

July 2015

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Illinois Pollution Control Board  
c/o John Therriault  
Clerk of the Board  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 W. Randolph  
Suite 11-500  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Pct# 147

Re: Case No. R15-21 (Rulemaking - Air)

Dear Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board and the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules:

I am writing to respectfully request that you withhold approval of the proposed Non- Attainment Plan for the 1-Hour Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards until the draft rule is strengthened in several areas. The Lemont and Pekin Non-Attainment areas have been over-burdened with air pollution for decades and this rulemaking provides a critical opportunity to restore safer air quality to these communities. However, the rule as currently written falls short of protecting communities from unsafe air. The draft rule must be strengthened in the following ways before it can be approved:

- **Require NRG Energy's Will County plant to comply with long-standing pollution reduction requirements and reject the proposed exemption from state law contained in the draft rule.** Our families have already waited too long for this plant to reduce its pollution, and have watched as NRG decided to close or clean up plants in other communities. The draft rule contains a surprise exemption for NRG to avoid compliance with the long-standing "combined pollutant standard" that was designed to reduce harmful emissions across Illinois. The Board and the Committee should reject this exemption to protect the Romeoville community.
- **Require NRG Energy's Powerton coal plant to comply with an hourly limit on its sulfur dioxide emissions to adequately protect community members in the Peoria and Pekin communities.** The proposed 30-day averaging limit for the plant is insufficient and leaves families, particularly people with chronic respiratory illnesses and children, vulnerable to short-term spikes in pollution, which is the exact danger EPA identified when it set a 1-hr standard, rather than a 30-day standard.
- **Require a stronger emissions limit at the Dynegy Ed Edwards coal plant along with an expedited date for the installation of sulfur dioxide pollution controls.** The agreement established by Dynegy and the state of Illinois lacks detail regarding the plan and timeline for installing pollution controls.

The Will County, Powerton and Ed Edwards plants are causing unsafe air across the State of Illinois. As a community member impacted by these sources of pollution, I request that you make these critical improvements to the rule-making to protect my air quality.

Respectfully, *Justine Lamb*

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