

## COALITION TO SUPPORT ILLINOIS CLEAN COAL

May 25, 2007

The Honorable Emil Jones  
Illinois State Senator-District 14  
327 Capitol Building  
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear President Jones:

With energy costs skyrocketing, consumers are being squeezed. Due to environmental concerns, Illinois' vast deposits of low-cost, high-sulfur coal have been largely replaced for use in power generation by low-sulfur Western coal. Now, with clean coal technology, Illinois can responsibly tap its reserves, grow the central and southern Illinois economy and help hold energy prices down.

As you move to address utility legislation this session, clean coal technology must be part of the solution. To support this effort, Illinois law needs to be changed to enable power plant operators to enter into long-term, cost-based contracts with large utilities, thus allowing developers to attract sufficient private capital for these multi-billion dollar projects. This change in the law requires no taxpayer funding and is a prerequisite to the future of clean coal in Illinois.

Consider the benefits:

- Creation of a new market for the long-struggling Illinois coal industry
- Economic development for job-starved areas of the state
- Increased protection of the environment and public health
- Millions saved annually on power costs
- Establishing Illinois as a national model of a simultaneously pro-business, pro-environment, and pro-consumer state

The Taylorville Energy Center (TEC) is the first clean-coal power plant proposed for our state. In addition to investing more than \$1.1 billion in the central and southern Illinois economy, creating an estimated 1500 construction jobs and hundreds of coal mining and plant operation positions, TEC would be among the most environmentally-friendly coal plants in the world. Its integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) technology dramatically reduces emissions by turning coal into a synthesis gas and removing most mercury, sulfur and particulate matter prior to combustion.

Thanks to this technology, Illinois coal, long abandoned because of its high sulfur content, would become an environmentally viable fuel source. Illinois consumers would enjoy stable, lower-cost, baseload power — which will help keep prices in check by increasing supply.

Developing clean coal power is a win-win-win for Illinois — good for the economy, good for the environment and good for consumers. We urge you to include clean coal power in any long-term utility plan for Illinois.

For more information, please contact John Nicolay at (312) 961-4329 or by email at [jnicolay@nicolaydart.com](mailto:jnicolay@nicolaydart.com).

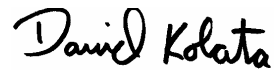
Sincerely,



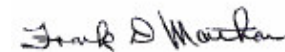
Michael T. Carrigan  
President, AFL-CIO



Phillip M. Gonet  
President, Illinois Coal Association



David Kolata  
Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board



Frank D. Mathon  
Mayor of Taylorville



John Thompson  
Director, Coal Transition Project, Clean Air Task Force