What’s in Your Backyard?
Joppa Steam Plant:
How Your Local Power Plant is Polluting Your Water

Meet Your Neighbor

Profile:
- Owner: Electric Energy Inc.
- Location: Joppa, IL on the Ohio River near Metropolis
- # of Coal Ash Pits on Site: 2
- Capacity: 1.024 billion gallons
- Status: 1 Active
- Lined for Protection?: No
- # of wells within 1 mile: 23
- Risk Potential for well contamination: High

The Joppa steam plant is listed by Illinois EPA as Priority 1 for Groundwater Contamination.

A Dirty Past

No groundwater monitoring was required at the plant prior to 2010.

Joppa ranked 75th on list of most polluting power plants in terms of coal waste and discharges from the ash pond flow directly into the Ohio River.

The plant produces over 224,000 tons of waste annually, and 253 tons of toxic metals.

The Pollutants

In December of 2010, 7 wells were sampled near the plant.

Exceedances for contaminant levels included:
- Arsenic - Cyanide - Cadmium
- Lead - Iron - Barium
- Copper - Chromium - Nickel
- Silver - Boron - Selenium
- Cobalt - Manganese - Zinc
- Antimony - Sulfate - Fluoride
- Chloride - Beryllium - Mercury

Health advisory exceedances included manganese, sulfate, and boron in several wells.

U.S. EPA ground water quality standard exceedances included lead, sulfate, iron, and manganese.
IEPA’s Proposed Coal Ash Rules: What do they mean for me?
IEPA has proposed rules for characterizing and regulating coal ash pits.
As written, the rules fail to fully protect your community from future potential water contamination from the Joppa coal ash pits.

- The rules say that if a pit is causing groundwater contamination, the facility has the choice to pursue a corrective action or a closure plan—closure not being the presumptive strategy.
- If closure is chosen, the coal ash does not need to be removed from the site, but instead can be covered up forever and remain a risk to public health.
- The owner of the site does not have to provide financial assurance that they will pay the full costs of remediation—leaving your community at risk to pick up the tab.

~ Attend a public hearing by the Illinois Pollution Control Board ~
Help protect your friends, family, and precious water resources!

May 14: 10 a.m. with press conference at 9 a.m.
May 15: 9 a.m.
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph St, Chicago, IL

Send in comments:

Sign up to attend a hearing and learn more: