

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 20, 2007

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary
United States Department of Energy
Forrestal Building, Room 7B138
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20585-0800

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This week the FutureGen Alliance announced its final selection of Mattoon, Illinois, as the location for the construction of the FutureGen project - - pronouncing the Mattoon proposal "exceptional" and underscoring the highest forms of teamwork and community support. We are writing today to urge the Department to release the Record of Decision (RoD) for the FutureGen project, so that this important effort can stay on track and on budget.

We are pleased that this independent council of renowned experts carefully assessed the science and strengths of this Illinois location and favorably affirmed the commitment of state and local resources that were assembled in response to clear federal expectations announced 4 years ago.

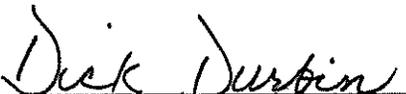
The Department of Energy announced on November 9, 2007 the completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement, and acknowledged that the FutureGen Alliance, as required under the cooperative agreement with the Department, would make its final site selection before the end of the year.

While the site selection has been completed, the 30-day period for the issuance of the RoD by the Department of Energy has not been met. We are interested in learning when the Department intends to release this document so that this project can move forward in Illinois without additional unnecessary delays.

In 2003, when President Bush announced the long term commitment of the United States government to this project, representatives of academia, industry, labor and government responded, investing considerable resources to make their case. It is the commitment of the Illinois Congressional Delegation to maintain the scope of this project in Illinois and implement the independent recommendation of the FutureGen Alliance.

We look forward to the continued commitment by the Department of Energy to the current project and look forward to learning the issue date of the RoD.

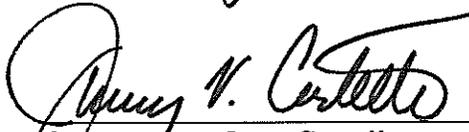
Sincerely,

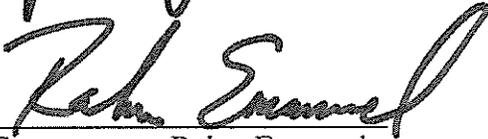

Senator Dick Durbin


Senator Barack Obama

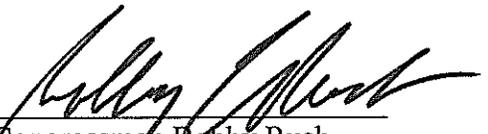

Congressman Tim Johnson

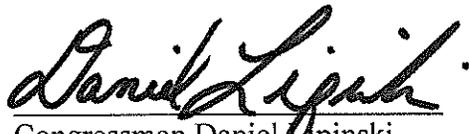

Congressman John Shimkus

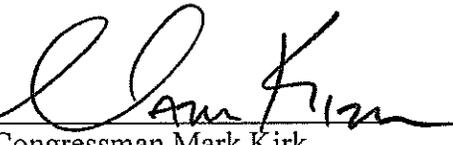

Congressman Jerry Costello


Congressman Rahm Emanuel


Congressman Peter Roskam


Congressman Bobby Rush


Congressman Daniel Lipinski


Congressman Mark Kirk

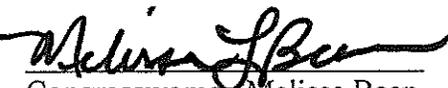

Congressman Donald Manzullo


Congressman Ray LaHood

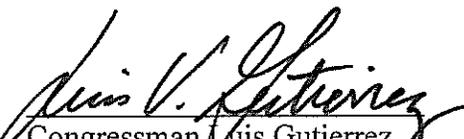

Congressman Danny Davis


Congressman Jerry Weller


Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky


Congresswoman Melissa Bean


Congressman Phil Hare


Congressman Luis Gutierrez


Congresswoman Judy Biggert


Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.