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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 27, 2009

*Audrey Eisenberg: (312) 628-0214  
Cell: (630) 207-6337*

## **Lawsuit calls for clean-up of local power plant polluters**

### ***Interview Opportunity***

**WHAT:** **U.S. Department of Justice, the Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Attorney General Madigan** filed a civil complaint against Midwest Generation this morning for operating old coal-fired power plants in the Chicago area in violation of the **Federal Clean Air Act**. Over the past decade, Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago has been advocating for action to clean up the plants through numerous legal and policy efforts at the City, State and Federal levels of government.

Midwest Generation's coal-fired power plants are a continuing **health hazard** to the communities in which they operate across Illinois, emitting tens of thousands of tons of harmful pollutants into the air every single year. **Studies show that the pollution is responsible for increased asthma attacks, emergency room visits, strokes, heart attacks, and premature deaths.**

**WHO:** Brian Urbaszewski—Director Environmental Health Programs, Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 27, 2009

**WHERE:** Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago, 1440 West Washington Blvd., Chicago

#### **VISUALS / INTERVIEWS:**

**Brian Urbaszewski – Director Environmental Health Programs**

*Available on site or by phone: (312) 628-0245 cell (312) 405-1175*

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Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago (RHAMC) has been a local public health leader since 1906. Today the Association fights lung disease and promotes healthy lungs by supporting research, advocacy, and educational efforts on behalf of individuals and families affected by lung cancer, asthma, COPD (chronic bronchitis and emphysema), and other lung diseases. For more information, visit [www.lungchicago.org](http://www.lungchicago.org).

Chicago's Lung Health  
Leader Since 1906

1440 W. Washington Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60607-1878  
Phone: (312) 243-2000  
Fax: (312) 243-3954  
[www.lungchicago.org](http://www.lungchicago.org)