



CLOSING THE PRAIRIE STATE COAL PLANT WOULD MAKE ILLINOISANS HEALTHIER AND WEALTHIER

PRAIRIE STATE IS EXPENSIVE, CLEAN ENERGY IS AFFORDABLE

- Prairie State costs twice as much as cleaner alternatives when considering the debt utilities took on to build the \$5 billion plant and the cost of its power. Customers would save money if the plant were closed in 2030 and replaced with clean energy, absent large and unexpected shifts in power markets.
- Utilities must repay the debt they took on to build the plant whether it retires or not, but switching to clean energy can help reduce the burden on customers. Refinancing the debt could also create savings.
- Costs from coal ash cleanup, unexpected maintenance, or compliance with new climate or public health laws could all potentially make Prairie State even more expensive in the future.

POLLUTION FROM PRAIRIE STATE SICKENS AND KILLS ILLINOISANS

- Prairie State emits more toxic sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides than any source in Illinois. Pollutants from Prairie State do nearly \$2 billion in damage to our health and environment each year.
- Pollution from the plant causes at least 49 deaths per year – nearly one every week.

PRAIRIE STATE IS ILLINOIS' TOP CONTRIBUTOR TO CLIMATE CHANGE

- Prairie State is the top emitter of planet-warming greenhouse gases in Illinois, and one of the ten largest in the U.S. It emits more carbon pollution than the state's next two largest polluters *combined*.

ILLINOIS DOESN'T NEED PRAIRIE STATE FOR RELIABLE POWER

- All coal plants in downstate Illinois – including Prairie State – can be closed by 2030 and replaced with cleaner energy, while saving consumers money and maintaining a reliable electric grid.
- Northern Illinois has more than enough electricity capacity to maintain reliability if Prairie State closes.

CEJA SUPPORTS COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY PRAIRIE STATE

- Under the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA), when Prairie State or any fossil fuel power plant closes, displaced workers receive health care, pension protection, job training including full-tuition scholarships to any public college or vocational program in Illinois, and incentives for employers to hire them.
- Under CEJA, communities and local governments impacted by the closure of Prairie State would receive replacement for lost property taxes and incentives for clean energy and other economic development.
- Under CEJA, communities who currently hold contracts to purchase energy from Prairie State would have advanced notice of the planned closure date for the plant, the opportunity to purchase affordable clean energy, and an opportunity for a Community Energy and Climate Planning process.