



September 22, 2020

Ms. Barbara Flynn Currie, Chairman
Illinois Pollution Control Board
1021 N. Grand Avenue East
PO Box 19274
Springfield IL 62994

Dear Chairman Currie:

The Joliet Chamber of Commerce is committed to shaping our business environment and making our city an exceptional place to live and work. I want to thank the board for considering some of the factors surrounding how this proposed rule would impact our community.

I understand the ash, a byproduct of burning coal to generate electricity is being stored at and near the Joliet power plant site in ash impoundments. I encourage the board to develop an ash rule that empowers the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency with broad authority to evaluate each site on a case-by-case basis and consider many options for the closure of impoundments.

A narrow rule to close by removal wouldn't necessarily best serve Joliet. Hauling away hundreds of truckloads of ash for many years would mean more traffic, road wear and increased public safety risks. I also believe it would be detrimental to our air quality including an increase in carbon dioxide related to truck traffic as compared other possible closure options that are equally or more effective with much less disruption to our community.

I appreciate your attention to forming a rule that doesn't arbitrarily prefer one closure method over another.

Respectfully,

Jen Howard

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen Howard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing "J" and "H".

President

Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Mike Paone

Vice President Government Affairs

Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry