



COUNTY OF JASPER

204 W. WASHINGTON STREET
NEWTON, IL 62448

RON HELTSLEY, COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN
PHONE 618-553-9542

September 14, 2020

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

Dear Madam Chair,

The Newton Power Plant here in Jasper County has been an important corporate citizen of our community for decades. As Chairman of the Jasper County Board, I can tell you that the plant's operations have always been vital to us.

In the near term, that will include how the coal ash impoundments at Newton will be handled when the time arrives to close them out. As the IPCB studies the proposed state rule, I encourage members to understand the necessity of giving IEPA many choices on how to close impoundments to protect the environment, align with specifics of the site and, importantly, address what the community wants.

A final rule with an arbitrary mandate of closure by removal could expose Jasper County residents to unnecessary truck traffic and safety risks, tie up the site for years, and not be in the interest of the people I serve.

I appreciate the board's willingness to hear these concerns.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Heltsley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ron Heltsley
Jasper County Board Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Warfel". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jason Warfel
Jasper County Board Vice-Chairman