



# Chicago Clean Power Coalition

Revised August 2011

## SUMMARY, CLEAN POWER ORDINANCE

On July 28, 2011 Alderman Joe Moore (Ward 49) and Alderman Danny Solis (Ward 25) re-introduced the Chicago Clean Power Ordinance to Chicago's City Council. This Ordinance requires the Fisk and Crawford coal plants to reduce their emissions of soot and global warming pollution. The following is a summary of the ordinance.

### BACKGROUND (FINDINGS IN THE "WHEREAS" CLAUSES):

- Fisk and Crawford are two dirty and outdated coal plants in the City of Chicago.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 (CO<sub>2</sub>) 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.
- Chicago is expected to experience significant negative health and environmental effects as a result of escalating climate change. Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will significantly cut Chicago's carbon footprint and protect the health and safety of Chicago's residents.

### 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 such as 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.
- *PM2.5 limit of .010 lb/MMBtu*: The plants have no PM2.5 limit now; this PM2.5 limit is critical because fine particle pollution poses a very serious threat to the health (especially heart and lung health) of local residents.
- *CO<sub>2</sub> 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.
- This is not a shut-down ordinance. The standards included in the Chicago Clean Power Ordinance are being met by other power producers across the country.
- The ordinance has a four-year phase-in process that gives the owners of the plants adequate time to comply.
- The Chicago Clean Power 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 will provide the City's Chief Sustainability Office with enforcement authority. It also identifies what constitutes a violation and contains a schedule of penalties.