

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am a resident of Wheeling, Illinois, in northern Cook County, but my "reference" point for most of my friendships and my work is in Lake County. As a result, I have involved myself to the extent possible in the interests of my neighbors in the Waukegan area who are affected daily by the operation of the coal-fired plant there and its years of storing coal ash near the plant.

There are many things in the proposed rules that the Illinois EPA has proposed for the clean up of coal ash at that plant and at others that are solid wins for citizens. These include:

- More frequent groundwater monitoring, although I hope the monitoring devices used will be supplied anew and from a source other than the plant owners
- Protection for clean up workers, although more specific requirements should be made for protective equipment and change of clothing by recognized health standards, and
- Ongoing monitoring of the current coal ash "ponds" until all of the debris is removed or for an indefinite period if, as I oppose, the ponds are reinforced, and the coal ash remains.

What I want to see improved in the rules are the following:

- If coal ash is to be hauled away from Waukegan (my preference), there must be coverings on barges, trains, and trucks to prevent excessive dangerous coal ash dust from spewing into communities along the route to the final storage location.
- Under no circumstances should they coal ash be allowed to be stored "wet" because of the ground and air pollution that can result.
- Clean up should not be considered complete until all ash is in a dry state
- Both current landfills and coal ash ponds should be covered by the rules, not only coal ash ponds. Both contain the same hazard. Both should be managed scrupulously.

Thank you for your consideration.

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**From:** [Paul Safyan](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Don](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Coal Ash Rule Making Written Testimony  
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**Attachments:** [coal ash testimony.docx](#)

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Mr. Brown:

Thank you for accepting the attached note regarding the Illinois Pollution Control Board's ongoing hearings on Rule Making for Coal Ash Management in Illinois.

Would you please be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of my comments personally? I have requested an email receipt.

Thank you.

Paul Safyan

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