

From: [Michelle Knox](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#)
Subject: [External] Public comment on Case # AS 2021-006
Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025 12:45:29 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in opposition to lifting coal ash rules for SIPC's Marion plant. As a small business owner that has done a considerable amount of business in the Southern IL region and enjoys recreational activities around Lake Egypt, lifting regulations that protect the region from dangerous chemicals/carcinogens that are damaging to public health and natural habitats is very upsetting to me. Why would regulations that have been put in place to protect consumers and our water even be considered in terms of lifting these important protections?

Please uphold IEPA's recommendation that these protections remain in place, and that SIPC's request for lifting rules for the (8) coal ash ponds located near the Marion plant be lifted, is denied. SIPC's own monitoring shows that its coal ash ponds are polluting groundwater with antimony, arsenic, beryllium, boron, cadmium, chloride, cobalt, lead, sulfate, thallium, and total dissolved solids. This is unacceptable and our public health and safety should never be jeopardized for the sake of continuing the "business as usual" tactics of the fossil-fuel industry. We have an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for a reason- please uphold their rules and deny SIPC's request. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Michelle

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