

GRUNDY COUNTY BOARD

1320 UNION STREET
MORRIS, ILLINOIS 60450
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August 11, 2021

Dear Illinois Stakeholders and Residents,

Within all electric power scenarios, there is unanimous agreement that our carbon free nuclear plants, including Dresden & Byron, are needed to ensure stable rates for Illinois residents. Without Exelon's nuclear facilities, electrical rates for Illinois homes and businesses go up and create more risk for power shortages.

Thousands of high paying jobs would be lost if these two nuclear facilities close. Without the General Assembly passing a bill that the governor signs, Byron will close in September 2021 and Dresden will close in November 2021. Some existing Exelon employees, fearful of not having a paycheck, are finding new jobs and quitting now. This means there might not be enough employees, in key areas, to run operations and the facilities could unexpectedly close sooner.

Additionally, August 31 is a critical deadline where agreement is needed to avoid having wind and solar credits, worth hundreds of millions of dollars, expire and evaporate.

The Bryon and Dresden facilities pay a large amount of property taxes to schools, counties and other local governments. If these facilities close, property taxes increase for Illinois homeowners causing people to no longer be able to stay in their homes because of burdensome taxes.

Much progress has been made to reach an agreement that would provide \$700 million to the nuclear facilities over 5 years. I'm very appreciative of the progress made between the Governor's office and General Assembly to reach agreement on a path ensuring these facilities remain open as part of the Illinois power solution.

This is a local energy crisis that can quickly be solved if the negotiations are completed and the General Assembly passes a nuclear bill that our Governor signs.

Everyone is at the table and working hard together to complete this extremely critical task. Since there seems to be complete agreement on the path to keep the nuclear facilities open, we need to finish this task now to avoid losing the electricity that these facilities generate, the jobs that these facilities provide and the tax revenue that these facilities contribute.

We are willing to help, however we can, in order to get this job done.

Sincerely,

Chris Balkema
Grundy County Board Chairman
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