



Chicago Clean Power Coalition

Summary, Chicago Clean Power Ordinance

49th Ward Alderman Joe Moore is introducing an ordinance to the City Council that requires Fisk and Crawford to reduce their emissions of soot and global warming pollution. Following is a summary of the ordinance.

Background (Findings in the Ordinance's "Whereas" Clauses):

- Fisk and Crawford are two dirty and outdated coal-fired power plants in the City of Chicago. They pump thousands of tons of soot (particulate matter or PM) and millions of tons of global warming gases (CO₂) into our air.
- Soot causes serious respiratory health impacts. The young, the elderly and those living closest to the plants are most at risk. Cutting PM pollution will reduce asthma attacks, chronic bronchitis, heart attacks, lung cancer and strokes caused by particulate matter pollution.
- Climate change, caused by CO₂, will cause negative health and environmental impacts in Chicago. Reducing global warming pollution will significantly cut Chicago's carbon footprint – keeping Chicago in the running for the 'Greenest City in America'.

Chicago's Authority to Adopt the Ordinance:

- Pursuant to its home rule authority, the City can adopt regulations for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare of its residents. Chicago already has regulated air pollutants and particulate matter through its Air Quality Ordinance.
- Existing state and federal laws addressing air pollution from these plants are inadequate to address this local pollution with local impacts

Limits on Pollution Set by the Ordinance:

- *PM/PM10 limit of .015 lb/MMBtu*: This is a 90% reduction over the current PM/PM10 limit and equivalent to the standard that is widely set for new coal fired power plants.
- *PM_{2.5} limit of .010 lb/MMBtu*: The plants have no PM_{2.5} limit now; this PM_{2.5} limit is critical because fine particle pollution poses a very serious threat to the health (especially respiratory health) of local residents.
- *CO₂ limit of 120.36 lbs/MMBtu*: This is equivalent to that of a natural gas plant.

How will the Chicago Clean Power Ordinance Affect Fisk and Crawford?

- The ordinance prohibits switching to another coal-derived fuel or high-carbon fuel as a means of complying with or avoiding the ordinance. However, natural gas (which is not a high-carbon fuel) can be used to comply. Both plants are capable of switching to natural gas.
- A four year phase-in process gives the owners of the plants adequate time to comply.
- The ordinance requires, on a monthly and annual basis, certified reports on emissions testing, emissions monitoring, and compliance with limits.

How will the City of Chicago Enforce the Ordinance?

- The ordinance provides the City Commissioner of the Environment with enforcement authority.
- It also identifies what constitutes a violation and contains a schedule of penalties.

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info@cleanpowerchicago.org ▪ www.cleanpowerchicago.org