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## Letter: Make Ameren stick to deal

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Thanks for the Aug. 2 story, "Ameren, objectors duel over delay of pollution rules." I want to urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to deny Ameren's request for eight more years to comply with air pollution reductions they agreed to more than six years ago for their Newton Power Station. Dirty air emissions from the Newton plant lead to asthma attacks, respiratory disease and early death. Ameren should stick to the deal it made.

More importantly, I urge Ameren to reassess its long-term plan to support the outdated coal-burning facilities in their fleet. A recent study by Illinois State University found that the state's 23 largest wind farms contribute almost \$30 million in local taxes. This means cleaner energy, jobs and local revenue for schools. Ameren should invest in the future of cleaner energy rather than a protracted fight for the right to pollute air and water.

— *Traci Barkley, Prairie Rivers Network, Champaign*