

ENERGY PETITION FACTSHEET

PETITION TEXT, Chicago Area Peace Action, CAPA

SHARE WITH FRIENDS... encourage others to call or send letters to their representatives using these talking points:

As the leaders of both the House and Senate legislatures in Illinois we are asking for your support and leadership to pass progressive energy legislation and bring clean, renewable electric energy to Illinois. In the process establish Illinois as a benchmark state in making this transition to meet and over achieve the EPA renewable energy standards for Illinois.

To achieve this objective we are asking you to reject the \$1.6 billion bailout request from Exelon to keep their old, dangerous and unprofitable nuclear plants open. I am also asking your support in rejecting Commonwealth Edison's request to maintain their monopoly control in limiting the availability of renewable energy in Illinois. Presently less than 5% of our power plant energy comes from renewable sources.

The bill we need for you and your legislators to support is the Clean Jobs Bill. This bill would incentivize a new business model for renewable energy and energy efficiency: while simultaneously adding up to 32,000 new jobs a year to the Illinois economy. This legislation would also promote cost effective rates for all the citizens of Illinois.

If the Clean Jobs bill passes, wind and solar resources will grow rapidly to the point where Illinois could move forward, soon, to address closure of our coal plants through a planned transition. NASA scientist, James Hansen, tells us that "all of the fossil fuels in the ground must stay in the ground" if we are to mitigate climate warming. This is the responsible bill to pass. It is the only bill that makes any sense so do not compromise it.

a more detailed description of each of these bills.

Currently, there are three energy bills pending. The "Exelon Bill" (HB3293&SB1585) would continue our reliance on nuclear power by calling it "clean". Exelon is proposing that citizens of Illinois again bail them out at the cost of \$1.6 billion over 5 years, so they can maintain several of the old, risky and unprofitable plants; otherwise they threaten to close them down. It would be a blessing to have Illinois close down their 11 active reactors via a transitional plan. Plutonium waste just creates yet another serious environmental hazard for future generations.

The second energy bill is referred to as the "Com Ed" bill (HB3328, Amendment 001 & SB1879). As we understand this bill it would favor the continued ComEd monopoly control of the rate of growth and rate setting for renewables; (wind and solar power) into the future. This would also set back the development of "mini grids" that could replace the old and risky large grid. Smaller companies that would like to come to Illinois to develop a stronger 21st. Century business model for renewable energy in many communities would be stymied by ComEd's control.

The third bill is referred to as the "Clean Jobs" bill (HB2607 & SB1485). While not perfect, this bill would incentivize a new business model for renewable energy and energy efficiency: while simultaneously adding up to 32,000 new jobs per year to the economy. This would promote cost effective utility rates for the citizens of Illinois. We are very hopeful that this bill will be passed without any problematic amendments. If the Clean Jobs bill passes, renewables will grow to the point where we could move forward, soon, to address closure of our coal plants through a planned transition. NASA scientist, James Hansen, tells us that "all of the fossil fuels in the ground must stay in the ground" if we are to mitigate climate disruptions.