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From: Don Dieckmann (dediec@charter.net) Sent You a Personal Message
To: [Brown, Don](#)
Subject: [External] Protect Illinois" air: R2018-20, Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 225.233
Date: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 8:09:57 AM

Dear IL Pollution Control Board Assistant Clerk,

While growing up in Springfield, Illinois, just a mile from the Lakeside municipal power station, I was in and out of the hospital several times with asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia, all attributable to Sulphur-dioxide from Lakeside, before scrubbers were added. While living in Wood River in the late '90's, my mom died after four bouts with cancer, and my dad died of heart disease, both commonly linked to the pollutants that were generated by the older, coal-fired power plant there. So most of my life has been spent either suffering from, or grieving over, the effects of dirty coal combustion, which resulted in my starting a non-profit energy-consulting and auditing company to help homeowners reduce their home energy use and boycott fossil fuels!

As an active member of the Sierra Club and other climate-conscious organizations, I know as coal declines and renewables and energy-efficiency grow, we should be wary of dirty coal-based energy suppliers trying to increase profits before their product is no longer needed. Such is the case of Dynege's pressuring the IEPA to lower its pollution standards, so they can keep running older, dirtier, but cheaper power plants while mothballing newer, cleaner and more expensive ones. This would not only cost ratepayers more and kill many high-wage jobs, but as the Chicago Tribune reported in January, "Dynege could emit nearly double the amount of sulphur dioxide they emitted last year"!

The IPCB should stand up for clean air and the citizens of Illinois, not rubber-stamp the Governor's backroom deal to help Texas-based Dynege and its soon-to-be parent Vistra Energy, whose pollution track record is even worse! Besides that, the acquisition of Dynege by Vistra will financially help both companies enough that they won't need to gouge and poison their customers!

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Dynege's proposal to amend the Multi Pollutant Standard (MPS) is unnessecary and would give Dynege the option to increase air pollution (NOx and SO2) at certain individual Dynege plants. The proposal includes Baldwin, Coffeen, Duck Creek, Edwards, Havana, Hennepin, Joppa, and Newton coal fired power plants. Any increase in pollution would place an undue public health burden on the communities surrounding the plants and the people who live there.

A high number of Dynege's plants are located in Environmental Justice communities so a potential increase in NOx and SO2 pollution from individual Dynege plants presents Environmental Justice concerns. Both pose serious health risks, especially for vulnerable community members like infants and small children, the elderly, and asthmatics.

For these reasons, the Illinois Pollution Control Board should reject the regulatory changes that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Dynege are proposing.

Sincerely,

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