Concerns of the Coal Ash Storage Pits Bordering the Middle Fork National Scenic River in Vermilion County.

WHEREAS, the Lake Vermilion Water Quality Coalition was established as an education committee made up of local government organizations, corporations, and private individuals, who have a vested interest in water quality in Vermilion County; and

WHEREAS, the North Fork, Salt Fork, and the Middle Fork National Scenic River are tributaries of the Vermilion River and are essential to the area’s water supply and recreational opportunities. And, the river system is used for wildlife observation, canoeing, kayaking, floating, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, picnicking, nature photography, and other nature related enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, the coal fly ash is present in storage pits at the Dynegy Midwest Generation, L.L.C. Vermillion facility, that has been closed since 2011 and that risks of pollution remain because of lack of structural integrity; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has proposed rules to the Illinois Pollution Control Board to address coal ash issues at power plant sites to establish criteria, requirements, and standards for preventive response or corrective action as deemed necessary to protect river quality.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Lake Vermilion Water Quality Coalition requests that the Illinois Pollution Control Board should consider implementation of rules that will provide greater protection of water resources threatened by coal ash disposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources do not approve a closure plan of the Dynegy Midwest Generation Vermilion facility until the concerns of the potential pollution of groundwater and surface water are addressed.

Adopted this 28th day of August, 2014.

ATTEST:

Jon Felix
Secretary
Lake Vermilion Water Quality Coalition

Ken Konsis
President
Lake Vermilion Water Quality Coalition