



Attorney General Raoul is **committed to safeguarding the environment** for the use of all Illinois residents and future generations. The office **enforces the state's environmental laws** against those who pollute and cause harm to residents' health and the state's resources.

**Holding companies accountable for their pollution**

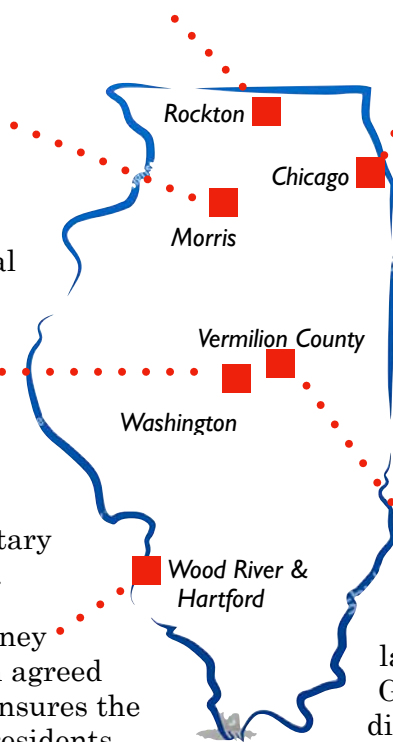


**Superior Battery Fire:** Attorney General Kwame Raoul and Grundy County State's Attorney Jason Helland filed a lawsuit against Superior Battery, Inc. over a July 2021 fire at its facility in Morris. The four-day fire prompted evacuations due to smoke irritation and potential toxic air emission releases from the lithium batteries in the facility. The lawsuit alleges it posed substantial danger to the public's health and welfare along with air and water pollution and unauthorized waste disposal.

**Diesel Gas Leak:** Attorney General Raoul obtained an order in a lawsuit against Washington Senior Living LLC and SC Washington Property LLC over a February 2021 diesel gas leak. The leak caused air and soil contamination on the property as well as in water in a nearby tributary that connects to the Illinois River.

**Railroad Tank Cars Leak:** The Attorney General announced a lawsuit and an agreed interim order with Phillips 66 that ensures the company will take action to protect residents from sulfur dioxide emissions released near the towns of Hartford and Wood River in May 2021.

**Chemtool Fire:** The Attorney General and Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley filed a lawsuit against Chemtool Inc. over a 6-alarm fire at its facility in Rockton. It burned for several days, caused explosions, and prompted evacuations. Raoul and Hanley allege that the fire and efforts to control the fire resulted in smoke, particulate matter and unknown quantities of other contaminants being released into the environment, which pose a substantial danger to the public's health and welfare and the environment.



**Scrap Metal Shredder:** Attorney General Raoul filed a lawsuit against Metal Management Midwest Inc. d/b/a Sims Metal Management in the Little Village neighborhood of Chicago for failing to demonstrate a minimum threshold reduction in uncontrolled emissions from the company's metal shredding and recycling facility. Sims is required to develop and implement a control system designed to achieve an immediate overall reduction in uncontrolled emissions.

**Coal Ash:** Attorney General Kwame Raoul and Vermilion County State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy filed a lawsuit against Dynegy Midwest Generation, LLC over the unlawful disposal of coal ash at the site of the former Vermilion Power Station, which led to groundwater pollution surrounding the coal power plant.

**PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT**

**BY THE NUMBERS 2021:**

**75 COMPLAINTS FILED**

**53 SETTLEMENTS**

**\$6,454,994.05 COLLECTED ON CIVIL PENALTIES**

**\$27,835,556 IN COSTS OF COMPLIANCE**

# MILESTONES REPORT: Preserving the Environment, con't

## Advocating for fair and prudent environmental policies

### Fighting for Environmental Justice:



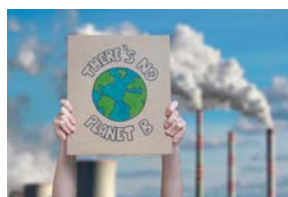
Attorney General Kwame Raoul launched an initiative aimed at enhancing its focus on environmental justice issues throughout

Illinois. To kick off the initiative, the Attorney General's Environmental Enforcement Division hosted a virtual town hall discussion in November 2021, which featured presentations by our attorneys, environmental advocates, and stakeholders.

Participants learned how to provide feedback and raise concerns that will allow the Attorney General's office to enhance its enforcement efforts in areas—communities of color—that have been disproportionately impacted by pollution.

### Calling for Action on Climate Change:

Attorney General Kwame Raoul, as part of a coalition of 20 attorneys general, urged Congress to respond to the climate crisis and advance environmental justice by funding critical programs in budget reconciliation legislation. Raoul also joined a coalition that advocated for the repeal of energy efficiency rule rollbacks to cut climate change pollution and save consumers tens of billions of dollars. He was also part of a coalition that urged the Securities and Exchange Commission to require U.S. companies to provide detailed and accurate information about the financial risk they face from climate change as climate change-related weather events cost U.S. companies more than \$600 billion in direct economic damages in the past five years.



**Axing Air Pollution:** Attorney General Kwame Raoul joined multi-state coalitions in numerous matters to fight for cleaner air. These actions include fighting for:

- reduced airplane emissions,
- stronger standards for particulate matter pollution
- fewer small-refinery exemptions to the Renewable Fuel Standard
- restoration of California's zero-emission vehicle standards
- more stringent greenhouse gas emission standards for passenger cars and light trucks
- penalties for automakers that failed to meet fuel economy standards for model year 2019 to 2021 vehicles
- more stringent fuel economy standards for model year 2024 to 2026 vehicles

**Clearing Path for Energy Regulation:** Attorney General Kwame Raoul, as part of a coalition of states and municipalities, filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) over its rule attempting to block future regulation of industries, such as the oil and gas industry, responsible for more than half of all greenhouse gas emissions from new stationary sources.

### Securing Safe Water:

Attorney General Raoul, as part of a coalition of 19 attorneys general, filed comments with the U.S. EPA supporting the agency's proposal to require public water systems to monitor for PFAS. These contaminants accumulate in the body, do not break down in the environment, and may be linked to serious adverse health effects in humans and animals.



✓ **Results:** The D.C. Circuit vacated the Affordable Clean Energy rule and remanded to the EPA for further proceedings consistent with its opinion.

