise those two issues, the one thing we
22 are compromising is megawatts. Megawatts are what
23 makes us money. A lot of times, to comply with
24 environmental standards or to resolve safety issues,

1 that costs us money, but we are willing to stop
2 everything and resolve those issues.

3 That being said, I would like
4 to ask the Board to please grant this variance.
5 That way we can continue to be good economic
6 stewards to our communities and good environmental
7 stewards for the surrounding counties.

8 Thank you.

9 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

10 Julie Wilke?

11 Tom Werner will be next.

12 MS. WILKE: Hello. My name is
13 Julie Wilke (W-i-l-k-e). I also work at EEI at
14 Joppa, Illinois. I'm the supervisor of HR and
15 admin. services. I've been there for ten years but
16 I've lived in southern Illinois my entire life.

17 I'm not going to tell you
18 again it's good jobs, it's good benefits, because
19 it's been told several times now, but I do want to
20 emphasize how vital we are to our community. We are
21 so much more than just good jobs and good benefits.

22 We've mentioned the telethon,
23 The United Way. EEI has been for the last several
24 years the largest contributor to the telethon. They

1 provide services for children and adults with
2 special needs. It's very important. We're very
3 active in the Relay For Life, The United Way.

4 I'm very proud to say that I
5 work at EEI, and we are the job that people, they
6 want to work at EEI because we do do so many good
7 things.

8 That being said, I'd just like
9 to say express the importance of EEI to our
10 community and ask that you support this variance.

11 Thank you.

12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

13 Tom Werner?

14 Phillip Tune will be next.

15 MR. WERNER: My name is Tom Werner.
16 I work Electric Energy Incorporated in Joppa,
17 Illinois. I live in Vienna, Illinois, in the other
18 southern part of Illinois. I'm an outdoors person.
19 I like to hunt I like to fish I like to hike and I
20 like to camp, and we have some beautiful
21 environment. I've lived in southern Illinois off
22 and on all my life.

23 Joppa, EEI would do a very
24 good job of being a steward of our environment, and

1 I'm proud of that. I want to be able to hunt and
2 fish in our environment. We have some beautiful
3 country down there, and my son does have asthma.
4 He's been to several pulmonologists. Can't find out
5 what causes it. Don't have a clue. He now lives in
6 Arkansas nowhere close to a coal mine or a power
7 plant and he still has issues with his asthma, so I
8 rely on prayers for that medication.

9 As you well know, there were
10 several people that witnessed to having several two
11 to three generations that worked at our plant, and
12 that's just a little more emphasis on the ripple
13 effect that it's going to have in our area. It's
14 not like a rock you've thrown in the pond. It's
15 going to be like a boulder.

16 Our area is a very depressed
17 area. As was said, the unemployment is high. It's
18 going to be devastation not just for me, for my
19 colleagues and my co-workers but our community and
20 our region.

21 I would encourage you to
22 consider this variance.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Phillip

1 Tune?

2 Chris Wheat will be next.

3 MR. TUNE: Good afternoon. I'd
4 like to thank you for allowing me to talk today.

5 My name is Phillip Tune. I've
6 been employed at EEI for a little over five years as
7 an operator. I've from western Kentucky but my wife
8 actually is from Joppa. She lives very next door to
9 the plant. Her grandparents were born and raised in
10 Joppa. They've seen the plant built. They lived to
11 be in there 90s. Her sister still resides on the
12 same property. They're healthy. Her parents both
13 live there.

14 I feel that if EEI was to
15 close, I feel like I would have to move and many of
16 my co-workers would also have to move, and with that
17 my wife would have to leave her job. We'd have to
18 leave our families, which we've lived in the area
19 for our entire lives.

20 Like many of my co-workers
21 said, EEI has a big impact on our community. I
22 mean, we do many charitable organizations or
23 volunteer. We give our time, our money, and, like
24 they said, we lost -- we just now are getting ready

1 to see the effects of losing a thousand employee
2 plant, the biggest gaseous infusion plant at
3 Paducah, and, I mean, we hadn't seen the impact of
4 that, and if we lose another 150 good paying jobs, I
5 mean, that's just going to impact our community even
6 more.

7 So I ask for y'all to look at
8 approving the variance for Dynegy.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

11 Chris Wheat?

12 Manny Ebert will be next.

13 MR. WHEAT: Hello. My name is
14 Chris Wheat. That's W-h-e-a-t. I live in Mayfield,
15 Kentucky which is a little south of Joppa. I work
16 at EEI Joppa. I hired in at the plant as a
17 mechanic, and I've been called pretty much the jack
18 of all trades because I certified as a welder
19 shortly after I hired in and then went to the
20 machine shop as a machinist. I've been a machinist
21 since I was 20. Now I'm an SEO operator in fuel
22 processing.

23 I'll survive. I can find a
24 job. I've got several different skills I can fall

1 back on. Massac and Alexander County will not.
2 That is a poor county and taking away those jobs and
3 all the income that it's producing will be
4 devastating.

5 I wish you would support the
6 variance.

7 Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

9 Manny Ebert?

10 Kevin Bell will be next.

11 MR. EBERT: Manfred (M-a-n-f-r-e-d)
12 Ebert (E-b-e-r-t).

13 My name is Manny Ebert. I've
14 been a union electrician at the Joppa plant now for
15 the last 11 years. As you probably can hear, I
16 wasn't born in the United States. I moved from
17 Germany 20 some years ago. Before I worked at
18 Joppa, I worked at the steel plant for 12 years;
19 always around emissions. I don't have a health
20 problem.

21 The impact of denying the
22 variance would be very bad for our area, not just
23 for the county or for the town but for the whole
24 area, and I would like you to grant the variance.

1 Now, that's all I wanted to
2 say, but during the time here, I heard a couple of
3 other statements made by people, and I would revisit
4 them.

5 Like 125 deaths that are going
6 to be attributed to emission, that's not a proven
7 fact. That's an estimate that somebody come up with
8 or can anybody show me it's 125 people. Probably
9 not.

10 It's an old power plant. That
11 was one of the things, oh, we need to get something
12 better. There were studies down at EEI that it's
13 viable till 2030 with the right upkeep, so that's
14 another, if I'm right, 17 years.

15 Let's see, what else do I have
16 here. Also, reliability on these old plants is
17 better than on the new ones. They just don't build
18 them like this anymore. That plant can run for a
19 long time, supply reliable energy for southern
20 Illinois, for Alton, Illinois, for Kentucky, and
21 it's paid for probably, and it's there. It doesn't
22 have to be built.

23 Oh, yes, alternative energies.
24 Our plant sits on about probably one and a quarter

1 square mile, maybe one and a half square miles. It
2 produces 1,180 megawatts an hour.

3 Now, if you build a solar
4 power plant with same capacity, there would be 90
5 square miles. Now, that would be about 88.75 square
6 miles of woods you have to cut down just to put the
7 solar panels up. It's also not reliable. The sun
8 does not shine every day, and it's not feasible
9 because nobody can afford it. People say that,
10 yeah, our --

11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sir, could
12 you start wrapping up, please?

13 MR. EBERT: Yes.

14 To produce one megawatt with
15 solar power energy plan, it will cost, including
16 subsidies from the government and the state, about
17 \$500, and that is going to be sold for about 35 to
18 40. That's not feasible. That was a wind plant. A
19 solar power plant would be about \$700 per megawatt.
20 At that rate, we could buy scrubbers for our plant
21 in 70 days.

22 Please grant the variance.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

1 Kevin Bell?

2 Justin Partridge will be next.

3 MR. BELL: My name is Kevin Bell.

4 I've been at Electric Energy for five years. I've
5 got a wife and two children. Both my boys just
6 started college.

7 My family and my co-workers
8 would appreciate you passing the variance.

9 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

10 Justin Partridge?

11 Todd Mowery will be next.

12 MR. PARTRIDGE: Good afternoon. My
13 name is Justin Partridge. I'm from Belknap,
14 Illinois. I'm also employed by EEI at Joppa
15 Generating Station.

16 As you can see, many of us are
17 here from Joppa to show our support. We've traveled
18 a long way to be here to show that support, and we
19 ask that you give us that support as well.

20 Thank you.

21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

22 Todd Mowery.

23 Larry Raymer will be next.

24 MR. MOWERY: My name is Todd Mowery

1 (M-o-w-e-r-y). I live in Jonesborough, Illinois. I
2 work at Electric Energy in Joppa. I'm a member of
3 the Union Local 148 Operating Engineers. I've
4 worked at EEI about five years.

5 This ruling will directly
6 impact me and my family and will affect my ability
7 to support my family. Without the approval of this
8 variance, my job could very well be in jeopardy.

9 I also want to say at Electric
10 Energy we're very good stewards of the environment,
11 and I encourage the Board to support this variance.

12 Thanks.

13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

14 Larry Raymer?

15 MR. RAYMER: Hi. My name is Larry
16 Raymer (R-a-y-m-e-r). Thank you for this time
17 before the Board.

18 I'm here to ask the Board to
19 please not allow the variance for this reason. It's
20 the right thing to do.

21 There is no question hearing
22 the testimony, and my heart goes out to all the
23 union members. I'm a retired school teacher. I've
24 been a union member all my life, and I know what's

1 going on, but we're going into the future here, and
2 it's time to stop using fossil fuels. It's that
3 simple.

4 I've seen a lot of changes in
5 my 70 years here, and we're going into the future
6 here, and coal is not the solution. It is the
7 problem. And whatever can be done to help go into
8 the future, that's what we need to do. I believe
9 that's what we need to do, and that is to deny the
10 variance because if Dynegy was honest, they would
11 just simply say we don't need it. We're going into
12 the future. We don't need a variance. We're going
13 to clean up what we do and do it the right way.

14 Thank you.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 I'm going to stop for a moment
17 and announce it is 4:05, and we have finished with
18 the priority public comment list. We've only got
19 six people signed up to make longer comments. I
20 understand some of you have a very long drive home.
21 If you would like to make a mass exit quickly and
22 quietly, you can do that now. You're welcome to
23 stay if you want.

24 I'm going to repeat this

1 announcement. The public comment deadline is
2 September 24th. That is next Tuesday. Feel free to
3 submit written comment to the clerk of the Board in
4 our Chicago office.

5 I have three names from
6 Ameren. If you people would like to stay, I will do
7 you really quickly before we start with the six
8 others, but I'll let people leave now.

9 The transcript will be on the
10 Board's website hopefully by the end of the day
11 Friday, and you will find all of these announcements
12 repeated in the transcript.

13 We have three people left. Do
14 we have Carl Will, Steve Fox and Greg Musch? Are
15 any of those individuals present?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can't
17 hear back here.

18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Carl Will,
19 Steve Fox, Greg Musch, are any of those individuals
20 present?

21 You signed this priority
22 comment list. I will let each of you make your
23 three-minute comment, and then we will begin with
24 the five or six people who signed up to make longer

1 public comments.

2 Let's take Carl Will first.

3 Steve Fox will be next.

4 MR. WILL: Hi. My name is Carl
5 Will, and I grew up on a rural farm in Jasper
6 County, and that's a real nice place to raise corn,
7 beans and kids, and I work at the Newton Power
8 Station. I'm a proud member of the local IBEW 702.
9 I work inside this power plant, and it's a real
10 highly efficient power station with lots of very
11 impressive upgrades on the inside, and when you look
12 on the outside, you see lots of progress on the
13 scrubber project, and it should get there, and I ask
14 that you grant this variance.

15 Thank you.

16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

17 Steve Fox?

18 MR. FOX: Thank you for the
19 opportunity to let me speak today.

20 My name is Steve Fox. I work
21 at Newton Power Station. I've been there for 33,
22 going on 34 years. I'm a second generation power
23 plant employee. My dad worked at Joppa Power Plant
24 for 15 years in Coffeen and then at Newton. I've

1 been around power plants all my life. Lived there
2 by them all my life. I'm okay. I don't have
3 asthma.

4 Newton Power Plant has made a
5 lot of changes. They've been in compliance, always
6 will be in compliance. We ask for this variance.
7 It's not a denial. It's just a delay, and we ask
8 that you grant this variance so we can have our
9 jobs.

10 Newton Power Plant pays 50
11 percent -- Newton receives 50 percent of taxes from
12 the power plant. 41 percent of that goes to the
13 schools. That's a lot of taxes that goes to our
14 schools. If Newton Power Plant shuts down, I lose
15 my job; my wife is a teacher, she loses her job. I
16 don't know where my son will go to school.

17 So I ask you to please grant
18 this variance.

19 Thank you very much.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Greg
21 Musch?

22 MR. MUSCH: Thank you and good
23 afternoon.

24 My name is Greg Musch

1 (M-u-s-c-h). I live in Robinson, Illinois and
2 currently work at the Newton Energy Center.

3 I grew up in a downstate
4 Christian household here in central Illinois. My
5 father was a railroad locomotive engineer, a union
6 member as well as a great father. He had 30 plus
7 years with the company, and he's now retired. He
8 and my mother are enjoying their retirement. They
9 enjoy watching their grandkids' ball games and
10 activities, and that's all here in southern, or here
11 in Illinois.

12 I've been with the electrical
13 power industry here in downstate Illinois for the
14 past 21 years. 19 of those years has been in the
15 engineering capacity. Over the years, I've
16 witnessed and been a part of steady safety and
17 environmental improvement projects and
18 accomplishments. Today I'm still a part of that and
19 still continue to work on emissions reductions.

20 It's important that we apply a
21 filter and sort out the noise from the facts. We
22 need to look at the true data, what this variance
23 actually involved when we asked for it last year.
24 It did involve emission reduction over an average

1 time period.

2 We need to look at the
3 benefits, the resources we have, and what our
4 quality of life and conveniences we are accustomed
5 to would look like without coal and coal-derived
6 electrical power.

7 Decisions such as the one
8 we're meeting about today does impact jobs,
9 communities, schools, families, as well as the
10 environment, so I want to ask the Illinois Pollution
11 Control Board to support this request so we can
12 preserve and not lose respect for the benefits and
13 resultant jobs we've all been blessed with.

14 Thank you.

15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

16 Are there any more power plant
17 people here to speak? I don't have any on my list.

18 Okay. I'm going to go ahead
19 and begin with the people who requested to make
20 longer comments.

21 I'll start with Traci Barkley
22 from Prairie Rivers Network.

23 MS. BARKLEY: Good afternoon. I'm
24 going to try to keep this to three minutes because I

1 know we've all been here a long time, and I'll
2 submit longer comments later.

3 Good afternoon, members of the
4 Board. Thank you for the opportunity to provide
5 comments on behalf of the Prairie Rivers Network on
6 behalf of our members in opposition to the proposed
7 air variance for five Ameren facilities that Dynegy
8 would like to purchase.

9 Prairie Rivers Network is the
10 state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.
11 We're a nonprofit organization that strives to
12 protect the rivers, streams, lakes, and groundwater
13 of Illinois and to promote the lasting health and
14 beauty of watershed communities. Much of our work
15 focuses on how environmental policies are
16 implemented and enforced in Illinois in order to
17 protect our environment and ultimately our health.

18 I'm also here to support the
19 Central Illinois Healthy Community Alliance and
20 residents living near these power plants.

21 I'd like to share these
22 comments as the basis for our opposition to this
23 proposed extension. Some of these are repeat, and
24 some of these I'll expand upon in written form.

1 1. As you've heard before, we
2 feel like Dynegy is improperly asking the Board to
3 grant a hypothetical variance for a plant that it
4 does not yet own. If granted, we feel that this
5 would provide future buyers of environmentally risky
6 assets a model for how to structure acquisitions to
7 avoid environmental compliance costs under the guise
8 of financial hardship.

9 2. In addition, this approach
10 becomes worrying in light of future regulation. If
11 Illinois Power Holdings is unable to operate under
12 existing environmental regulations, how do they
13 propose to finance compliance costs or anticipate
14 future regulations.

15 Please note that those coming
16 down the pike that we're aware of right now include
17 the recently introduced federal power plant
18 wastewater rules, the ELG rules, and greenhouse gas
19 regulations set to be proposed in 2014.

20 3. What about noncompliance
21 with the rules already in place at Dynegy's existing
22 facilities? A perfect example is the Dynegy
23 Vermilion power plant which is now closed but has
24 three ash ponds built in the floodplain of our only

1 Newton mayor called Newton Lake the best bass
2 fishing but we know that that lake is actually
3 impaired because of mercury pollution and has
4 groundwater contamination on site as well.

5 5. Further, Dynegy has failed
6 to demonstrate that installing scrubbers is
7 technically infeasible and economically
8 unreasonable, and that is their burden. Dynegy
9 hasn't even committed to a definite plan to come
10 into compliance with the Multi-Pollutant Standard.
11 Instead, Dynegy's plan to finish installing
12 scrubbers is based on a speculative improvement in
13 the market for coal generation though most market
14 signals contradict this method Illinois utilities
15 are holding onto.

16 We also heard from one of the
17 executives from Dynegy of their plans to close
18 Edwards Power Plant by 2017. That doesn't sound
19 like controls will ever be installed at that
20 facility. Rather, that there will be several more
21 years of making money out of a polluting facility.

22 This is not consistent with
23 the guidance for when a variance to an adopted
24 standard is appropriate for approval of the members

1 of the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Most
2 importantly, Dynegy is asking for their
3 profit-seeking to be publicly subsidized and for
4 local residents to bear the costs at the five Ameren
5 facilities in the form of increased pollution levels
6 and health consequences.

7 Dynegy has done the right
8 thing at their other facilities by installing
9 scrubbers, and, in fact, they were here last year
10 arguing against the variance to be approved for
11 Ameren, so we're asking why are they trying to blend
12 their good practices at some of their facilities and
13 asking for leniency and exemption at these that
14 they'd like to acquire.

15 I think that's it. I'd like
16 to thank you for your consideration of our comments.

17 Prairie Rivers Network and our
18 members would like to urge you to deny the request
19 for the variance.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

21 Tamika Gibson?

22 MS. GIBSON: T-a-m-i-k-a

23 G-i-b-s-o-n.

24 My name is Tamika Gibson. I'm

1 with the Illinois Environmental Council.

2 The Illinois Environmental
3 Council founded in 1975 is the ears and eyes of the
4 environmental community in Illinois. We focus on
5 efforts that preserve the air and water quality,
6 preserve open space, and ensure that the right of
7 every Illinois resident to a clean environment is
8 both exercised and protected.

9 Dynegy already has the top six
10 legacy in Illinois at its Vermilion coal plant in
11 Central Illinois which was phased out in late 2011.
12 There are major toxic coal ash contamination issues.
13 Dynegy has a history of slash and burn tactics that
14 have hurt workers and left communities in debt.

15 The Illinois EPA cited Dynegy
16 for groundwater contamination from its coal ash pond
17 at it's idle Vermilion facility. The state agency
18 says that contaminants are seeping from the coal ash
19 pond into local groundwater and eventually migrating
20 to the Middle Fork River.

21 Dynegy is aware of the risks
22 associated with purchasing an aging fleet of
23 coal-fired power plants yet it has determined that
24 its potential corporate gain is worth the risk.

1 Association. RHA is a lung health charity founded
2 in 1906 that works to fight lung disease and to
3 promote lung health through research, advocacy and
4 education.

5 I was involved in the agency
6 process that formulated the Multi-Pollutant Standard
7 many years ago. Although it took many months to
8 complete, the end result set strong and
9 comprehensive emission rate reduction requirements
10 for coal plants; rate reduction, not emission
11 totals.

12 Air pollution can damage lung
13 tissue and can exacerbate lung disease, and this is
14 why RHA was and is extremely interested in seeing
15 the lowest possible SO2 and NOx emission rates be a
16 part of the state air pollution prevention rule.
17 That's still the reason I'm here today.

18 People living with asthma have
19 more asthma attacks when air pollution levels are
20 higher. They use more medication. They're more
21 likely to visit the doctor, more likely to wind up
22 in an emergency room, and more likely to be
23 hospitalized.

24 According to the U.S. Centers

1 for Disease Control, one in twelve adults now has
2 asthma, up from one in fourteen a decade ago.
3 Children and some ethnic groups are even more likely
4 to live with the disease. For African American
5 children, the situation is pretty shocking. In the
6 U.S., one in every six African American children has
7 asthma. That's a 50 percent increase in less than a
8 decade.

9 Medical expenses from asthma
10 in America total over \$50 billion a year. Asthma
11 rates in Illinois are significantly above the
12 national average.

13 Chronic obstructive pulmonary
14 disease, or COPD, has risen from the fourth to the
15 third leading cause of death in America. COPD
16 patients, many on supplemental oxygen, can have less
17 than half the lung capacity of a healthy person.
18 They are more susceptible to the effects caused by
19 air pollution, and more likely they'll wind up in a
20 hospital or worse.

21 Many people affected with lung
22 disease, particularly senior citizens, also suffer
23 from cardiac conditions as well, and it's well
24 established that air pollution from power plants is

1 associated with increases in heart attacks, strokes
2 and premature deaths.

3 In Illinois over 1.7 million
4 people live with asthma, and conservatively, over
5 500,000 live with COPD. These are the people who
6 will be breathing what comes out of Newton and other
7 uncontrolled coal plants like E.D. Edwards and
8 Joppa. Hundreds of people in Illinois die every
9 year from what comes out of coal power plant stacks.
10 Many more are sickened and require medication and
11 treatment, yet such plants have been exempted for
12 decades from requirements to install pollution
13 controls, controls that have been mandated on new
14 coal power plants for three decades.

15 Since Illinois set strong MPS
16 standards in 2006, the need for tighter SO2 emission
17 limits has only gotten stronger. Respecting the
18 science, USEPA has set a tighter air quality
19 standard for SO2, and at least one of the possible
20 Dynegy's plants has already been officially
21 identified by EPA as a source that is causing
22 unhealthy air quality and contributing to the
23 violation of its health standard in the Pekin area.

24 While Dynegy's technical

1 consultants seem to claim breathing SO2 doesn't
2 cause respiratory problems, the USEPA most
3 definitely disagrees. Modeling submitted to the
4 Board indicates that other coal plants Dynegy is
5 working to buy in this deal are also causing local
6 SO2 violations, but we won't officially know which
7 until EPA identifies them.

8 The representative from AECOM
9 attempted to obfuscate the connection between the
10 disease asthma and why people get it or why they
11 develop the disease and the connection between air
12 pollution and asthma attacks.

13 There is a lack of clarity on
14 why individuals get or develop asthma. There are
15 many factors that affect the risk of developing
16 asthma: race, income, age, family history, jobs,
17 even apparently exposure to some forms of ambient
18 air pollution. More people have asthma than in the
19 past, and for whatever reasons asthma prevalence
20 rates have risen steadily per recent CDC reports.
21 Federal government is tracking this.

22 Regardless of whether SO2
23 exposure is associated with increased prevalence
24 rates for asthma, the number of people with asthma,

1 clearly, the USEPA has concluded there is a risk to
2 those living with preexisting respiratory disease.

3 EPA has concluded that ambient
4 levels present around coal plants do present a
5 health risk to vulnerable populations including
6 people living with asthma, COPD, and other
7 respiratory diseases.

8 I wanted to add two small
9 selections from the Federal Register to hammer home
10 this point. This is from 75 Federal Register 35520
11 and 35531 from June 22, 2010.

12 Although EPA has recognized
13 that multiple factors can contribute to the etiology
14 of respiratory disease and that more than one air
15 pollutant could independently impact respiratory
16 health, we continue to judge, as discussed in the
17 Integrated Science Assessment, that the available
18 evidence supports the conclusion that there is an
19 independent effect of SO₂ on respiratory morbidity.

20 Following 75 Federal Register
21 35520, 35541, in assessing the level of a one-hour
22 standard with a 99th percentile form averaged over
23 three years, the administrator considered a broad
24 range of scientific evidence assessed in the

1 Integrated Science Assessment including the
2 epidemiological studies and controlled human
3 exposure studies as well as the results of air
4 quality, exposure, and risk analysis presented in
5 the risk and exposure assessment.

6 In light of this body of
7 evidence and analysis, the administrator found it is
8 necessary to provide increased public health
9 protection for at-risk populations against an array
10 of adverse respiratory health effects related to
11 short-term exposures to ambient SO₂.

12 Last year, the USEPA also
13 tightened the PM_{2.5} or fine particle health standard,
14 and given that the state data showed violations of
15 that standard as well in Illinois and that coal
16 power plants are the largest sources of PM_{2.5} forming
17 pollution, more power plant SO₂ and NO_x pollution
18 cuts will be required.

19 Using the best science, the
20 USEPA is attempting to protect the breathing public,
21 particularly people with lung disease. The last
22 thing we need is a five-year delay in cleaning up
23 some of the main sources of these health threats.

24 The Board needs to protect the

1 health of Illinois residents here and now by
2 insuring our own states rules designed to protect
3 human health are not eroded.

4 Dynergy is asking to get a
5 waiver from strong state standards put in place
6 years ago, and it is asking for relaxed emission
7 rates before it even owns the power plants in
8 question. Granting this variance now would go
9 directly against what the Board has ruled in the
10 past.

11 Dynergy is a completely
12 speculative venture where the company is saying it
13 will walk away from the purchase of these plants
14 unless it gets the variance from the state.

15 That is simply attempting to
16 browbeat the public. Dynergy is playing a shell game
17 that is designed to increase public health burden on
18 Illinois residents and risk the health of vulnerable
19 sick people rather than put that risk where it
20 belongs, squarely on Dynergy shareholders.

21 That's wrong. Allowing a
22 variance now would set an awful policy precedent
23 that would open the floodgates for other corporate
24 attempts at environmental extortion that would only

1 further erode public health and safety.

2 I implore you, please deny
3 this variance.

4 I realize this has been a very
5 busy day. Many Illinois residents would have liked
6 to have been here but couldn't be. It's a long way
7 from a lot of the towns people live in. Still, they
8 would like to have their thoughts known, and so I
9 wanted to let the Board know that 8,000 collected
10 comments asking for a denial of the variance are
11 being presented to the Board. They're not being
12 presented today. They'll be submitted in Chicago
13 for ease of processing.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

15 MR. URBASZEWSKI: But I wanted to
16 make the Board aware that they are being submitted.

17 Thank you very much for
18 allowing me to talk to you today.

19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

20 Faith Bugel?

21 MS. BUGEL: Thank you.

22 My name is Faith Bugel. I am
23 here testifying on behalf of Environmental Law &
24 Policy Center. Last name is Bugel (B-u-g-e-l).

1 variance.

2 So I find it ironic that we
3 are back now with Ameren and Dynegy saying that if
4 they don't get the variance, plants will close and
5 people will lose their jobs.

6 If this variance is not
7 granted, then Dynegy says it will not close the
8 deal. Then the plants will stay with Ameren.
9 Ameren has the variance. So why are we back here?
10 It feels like we've just turned back the clock.

11 Granting the variance was
12 supposed to avoid all of this a year ago. Granting
13 the variance a year ago was supposed to allow the
14 plants to stay open, and at that time, we even
15 discussed the possibility that granting the variance
16 would not allow the plants to stay open.

17 So I ask you now, once again,
18 if the Board grants the variance, will that not be
19 enough? Will we be back a year from now? Will we
20 be hearing the same arguments again about health
21 versus jobs and how the company desperately needs
22 yet another variance to keep the plants open.

23 How many times is the Board
24 going to be asked to bail out what appears to be a

1 failing industry? How many variances will have to
2 be given that ultimately will not have an effect on
3 the economics of an industry.

4 Plants may close even with the
5 variance. The coal industry may not be competitive
6 anymore. That might be the problem that is in front
7 of us, and that may be a problem that this board
8 can't fix.

9 How many times are we all
10 going to be asked to run and respond because Ameren
11 is yet again crying wolf?

12 In addition, I want to turn to
13 the self-imposed hardship. I'd like to spend a
14 minute on Dynegy.

15 Dynegy is here because they
16 are making a business decision, a business decision
17 as to whether or not to buy these plants. A
18 business decision under Illinois law is not a
19 self-imposed hardship. Dynegy has created an under-
20 or uncaptalized independent subsidiary created
21 expressly for the purpose of holding these plants.
22 This allows Dynegy all of the upside, the parent
23 company Dynegy, without them bearing any of the
24 risk. They don't have to put up any capital in

1 addition to what is being set up in the deal, which
2 my understanding is mostly coming from Ameren.

3 They do not have to put up any
4 of the capital, but if this venture is profitable,
5 they get all the profits. So the profits can flow
6 up but not the risk.

7 That just doesn't seem fair.
8 That doesn't seem fair to the workers who may lose
9 their jobs. That doesn't seem fair to the State of
10 Illinois. That doesn't seem fair to the creditors.
11 That doesn't seem fair to the citizens of Illinois
12 who have to bear the risk with their help.

13 So this is petitioner's own
14 business decision. It's a voluntary decision to
15 purchase the plants. That is a self-imposed
16 hardship. That is not an unreasonable and arbitrary
17 risk that warrants a variance, so I'd ask you to
18 deny the variance.

19 Thank you.

20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

21 Andrew Armstrong?

22 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you. My name
23 is Andrew Armstrong, and I'm a staff attorney from
24 the Environmental Law & Policy Center.

1 Thank you very much for the
2 opportunity to offer these comments today. I know
3 that I'm one of the last things holding us from
4 leaving for dinner so I'll try to be brief.

5 I'm here to ask the Board to
6 deny petitioners request for a variance.

7 In deciding on a variance, the
8 Board will balance the public health impact of a
9 variance against its economic impact.

10 In this case what we're asking
11 for is an honest accounting on both sides of the
12 ledger. We have not received that yet from
13 petitioners.

14 On the side of the public
15 health impact, petitioners contend that granting the
16 variance will improve public health.

17 Now, we're going to address
18 several points related to petitioners' analysis in
19 our post-hearing comments, but for one second I'd
20 just like to take a step back and look at a simple
21 truth.

22 Operating an unscrubbed coal
23 plant without modern pollution controls threatens
24 public health. Petitioners seek to defer

1 installation of pollution controls and continue the
2 operation of three unscrubbed coal plants.

3 Now, we don't need to debate
4 the public health impacts of sulfur dioxide here.
5 USEPA has already done the work on this point, and
6 in 2010, it set a national ambient air quality
7 standard for one-hour concentrations of sulfur
8 dioxides. So the modeling analyses that were
9 submitted earlier by Mr. Steven Klafka demonstrate
10 the plant's impacts.

11 I have copies of the maps from
12 Mr. Klafka's reports that my colleague will pass out
13 to the Board and to counsel.

14 These maps illustrate the
15 impact of the unscrubbed plants as allowed under
16 their current permitted standards. Mr. Klafka's
17 analysis concluded that both the plants permitted
18 and its actual emissions in recent years caused
19 exceedances of the national ambient air quality
20 standard for sulfur dioxide adopted in 2010.

21 Now, throughout the Board's
22 history, air quality monitoring that shows a
23 violation of the NAAQS has been a touchstone of a
24 negative public health impact.

1 Sulfur dioxide pollution puts
2 people at risk, and any claimed net environmental
3 benefit from this variance does nothing to benefit
4 the people that are affected by the pollution from
5 these plants.

6 Now, on the economic side of
7 the ledger, I believe there also must be an honest
8 accounting of the variance's impacts. I want to
9 make clear that our issues are not with the workers
10 at these plants. Our issues are with the
11 management.

12 We were before the Board last
13 year when Ameren sought its variance. We argued
14 that Ameren did not have a realistic plan to come
15 into compliance with the MPS. Ameren assured all of
16 us that they were not ready to give up on their
17 plants or their communities. Ameren was very wrong.
18 Just months after receiving this variance, Ameren
19 did walk away and announced that it was exiting the
20 merchant generation business in Illinois.

21 Now Illinois Power Holdings,
22 which was registered to do business in Illinois all
23 of about six months ago, wants to step in and
24 operate the plants.

1 We are raising the same
2 concerns we did last year about the financial
3 feasibility of their plan. We still question the
4 ability of these plants to comply with a number of
5 pending environmental costs including, for example,
6 a pending enforcement action that my clients have in
7 the Central District of Illinois related to opacity
8 violations at the E.D. Edwards plant.

9 I'd like to ask Dynegy a
10 number of questions about its proposed structure,
11 its intentions with this structure. However, for
12 time reasons, I will confine myself to just a few
13 points that I am ask the Board to consider in-depth.

14 First point, I received a call
15 last week from a women who wished to remain
16 anonymous but said she lived near some of the
17 plants. She said she did not see eye-to-eye with me
18 on environmental issues but she was disturbed by one
19 point. She said that Dynegy has been talking about
20 saving jobs, but, according to her, Dynegy has
21 already distributed 35 prospective layoff notices at
22 the plant in her community.

23 So my question is, in the
24 economic analyses submitted to the Board, talking

1 about job numbers and impact on the community, do
2 these economic analyses include any planned layoffs
3 at the Ameren plants should Dynegy purchase them?

4 Second thing I want to point
5 out is that Dynegy has paid zero dollars for these
6 plants. My other question for Dynegy would be does
7 Dynegy intend to argue that the valuation of these
8 plants should be lowered for property tax purposes
9 or does Dynegy intend to pay the full property taxes
10 earlier cited to and the economic analysis that is
11 submitted to the Board.

12 I close on one point. Several
13 industry commenters stated earlier that the Board
14 should send a consistent message with its decision
15 in this variance case.

16 I agree and I believe that
17 message should be that if you do business in
18 Illinois, you should follow Illinois law. I believe
19 that should be the consistent message sent by this
20 Board.

21 Dynegy should be held to a law
22 that it helped negotiate last decade and that it, in
23 fact, defended before the Board in December of 2012
24 when Midwest Generation sought a similar variance.

1 Thank you very much for your
2 time today.

3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.

4 Larry Jones? Is Larry Jones
5 here?

6 Okay. Well, I think that's --
7 is there anybody else here who would like to speak?

8 I think that I've called on
9 everybody.

10 (Inaudible comment by
11 Ms. Garlish.)

12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: You were on
13 the list again. Didn't you already testify, give
14 public comment? Do you want to give --

15 (Inaudible comment by
16 Ms. Garlish.)

17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. You
18 can come up.

19 MS. GARLISH: Robin Garlish.

20 Again, thank you for listening
21 to all of us.

22 Now, my understanding is, what
23 I'm afraid of as living right across the river from
24 the CILCO plant, the Ameren Edwards in Bartonville,

1 is what happened to the Vermilion plant. They went
2 through a lot of things similar to this, and that
3 plant is now closed. There's two online coal ash
4 ponds, and it is empty, and there are workers
5 without jobs. That is one of my biggest fears where
6 I live right now.

7 My husband is from a large
8 generation of iron workers. Somebody else with the
9 electrical company said they come from a long
10 generation of iron workers. My husband has been
11 into the Midwest Generation to help put in clean
12 scrubbers. He helps to do a lot of these things
13 around the central Illinois area for people in
14 companies who are trying to comply, and he has not
15 seen anything done in the Ameren Edwards plant.

16 A pipefitter friend of ours
17 also is pretty appalled when he has done some jobs
18 in there that these things were going on.

19 I would just like to thank you
20 guys again. My family does struggle with a lot of
21 asthma. When I had said that earlier, I heard a lot
22 of snickering from employees here. I'm not mad at
23 them. I really wish and hope they never have to go
24 through that.

1 and documents filed electronically are due by
2 4:30 p.m. on the due date.

3 Would the petitioners like to
4 make any closing statement?

5 MS. MANNING: No. Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Would the
7 Agency like to make any?

8 MS. ROCCAFORTE: No.

9 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Well,
10 do the board members have anything they'd like to
11 say before we conclude?

12 MS. MANNING: Just thank you for
13 your time. That's all.

14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: All right.
15 Well, at this time, I will conclude the proceedings.
16 We stand adjourned. I thank all of you for your
17 participation.

18 (Ending time: 4:50 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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2 COUNTY OF SANGAMON)

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CERTIFICATE

I, Laurel A. Patkes, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for said County and State, do hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid.

I further certify that I am in no way associated with or related to any of the parties or attorneys involved herein, nor am I financially interested in this action.

Dated September 19, 2013.

Laurel Patkes
Certified Shorthand Reporter

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