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Committees:  
Energy  
Minority Spokesperson  
Environment  
Minority Spokesperson  
Mass Transit  
Minority Spokesperson  
Executive  
Business Growth & Incentives

**Michael W. Tryon**  
State Representative • 66th District

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CLERK'S OFFICE

AUG 06 2013

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

PC#80

August 5, 2013

Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board  
c/o John Therriault, Assistant Clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601-3218

2014-010 JR

RE: Strong Support for Illinois Power Holdings' Petition, Docket No. 2013-\_\_\_\_\_ (Air-Variance)

Dear Honorable Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board:

Please allow this letter to serve as a strong endorsement for the variance petition by Illinois Power Holdings' (a Dynege subsidiary), which is currently pending before the Pollution Control Board.

Dynege, an Illinois employer with a strong environmental track record, has stepped up to help support much-needed jobs and economic activity in Illinois through the proposed sale of Ameren Energy Resources (AER) to IPH. With this transaction, Dynege plans to double its operations and investment in Illinois as a responsible neighbor and major employer of well-paying and skilled jobs. As a closing condition under the transaction agreement, if this petition for temporary relief is not granted, environmental and economic benefits are at risk.

Dynege, through its power generation facilities, has been and continues to be an important economic partner in our local, state and regional economies. I serve as the Representative for Illinois' 66<sup>th</sup> legislative district, and am the Republican Spokesperson for the House Energy and House Environment Committees. Through this role, I have witnessed Dynege and AER's commitment to sound energy and environmental policy and cannot underscore enough the importance of the Dynege and AER power plants the continuation of reliable and affordable electricity and jobs throughout Illinois.

Not only does Dynege provide approximately 600 well-paying jobs in Illinois, but Dynege employees also invest that money back into Illinois, helping to boost household income for all. Dynege's Illinois facilities further serve as an important source of tax revenue (\$26 million in the 2012 tax year) to help support important public services, including support for our cash-strapped schools and local governments.

Dynegy and its subsidiaries are committed to Illinois and our environment, recently investing \$1 billion in an environmental upgrade program at its Illinois facilities, creating over 2,000 construction jobs across the state. IPH is committed to the responsible operation of the AER energy centers and their communities- consistent with the Board-ordered compliance commitments set forth in the existing variance.

Regarding the petition before the Board, in September 2012, this Board saw fit to grant a similar variance request by AER, recognizing both the environmental and economic benefits of doing so and finding the variance to be a "net benefit to air quality." If granted, this IPH petition will provide continued certainty to the AER employees and Illinois communities that count on the economic benefit of the operation of the AER energy centers. Without the variance, Ameren will be forced to pursue other options for the AER energy centers, creating uncertainty for the plants' futures and an important part of our state economy.

A vibrant employer climate is essential for the residents in our communities, and even the prospect of potential shutdowns would stifle economic growth and development in Central and Southern Illinois. A successful transfer of the plants to IPH offers the best opportunity for the 700 AER workers, their families and for our communities, a stable tax base that provides critical support for our local schools, emergency response organizations and countless local governments.

Considering the opportunity before us, I ask the Board to support the IPH petition for temporary relief as the best path forward for improving air quality, while protecting the much-needed jobs and economic benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael W. Tryon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael W. Tryon  
State Representative  
District 66