

Resolution

Re: Fly Ash Issue In Vermilion County

WHEREAS, The County of Vermilion in May of 2014 passed a resolution concerning fly ash located in Vermilion County, Illinois, and while the County continues to recognize coal as a legitimate energy resource and that it has played a large part in the economic development of this and other counties, the County has concerns regarding the issue of fly ash, and

WHEREAS, it has been found through more current research that the byproducts of coal use, particularly fly ash, has the potential for causing current and future damage to important resources of Vermilion County such as the Middle Fork River, and

WHEREAS, such concerns may not have been known at the time the fly ash was so placed and when it's placement was allowed under current State law, and

WHEREAS, the river system is used for wildlife viewing, hiking, paddling, angling, hunting, and photography, providing enjoyment and economic value and business use, and

WHEREAS, the County of Vermilion continues to be concerned that that the plan for dealing with the fly ash currently on site and elsewhere may not resolve the future needs, both business and recreational, and concerns of citizens, particularly given the experience of Vermilion County with fly ash issues in the past, and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Pollution Control Board now has the authority to act upon current information and concerns and establish best practices for dealing with fly ash now and into the future,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the County of Vermilion re-affirms its previous position in the Resolution of May 14, 2014, and encourages and requests that any plan for the disposal of fly ash, particularly along and in water areas, be based upon the best scientific practices that will answer current and future citizen and business concerns for the vitality of the Middle Fork tourist area as well as the concerns of residents who may live close to or in areas affected by such fly ash and that any such rule address the water safety needs of residents and that the producers of fly ash bear the cost of removal or protection.

