

**Bringing Cleaner, Safer, Energy to Milwaukee:**  
**DNR Hearing on the Air Permit for We Energies' Valley Coal Plant**

**Thursday, November 4th, 6pm**

**DNR Headquarters, 2300 Martin Luther King Drive (corner of MLK and North Ave)**

The We Energies' Valley Coal Plant sits in the heart of Milwaukee, spewing soot, smog, mercury, and global warming pollution into our air. We Energies could install pollution controls like at their Pleasant Prairie and Oak Creek plants that would cut soot, smog and mercury pollution by at least 90%. Better yet, We Energies could re-power the plant with natural gas, like it did at the Port Washington power plant. This would reduce soot and smog pollution from the plant even more, cut its global warming pollution by at least half, and virtually eliminates mercury and other heavy metal pollution from the plant. We can re-power old, dirty coal-fired power plants. We can bring innovative, clean, efficient energy solutions to our community that keeps us safe, secure, and healthy while creating jobs and invigorating our local economies.

**How can the air permit hearing help?**

The Clean Air Act requires the We Energies' Valley Coal Plant to get an air pollution permit that protects public health by setting limits on the pollution that the plant is allowed to put in our air. As a part of the permit process, DNR is holding a hearing to get input from the public. On Thursday, November 4, we will have the chance to speak up about the air pollution from the Valley Coal Plant, its effects on us and our families, and our preferred solution to the issue. This is a special opportunity to address the decision-makers that will be at the hearing and ask them to make the permit more protective while working together to bring us a cleaner, safer energy solution.

**What can I say at the hearing?**

The bottom line: The current air pollution permit for the Valley Coal Plant allows the plant to put too much pollution in our air. Whether you're concerned about your child's asthma, your brother's heart disease, the threat of global warming, or mercury advisories on our fish, your personal stories are the most important message.

- As a resident of Milwaukee County, I am appalled that We Energies' Valley Power Plant lacks sufficient pollution controls, yet operates in one of the most densely populated communities in our state – an area that already violates air pollution health standards. The proposed permit does not adequately protect public health.
- The Clean Air Act requires facilities that modify or upgrade to install the best available pollution controls. We Energies modified the Valley Coal Plant without doing this. Therefore, the permit should have more protective air pollution limits that require the pollution controls We Energies should have put on when the plant was modified.
- Specifically, permit limits for soot and smog pollution must be more protective of public health. Those pollutants include sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter.
- The DNR should use the latest modeling techniques to ensure that public health is protected by the pollution limits set in the permit.
- Has the DNR considered the health effects of dust from the coal pile that serves the plant? The DNR should address those health effects in the permit.
- How does the DNR know the plant is in compliance with the air permit at all times? The permit should include requirements for continuous monitors for all pollutants coming out of the smoke stack.
- The Environmental Protection Agency has determined that carbon dioxide endangers human health. Carbon dioxide limits should be in the air permit.