

Friday, Aug. 20, 2010

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Michigan Coal Rush Brought to a Halt!

With the denial of the Holland Board of Public Works proposed air permit to expand their coal plant, **all of the eight coal plants discussed or proposed in Michigan have been denied, withdrawn or stalled!** Here is the status:

- Northern Michigan University withdrew coal from their proposed biomass plant in May 2009 after a challenge by Sierra Club.
- LS Power's MidMichigan proposed Midland coal plant withdrew their air permit in May 2009 after their partner Dynegy pulled out and public input pointed out major flaws.
- Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative's air permit for a Rogers City plant was denied by DNRE in May 2010 because there was no need and alternatives to meet future electric needs exist. An appeal has been filed, and DNRE has been joined the Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council in defending the permit denial in court.
- Consumers Energy received an air permit for the expansion of the Karn-Weadock plant in Essexville, but in May 2010 announced plans to put the plant on the shelf indefinitely. The air permit is being challenged in court by Natural Resources Defense Council and Sierra Club.
- Lansing Board of Water and Light drops plans for a new coal plant, choosing to build a combined cycle natural gas plant that will be more flexible and mesh with renewable energy sources in July 2010.
- Holland Board of Public Works' proposed air permit to expand their coal plant was denied in August 2010. They have recently filed an appeal of that decision.
- Two plants that had been discussed in the press (M&M Energy in Alma and Tondur Corporation's TES Filer Plant) have not sought permits and there is no indication either plans to move ahead.

There is still more to do to assure that Michigan is moving away from coal and toward clean energy sources that produce jobs and energy right here in the Great Lakes State. Learn more about the fight to move Michigan Beyond Coal here or contact our Beyond Coal staff: Tiffany Hartung, Anne Woiwode, and Jan O'Connell (Holland).

see <http://www.sierraclub.org/coal/mi/default.aspx>