1	BEFORE THE
2	ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
3	
4	REGULAR OPEN MEETING
5	(PUBLIC UTILITY)
6	Chicago, Illinois
7	Tuesday May 24, 2011
8	
9	Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m. in
10	the Main Hearing Room, Eighth Floor, 160 North
11	LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.
12	
13	PRESENT:
14	DOUGLAS P. SCOTT, Chairman
15	LULA M. FORD, Commissioner
16	ERIN M. O'CONNELL-DIAZ, Commissioner
17	SHERMAN J. ELLIOTT, Commissioner
18	JOHN T. COLGAN, Acting Commissioner
19	
20	
21	SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by
22	Alisa A. Sawka, CSR, RPR License No. 084-004588

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Pursuant to the Illinois Open
- 2 Meetings Act, I now convene a regular open meeting of
- 3 the Illinois Commerce Commission. With me in Chicago
- 4 are Commissioner Ford, Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz,
- 5 Commissioner Elliott and Acting Commissioner Colgan.
- 6 I'm Chairman Scott. We have a quorum.
- 7 Before moving into the agenda,
- 8 according to Part 1700.10 of Title 2 of the
- 9 Administrative Code, this is the time that all
- 10 members to address the Commission. Members of the
- 11 public wishing to address the Commission must notify
- 12 the Chief Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to
- 13 the Commission meeting. According to the Chief
- 14 Clerk's Office we have eight valid requests to speak
- 15 at today's regular open meeting.
- 16 Before we get started, I'd just like
- 17 to give a reminder that each person speaking today
- 18 has a time limit of 3 minutes with which to make
- 19 their presentation.
- 20 With that, we will take the valid
- 21 requests we received in alphabetical order beginning
- 22 with Filene Crawford.

- 1 Miss Crawford, are you here?
- Going once? Going twice?
- Thomas Haerle. Is Thomas Haerle here?
- 4 If you'd like to go up to the
- 5 microphone there and press it to turn it on -- or get
- 6 some help with that. And you'll have 3 minutes to
- 7 speak, sir.
- 8 MR. THOMAS HAERLE: Good morning,
- 9 Commissioners.
- 10 Can you hear me okay?
- 11 THE COMMISSIONERS: Yes.
- MR. THOMAS HAERLE: Good morning and thank you
- very much for giving me the opportunity to speak to
- 14 you this morning.
- 15 My name is Brother Thomas Haerle.
- 16 I've been a religious brother with the Claretian
- 17 Missionaries for more than 25 years. I'm currently
- 18 serving at Holy Cross Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
- 19 in Back of the Yards on the South Side of Chicago.
- In my past year serving this community
- 21 I've become personally aware of the struggle for
- 22 survival of many of the low income workers living in

- 1 our parish. Many people are without work. But even
- 2 for those who are working, the current electric rates
- 3 are simply unaffordable.
- 4 I know dozens of families within
- 5 blocks of our church who struggle to put food on
- 6 their table. As over 300 families in any given week
- 7 come to Casa Catalina, which is -- provides
- 8 assistance for those in the neighborhood who need
- 9 food, it is easy to understand that increases in
- 10 their electric bills put more of a burden on these
- 11 already struggling families.
- 12 I'm here to speak to you today,
- 13 members of the ICC, because you are in a position to
- 14 prevent another needless burden to the families in my
- 15 community. You have the duty, the obligation, under
- 16 the Public Utilities Act of 2001 to ensure utility
- 17 service is affordable and available to all --
- 18 electric to all. Electric service is not affordable
- 19 to the lowest paid workers in our city right now.
- 20 And any rate increase for ComEd will only get -- only
- 21 put a greater burden on the families in the area I
- 22 serve.

- I ask you, members of the ICC, to do
- 2 your duty today and reject the entire rate increase
- 3 for ComEd.
- 4 The Company's profits may suffer, but
- 5 many people in Chicago are already suffering to
- 6 supply ComEd's hefty profits. And your obligation is
- 7 to all the people of Illinois -- even to the poorest
- 8 among us -- not only to the shareholders of ComEd.
- 9 I hope you see the importance of
- 10 rejecting the rate increase for ComEd. I want to
- 11 appeal to your human side and urge you to recognize
- 12 that many people in our city are suffering and you
- 13 have the power to stop yet more suffering of the
- 14 worst off among us. I ask you to fulfill your duty
- 15 to your fellow citizens of Illinois, your fellow
- 16 human beings and reject any rate increase for ComEd.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you.
- 19 Next up is Gregory Harrison.
- Mr. Harrison, are you here?
- 21 MR. GREGORY HARRISON: I'm here.
- Good morning everyone.

- 1 THE COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
- 2 MR. GREGORY HARRISON: My name is Gregory
- 3 Harrison and I am a lifelong Chicagoan. I'm here
- 4 today to speak on behalf of the Cook County Workers
- 5 Benefit Council, a delegate body that represents the
- 6 needs and interests of service workers and other low
- 7 paid workers in Cook County. We demand that you, the
- 8 ICC, deny any rate increase to ComEd. State law
- 9 clearly defines this is your duty. The Illinois
- 10 General Assembly's Public Utilities Act of 2001
- 11 states that the ICC is the state agency to regulate
- 12 utilities and that, I quote, the goals and objectives
- 13 of such regulation shall be to ensure the rates for
- 14 utility services are affordable and therefore
- 15 preserve the availability of such services to all
- 16 citizens.
- 17 Electricity is not affordable and
- 18 available to all of us in our city right now. CBS
- 19 News reported that over 67,000 households in the
- 20 Chicago area had no electricity as of October 2009.
- 21 Even when we manage to keep the lights on, sky-high
- 22 utility rates for ComEd hit low income working

- 1 families the hardest. As much -- as more and more of
- 2 us are trying to support our families on jobs that
- 3 pay minimum wages or not much more when we have work
- 4 at all. We are forced to cut back on food, short our
- 5 landlords on rent and sometimes go without the
- 6 necessary medications.
- 7 Each rate hike means we have -- we all
- 8 have less money to spend in our communities and local
- 9 businesses have fewer customers. Chicago area has --
- 10 Chicago area businesses are already suffering from
- 11 the effects of high unemployment and more of us
- working for low wages cannot afford to have \$326
- 13 million taken out of our pockets.
- 14 This rate increase request is clearly
- 15 a profit grab. ComEd increased profits by 24 percent
- in 2009 after you, the ICC, approved a \$275 million
- 17 rate increase for ComEd. You know, John W. Rowe, CEO
- of ComEd's parent company, Exelon, well, you know, he
- 19 received compensation of nearly \$6 million. And that
- 20 was in 2010.
- 21 For you, the ICC to grant this rate
- 22 increase would be a clear dereliction of duty. The

- 1 Cook County Workers Benefit Council calls on you to
- 2 fulfill the mandate of the Public Utilities Act of
- 3 2001 to ensure utility service is affordable and
- 4 available to all.
- 5 We demand -- and this is our -- our
- 6 demands are: We demand that the ICC direct ComEd to
- 7 suspend shutoffs and reconnect service without charge
- 8 to households whose income is 300 percent or less
- 9 than the Federal Poverty Line, whose service was
- 10 terminated due to nonpayment of arrears.
- 11 We demand that the ICC direct ComEd to
- work out reasonable payment plans for customers
- 13 unable to pay their bills in full at time of receipt.
- 14 We demand that the ICC direct ComEd to
- 15 cease all future shutoffs for those whose incomes are
- 16 300 percent or lower than the Federal Poverty Level.
- 17 And, again, we demand the State of
- 18 Illinois through the ICC fulfill the mandate of the
- 19 Public Utilities Act of 2001, that utilities will be
- 20 affordable and available to all and reject ComEd's
- 21 \$326 million rate increase request.
- ICC, kindly do your duty.

- 1 Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Harrison.
- 3 Up next is David Ingram.
- 4 Mr. Ingram.
- 5 MR. DAVID INGRAM: I have a petition for you.
- I would like to thank the ladies and
- 7 gentlemen of the ICC for giving me this opportunity
- 8 to speak to you this morning. My name is David
- 9 Ingram, and I'm writing as a concerned citizen and
- 10 esteemed member of Loyola University's faculty to
- 11 protect the proposed rate hike that has been
- 12 requested by ComEd.
- 13 My job over the last 30 years has been
- 14 to teach ethics to college students and to instill in
- them a sense for social justice. I've written eight
- 16 books on this subject, including the ever popular,
- 17 Complete Idiot's Guide to Understanding Ethics, now
- 18 in its second edition. I often illustrate my books
- 19 with egregious examples of social injustice drawn
- 20 from my experience as a citizen of this fair state,
- 21 whose favorite son, Abraham Lincoln, was arguably one
- 22 of the greatest fighters for social justice this

- 1 country has ever seen. So I'm hoping that you will
- 2 do the right thing and avoid dishonorable mention in
- 3 my book.
- 4 There are many ethical reasons to
- 5 oppose this rate hike. ComEd has enjoyed substantial
- 6 increases in profits in recent years. After the ICC
- 7 approved a \$274 million rate increase in 2008, over
- 8 \$100 million less than what ComEd is requesting now
- 9 despite three years of recession, the number of
- 10 Chicago households, by some estimate as many as
- 11 67,000, saw their service disconnected and the number
- of households without service increased dramatically.
- 13 Coming as it does in the midst of one
- 14 of the worst recessions this country has ever
- 15 experienced, ComEd's extravagant request for yet
- 16 another rate increase will impose additional
- 17 hardships on the most vulnerable Illinois residents,
- 18 the unemployed and the underemployed.
- Daily one reads about persons who have
- 20 died from lack of adequate heating or air
- 21 conditioning simply because their gas and electricity
- 22 has been disconnected due to delinquency in their

- 1 bill payments. With a rate increase this scenario
- 2 will be multiplied as poor people make the most
- 3 difficult choice of their lives, to feed and clothe
- 4 their families or provide them with basic
- 5 electricity.
- 6 Members of the ICC, you are entrusted
- 7 with ensuring that all consumers have secure access
- 8 to basic public utilities. That is why they are
- 9 public utilities and not private utilities whose
- 10 functioning is regulated by government for the sake
- of its citizens and not simply for the sake of
- 12 profits.
- 13 ComEd has enjoyed enormous
- 14 profitability in recent years and is not at risk
- 15 financially. By contrast, hundreds of thousands of
- 16 Illinois residents are faced with impending life
- 17 crisis should this rate increase be approved.
- 18 Ethically our first duty should be to
- 19 those who are worst off among us. Do no harm and
- 20 distribute social burdens in a way that does not
- 21 worsen the living conditions of the worst off, are
- 22 moral injunctions that are universally recognized in

- 1 principle even though today they are violated with
- 2 impunity as lobbyists for the rich and powerful seek
- 3 to expand their client's privileges at the expense of
- 4 the common good.
- 5 I, therefore, implore you to follow
- 6 your conscience in this matter by voting against
- 7 ComEd's request for yet another rate increase.
- 8 Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Ingram.
- 10 Next is Carl Narington.
- Mr. Narington, is that you, sir?
- 12 MR. CARL NARINGTON: Good morning.
- 13 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
- 14 MR. CARL NARINGTON: My name is Carl Narington.
- 15 I'm a resident of the West Side of Chicago, lifelong,
- 16 62 years now.
- 17 This increase -- rate increase is very
- detrimental to all of us. You know, because I fell
- 19 down on -- my health failed me a little. And so I
- 20 kind of got behind. So they put me on a program and
- 21 it was, like, I was to pay so much per month. Well,
- once after I fell behind and I couldn't pay it on

- 1 that specific date, they cut me off the program and
- then shot my bill up high; but I couldn't afford
- 3 that. So they put me right back where I started
- 4 from.
- 5 So with this increase, where do we go
- 6 from there? It's going to send me up even higher.
- 7 So I beg that you see our plight as that we do not
- 8 need this increase. Do not need it.
- 9 Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you Mr. Narington.
- 11 Next we have Dwilda Reed.
- 12 Ms. Reed.
- I apologize if you mispronounce any
- 14 your names.
- MS. DWILDA REED: Good morning.
- 16 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
- MS. DWILDA REED: Hello. My name is Dwilda
- 18 Reed. This here is a rate increase -- rate
- 19 increase going -- CEDA helps me to pay my electric
- 20 bill. If your rate go up, I will not be able to pay
- 21 my electric bill. I am having trouble with paying my
- 22 bill. There are many people in my community that

- 1 having problem paying their electric bill. ICC, you
- 2 said the utility shall be affordable, but they're
- 3 not.
- So, please, do not make the rate go
- 5 up.
- 6 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you.
- Next we have Ada Steenken.
- 8 Miss Steenken.
- 9 MS. ADA STEENKEN: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 10 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
- MS. ADA STEENKEN: My name is Ada Steenken. I
- 12 am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I retired from
- 13 Loyola University of Chicago as an executive
- 14 secretary three years ago. I'm here today to speak
- to you as a resident of Illinois about your duty to
- 16 uphold your mandate to the people of Illinois.
- 17 I understand the job of the Illinois
- 18 Commerce Commission is to strike a fair balance
- 19 between the interests of utility companies and
- 20 consumers. So let's talk about fair. According to
- 21 yesterday's edition of Crain's Chicago Business, John
- 22 Rowe, the CEO of ComEd's parent company Exelon,

- 1 earned over \$9 million in compensation last year.
- 2 Meanwhile, over 60,000 low income families here in
- 3 the Chicago area live in third-world conditions
- 4 because ComEd disconnected their electric service
- 5 when they couldn't afford their bills. That is not
- fair in my book.
- 7 According to the May 16 edition of
- 8 Crain's last year Exelon made over \$2.5 billion in
- 9 profit, nearly 14 percent of the revenue they
- 10 received from ratepayers. For most working and
- 11 retired people in Chicago, paying increasing utility
- 12 bills take a greater and greater percentage of our
- 13 income. And each month after paying for utilities on
- 14 top of paying for food, rent, transportation and
- maybe even medical care for thousands of us, there's
- 16 nothing left of the money we worked to earn. This is
- 17 not fair.
- 18 You, the appointed members of the
- 19 Illinois Commerce Commission, have the power to
- 20 decide what is fair when it comes to utility rates in
- 21 Illinois. I call on you to make a determination of
- 22 fairness that is in the interest of the majority of

- 1 those affected, the ratepayers, and that does not
- 2 cause increased suffering for those who are already
- 3 suffering the most, only to line the pockets of those
- 4 who are already doing quite well at our expense.
- 5 ComEd does not need a rate increase.
- 6 ComEd does not deserve a rate increase. Moreover,
- 7 given the billions in profits enjoyed by Exelon,
- 8 there is no justification for a rate increase. There
- 9 is one clear course of action for you, members of the
- 10 ICC, that is in accord with your mandate and the
- 11 Public Utilities Act of 2001, reject the entire ComEd
- 12 rate increase.
- 13 Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you, Miss Steenken.
- Sarah Stevens.
- MS. SARAH STEVENS: Good morning,
- 17 Commissioners.
- 18 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
- 19 MS. SARAH STEVENS: My name is a Sarah Stevens,
- 20 and I'm a Loyola student.
- I am strongly against this rate
- increase of \$326 million because personally I have

- 1 seen how these unaffordable rates have affected the
- 2 community where I go to school in and where I live
- 3 in. Just south of the city near Hyde Park I have
- 4 been to neighborhoods where living conditions are
- 5 unacceptable. I met a mother of six children who
- 6 lives in a small apartment and because medical,
- 7 electrical and rent bills are so high she was unable
- 8 to pay for her gas bill. And so right before this
- 9 winter started they disconnected her gas bill. And
- 10 so they had to go throughout the entire winter
- 11 without any heat. And in an effort to keep
- 12 themselves warm, they bought space heaters to fill up
- 13 their home. But, of course, not only did this
- 14 increase their electric bill but this also posed a
- 15 huge fire hazard for their congested household with
- 16 six kids.
- 17 I mean, do you think that is okay for
- 18 people living in one of the most developed countries
- 19 in the entire world to be living like this? It's
- 20 not. But, you know, this happens every day to so
- 21 many people because unaffordable rate increases are
- 22 constantly being approved.

- 1 And another woman I know, she was
- 2 actually unable to pay her electric bill because --
- 3 to keep her air conditioning going and throughout the
- 4 hot summer months she ended up developing a medical
- 5 condition which required her to live in a
- 6 well-ventilated area and due to these unaffordable
- 7 rates her home become overheated and she eventually
- 8 suffocated and died.
- 9 So, you know, according to you, ICC,
- 10 you are accountable by law to ensure affordable and
- 11 available rates to all the people. And that is your
- 12 duty and it is our right. As a resident of this
- 13 state, rights should not be measured by ability to
- 14 pay.
- By approving this rate increase, you,
- 16 the ICC, are guaranteeing profits for a minority at
- 17 the expense of the vast majority and even
- 18 jeopardizing people's livelihoods. In addition to
- 19 this formal petition for a rate increase to the ICC
- 20 right now, ComEd is requesting \$2.6 billion for a
- 21 Smart Grid that they want us, the consumers, to pay
- 22 for at a time when we can't even pay our current

- 1 bills. So this is a moment where you can stand and
- 2 take a stand against this and stop this and put the
- 3 people above the profits.
- 4 So I'm requesting that you, ICC Board
- 5 Members, deny this rate increase. And it is not
- 6 right for the residents of our state to go without
- 7 basic needs just so that companies like ComEd can
- 8 continuously get more profits.
- 9 So thank you.
- 10 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you, Miss Stevens.
- 11 Any last chance for Filene Crawford?
- 12 And that concludes the public
- 13 participation portion of today's regular open
- 14 meeting, and I'd like to thank each member of the
- 15 public for their time --
- 16 MS. APRIL KNIGHTEN: Excuse me. I have
- 17 something to say.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I'm sorry. The --
- 19 MS. APRIL KNIGHTEN: I submitted my application
- 20 on time.
- 21 CHORUS OF VOICES: Let her speak. Let her
- 22 speak.

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The applications that we got
- 2 prior to 24 hours before the --
- 3 A VOICE: She ain't here. Two people ain't
- 4 here. Let her speak.
- 5 CHORUS OF VOICES: Let her speak.
- 6 MS. APRIL KNIGHTEN: You gave ComEd 11 months,
- 7 you can give me 3 minutes.
- 8 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Sorry. The Commission -- the
- 9 Commission has rules and all eight people --
- 10 MS. APRIL KNIGHTEN: I followed those rules.
- 11 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: -- that put their applications
- 12 in on time --
- 13 MS. APRIL KNIGHTEN: Which I did.
- 14 CHORUS OF VOICES: Let her speak.
- 15 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: That concludes the public
- 16 participation portion of today's regular open meeting
- 17 and I appreciate this -- I know the other
- 18 Commissioners do -- the members of the public who put
- 19 their time and effort associated with their
- 20 participation today, and I appreciate -- as I know
- 21 the others do -- for sharing your thoughts with us.
- We now move into the agenda for

- 1 today's meeting. The first item today is Docket
- No. 10-0467. This is ComEd's proposed general
- 3 increase in electric rates. We have some different
- 4 revisions --
- 5 MS. APRIL KNIGHTEN: Excuse me. Here's my
- 6 application on time. I will be speaking.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 Good morning, everyone. My name
- 9 is April Knighten. On behalf of myself, my family,
- 10 my neighbors and fellow UIC students, I do not
- 11 approve this rate increase for ComEd.
- I have seen the damaging effects of
- 13 poverty. And I have seen how a difference of 5 or
- 14 \$10 has pushed one to the brink of survival. Is this
- what we have come to in the great U.S. of A., where
- our people are subject to live in third world
- 17 conditions?
- Need I remind you that in 21st Century
- 19 Chicago a young family perished, the children reduced
- 20 to having to study by candle light because their
- 21 electricity was cut off? How many more of us must
- 22 die before you realize the rate -- this impact that

- 1 the rate increase will have upon us? Do your duty,
- 2 ICC.
- This \$326 million is \$326 million that
- 4 will be ripped from the grasp of community members
- 5 that will no longer be spent supporting local
- 6 groceries, local florists, local printers and
- 7 providing jobs for people like me. We cannot afford
- 8 to lose these businesses. They are the backbone of
- 9 our community. When these businesses close, they
- 10 remove jobs, destabilizing our communities for fewer
- 11 generations. Do your duty, ICC.
- I plan to teach in Chicago schools. I
- don't want to have to choose between repaying my
- 14 student loans and paying my light bill. I don't want
- to give homework to kids who don't have light to do
- 16 it. I don't want to give work to kids who have
- 17 parents working two jobs just to keep their utilities
- 18 connected. I want -- we want an illuminated populus.
- 19 How is that possible when our
- 20 government allows -- no -- encourages such reckless
- 21 profit mongering at the hands of corporations like
- 22 ComEd? Do your duty, ICC. Keep utilities affordable

- 1 for all of us.
- 2 Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The first item on today's
- 4 agenda for today's meeting is Docket No. 10-0467.
- 5 This is ComEd's proposed general increase in electric
- 6 rates. We have different revisions from various
- 7 Commissioners to consider to the Proposed Order. And
- 8 I will start things off with what I believe are some
- 9 agreed clarifying revisions to the Order that I know
- 10 have been circulated to everyone.
- 11 And I'm proposing a set of revisions
- 12 over which I believe there is full agreement to
- 13 various edits that consist of editorial changes or
- 14 clarifications within the Order but do not change any
- of the Commission's conclusions or require
- 16 alterations in the Company's schedules. Many of
- 17 these were initially offered by Commissioner Elliott
- and have been imbedded through different offices
- including Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz and
- 20 Commissioner Colgan's Office in particular, and,
- obviously, thank them for their work on these
- 22 particular issues.

- 1 Is there any discussion on these
- 2 particular clarifying revisions?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a -- I would move to
- 5 adopt these clarifying revisions.
- Is there a second?
- 7 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Second.
- 8 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 9 All in favor say "aye."
- 10 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 11 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 12 (No response.)
- 13 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 14 these clarifying changes are adopted.
- Next we'll turn to Commissioner Ford.
- 16 Commissioner.
- 17 COMMISSIONER FORD: Thank you, Chairman.
- We here at the Commission are always
- 19 cognizant only about allowing costs to consumers that
- 20 are just and reasonable. Just and reasonable costs
- 21 also encompasses the theory that rates to consumers
- 22 will be allocated based upon causation.

- 1 The edit that I would like to
- 2 introduce is regarding the straight fixed variable
- 3 rate designed for the residential class and its
- 4 increases in the percentages of fixed charges to all
- 5 customers within that class. My edit attempts to
- 6 ensure that low-use customers of that residential
- 7 class are only bearing the burden for fixed charges
- 8 they are responsible for and that they are not an
- 9 independent class that is desperately impacted.
- This edit requires ComEd to produce
- 11 evidence in its next rate case that demonstrates
- 12 whether the impacts on the low subuse -- on the
- 13 low-use subgroups in that residential -- in the
- 14 residential customer class are such that it would be
- 15 appropriate to have a new class cost of service and
- 16 rate design for that identifiable group.
- With that being said, I'd like to --
- 18 I'd kindly like to ask my colleagues for their
- 19 support on this revision.
- 20 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you, Commissioner Ford.
- Is there any discussion?
- (No response.)

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I'd like to thank Commissioner
- 2 Ford and her staff for the work on these revisions.
- 3 I know you worked with other offices and appreciate
- 4 your help with those. And the provisions will have
- 5 my full support.
- Is there -- would you like to move
- 7 those?
- 8 COMMISSIONER FORD: Yes. I'd like to move
- 9 them.
- 10 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 11 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: Second.
- 12 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Second.
- 13 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 14 All in favor say "aye."
- 15 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 17 (No response.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 19 Commissioner Ford's proposed revisions regarding
- 20 ComEd's single fixed variable rate design proposal
- 21 are adopted.
- 22 Turning next to some pension

- 1 contribution revisions from Commissioner Colgan.
- 2 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Thank you, Mr.
- 3 Chairman.
- 4 My proposed revisions are to the
- 5 discretionary pension contributions of 2005 and 2009.
- 6 The purpose of the revisions is to maintain constancy
- 7 in the accounting treatment of these two
- 8 discretionary pension contributions. As you are --
- 9 we all are aware in Docket 05-0597 for the 2005
- 10 discretionary contribution to pensions, the
- 11 Commission allowed ComEd to recover a debt service
- 12 return on the discretionary contribution through the
- 13 operating statement as an expense.
- 14 In contrast, the Proposed Order in the
- 15 current case allows the 2009 discretionary pension
- 16 contribution to be considered a rate base item. My
- 17 proposal results in changing the treatment of the
- 18 2009 contribution from a rate base asset to an
- 19 expense item, which reflects the ratepayer benefit
- 20 estimated by ComEd to make the treatment consistent
- 21 with the treatment allowed by the Commission for the
- 22 2005 pension contribution.

- In addition, the 2005 discretionary
- 2 contribution payment to that payment, my proposed
- 3 revision provides for the cost of the debt for
- 4 service declining as a portion of the underlying debt
- 5 as it has matured -- as it is maturing and with it
- 6 the amount of ComEd's regulatory debt. This revision
- 7 comports with ComEd's own acknowledgment that the
- 8 contribution will not last in perpetuity and that it
- 9 will decrease over time.
- 10 The intent of these changes is to
- 11 maintain constancy in the Commission Orders to the
- 12 extent that it's practicable. In no way in these
- 13 proposed changes would the Commission be saying that
- 14 the discretionary contributions on the part of the
- 15 utility to its retirement plans are inappropriate.
- 16 In the current rate case ComEd has
- 17 chosen to prefund its pension plan and to seek to
- 18 recover not only the pension expense that is normally
- 19 reflected in the test year but also the cost of the
- 20 prefunding of its pension plan. While the additional
- 21 contribution will mitigate pension expenses in future
- 22 periods, the Commission should ensure that the

- 1 prefunding does not produce unreasonable costs that
- 2 will be passed down to ratepayers.
- I'd like to thank all of the
- 4 Commissioners for working with me on this. In fact,
- 5 what I did was take separate proposals that had been
- 6 offered by you, Mr. Chairman, and, Commissioner
- 7 Elliott. I combined them and tweaked them a little
- 8 bit resulting in this compromised position.
- 9 So I thank all of you for your help
- 10 and assistance in putting this together.
- 11 So with that, Chairman and
- 12 Commissioners, I request your support for my
- 13 proposal.
- 14 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there any discussion on
- 15 these proposed revisions?
- 16 (No response.)
- 17 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner Colgan, would you
- 18 like to make a motion to approve them?
- 19 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: I move to adopt
- these changes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 22 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Second.

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded
- 2 to adopt the revisions stated by Commissioner Colgan.
- 3 All in favor say "aye."
- 4 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 8 Commissioner Colgan's proposed revisions to the 2005
- 9 and 2009 pension contribution sections of the Order
- 10 are adopted.
- 11 Next we'll turn to Commissioner
- 12 Elliott, who I believe has a set of proposed
- 13 additions.
- 14 Commissioner.
- 15 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 16 Yes, I circulated -- my office
- 17 circulated several amendments to the Order. I won't
- 18 go into great detail, but they cover rate base
- 19 expenses, rate of return and rate design areas. And
- 20 along with those amendments I circulated rationale in
- 21 support of those, and I would offer those amendments
- 22 and move that they be accepted.

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there any discussion on
- 2 these proposed changes?
- 3 Would you like to make a motion to
- 4 include those?
- 5 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: So moved.
- 6 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And I would second that.
- 7 It's been moved and seconded.
- 8 All in favor say "aye."
- 9 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 11 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: No.
- 12 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: No.
- 13 COMMISSIONER FORD: Nay.
- 14 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I believe the vote is 2 to 3,
- 15 but just take a roll call to confirm.
- 16 Commissioner Colgan?
- 17 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: No.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner Elliott?
- 19 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Aye.
- 20 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner Ford?
- 21 COMMISSIONER FORD: No.
- 22 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz?

- 1 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: No.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And Chairman Scott, I vote
- 3 aye.
- 4 So the vote is -- let the record
- 5 reflect the vote is 2 to 3, and Commissioner
- 6 Elliott's proposed revisions are not adopted.
- 7 Additionally, I have some further
- 8 substantive revisions to propose, which were
- 9 circulated, again. And this concern rate case
- 10 expense and charitable contributions section of the
- 11 Order and would result in the disallowance of a
- 12 number of costs of the rate case including the
- 13 attorneys' fees that were proposed here as well as
- 14 for charitable contributions.
- I find this approach -- I believe the
- 16 revisions would call for the disallowance of recovery
- 17 for ratepayers for all of ComEd's charitable
- 18 contributions which are sought in this as well as the
- 19 attorneys' fees that are claimed for recovery here as
- 20 well. And, again, I circulated the language on the
- 21 proposed revisions and would respectfully request
- 22 your support.

- 1 Is there any discussion?
- 2 (No response.)
- 3 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I would move to adopt these
- 4 revisions.
- Is there a second?
- 6 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Second.
- 7 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 8 All in favor say "aye."
- 9 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 11 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: No.
- 12 COMMISSIONER FORD: No.
- 13 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: No.
- 14 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Again, I believe the vote is 2
- to 3. We'll take a roll call to confirm.
- 16 Commissioner Colgan?
- 17 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: No.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner Elliott?
- 19 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Aye.
- 20 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner Ford?
- 21 COMMISSIONER FORD: No.
- 22 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz?

- 1 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: No.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And I, Chairman Scott, vote
- 3 aye.
- 4 Let the record reflect the vote is 2
- 5 to 3 and the Chairman's proposed revisions on the
- 6 rate case expense and charitable contributions are
- 7 not adopted.
- 8 I believe that's all we have for
- 9 revisions.
- 10 Is there any further discussion on the
- 11 order as revised?
- 12 JUDGE DOLAN: Chairman, we just wanted to give
- 13 you the update. There's 276 comments on e-Docket
- 14 currently. And --
- 15 JUDGE SAINSOT: Consumer Services has received
- 16 a petition with 796 signatures from the AARP and
- 17 those all are opposed to the rate increase.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you.
- 19 Is there any further discussion?
- 20 (No response.)
- 21 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a motion to adopt the
- 22 Order, as revised, today?

- 1 COMMISSIONER FORD: So moved.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 3 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Second.
- 4 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 5 All in favor say "aye."
- 6 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 8 (No response.)
- 9 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 10 the Order, as revised, is adopted.
- 11 And on behalf of the Commission, I'd
- 12 like to thank the ALJs and the parties for their work
- on this. I know it's been a very long 11 months and
- 14 we understand why it takes 11 months to do this. But
- 15 your hard work does not go unnoticed and it's deeply
- 16 appreciated by the Commission. So thank you very
- 17 much.
- 18 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Mr. Chairman, I'd also
- 19 like to thank the Commissioner assistants -- Matt,
- 20 John -- that roped all this together as well as the
- 21 Staff assistants that came forth to assistant us all.
- 22 And I think you did a great job. I appreciate your

- 1 help.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any further comments?
- 3 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: And I'd like to
- 4 thank all the participants in this docket. I think
- 5 it was a really full docket. It was very robust
- 6 debate, very strong positions brought forward from
- 7 many directions. I know that all of us here put our
- 8 best efforts to it and tried to do the very best that
- 9 we could for the outcome that we've come to. And so
- 10 I thank everybody.
- 11 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: I would just like
- 12 to reiterate what my colleges have suggested and
- 13 thank the parties and thank the folks for coming down
- 14 here today.
- This is a tough job to do. We do try
- 16 to balance all of the interests. We spent 11 months
- 17 squeezing water out of the sponge as it was presented
- 18 to us in the original form from the Company. I think
- 19 what you will see from us, in fact, following our
- 20 legal duty to balance the interests of the consumers
- 21 as well as the shareholders and follow our legal
- 22 obligation as the law sets forth. It is a balancing

- 1 act. We can't just say "no." We need to go through
- 2 each piece of evidence that is presented by the
- 3 Company in their rate request. It's our obligation.
- 4 It is our charge when we come into the office as
- 5 Commissioners.
- I would suggest to you if you looked
- 7 at the Order when you see it, you'll see six and a
- 8 half single-spaced pages of outline. Each one of
- 9 those issues has been fought over by many parties
- 10 that have participated in this case. There's been
- 11 testimony, briefing, oral argument. We have looked
- 12 at all of the issues in a very scrutinous manner.
- 13 And so, you know, that is our job. That is what the
- 14 law tells us that we must do and we do understand
- 15 that it is difficult economic situations out there
- 16 for all of us. But, you know, the Commission is the
- 17 entity that must balance the interests, and I believe
- 18 that our Order does strike that balance.
- 19 And I thank my fellow Commissioners
- 20 for working hard on it and also for all the parties
- 21 that presented the various arguments for us to review
- 22 and to look at and to come to the conclusions that we

- 1 did. So I'm glad that we all got to this place and
- 2 worked together.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 COMMISSIONER FORD: I'm not going to do pile
- 5 on. Ditto.
- 6 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Moving on, our second item
- 7 today is the consideration of ComEd's alternative
- 8 regulation proposal filed pursuant to Section 9-244
- 9 of the Public Utilities Act. ALJ Haynes recommends
- 10 entry of an Order denying ComEd's Petition.
- 11 Commissioner Elliott, I believe you
- 12 had some revisions here?
- 13 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Yes. Thank you,
- 14 Mr. Chairman.
- These edits did not change the
- 16 ultimate conclusion to deny the petition, but I think
- 17 we had to strengthen our conclusions that were filed
- 18 in the Order. There were considerable amendments
- 19 offered by Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz' Office, which
- 20 were greatly helpful and I think helped to clarify
- 21 the Order even further.
- 22 And I would turn to Commissioner

- O'Connell-Diaz if she has any comments with regard to
- 2 the language.
- 3 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: Thank you,
- 4 Commissioner Elliott.
- 5 I'd like to thank Judge Haynes for
- 6 presenting us with a very, very complete Order that
- 7 we really didn't have a lot of work to do on. This
- 8 particular request, I think as we went through -- as
- 9 we are charged to do under the Public Utilities Act
- 10 as we went through this request, we found it wanting
- in many aspects. That is not to say that the
- 12 Commission would not look at a proposal like this in
- another fashion; but in this proceeding based on the
- 14 evidence in this record, we could not grant the
- 15 relief that's requested.
- 16 The language that I have suggested
- 17 there was some intimation that some part of the
- 18 company would not go through with projects without
- 19 the achievement of the relief that's requested in
- 20 this proceeding. And, in fact, I would suggest and
- 21 the language suggests that that would be violative of
- 22 the Public Utilities Act if there was a threat to the

- 1 reliability of our system.
- 2 So I think that thought needs to be
- 3 put to the side and we need to ensure that our
- 4 customers, our ratepayers, get that reliable service
- 5 absent this type of program that they had sought for
- 6 us to approve.
- 7 So that is basically what my language
- 8 provides for and I would thank Judge Haynes again and
- 9 for all the parties in participation of this case.
- 10 Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Commissioner Elliott, would
- 12 you like to --
- 13 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: No further discussion.
- 14 Mr. Chairman, I move the amendments to
- 15 the Order.
- 16 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 17 COMMISSIONER FORD: Second.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and second.
- 19 All in favor say "aye."
- 20 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 21 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 22 (No response.)

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 2 the revisions offered by Commissioner Elliott and
- 3 Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz are adopted.
- 4 Now is there a motion to enter the
- 5 Order, as revised?
- 6 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: So moved.
- 7 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 8 COMMISSIONER FORD: Second.
- 9 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 10 (No response.)
- 11 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 12 the Order, as revised, is adopted and ComEd's
- 13 Alternative Regulation Petition is denied.
- 14 Our third item today is Docket
- No. 10-0568. This is Ameren's Petition for approval
- 16 of its electric and gas energy efficiency plans and
- 17 this item has been on rehearing for the past few
- 18 months. ALJ Yoder recommends that the Commission
- 19 enter an Order on Rehearing adopting Staff's position
- 20 with respect to the spending limits, making
- 21 clarifying changes with respect to net-to-gross
- 22 ratios and the statewide technical reference manual

- and directing a compliance filing from DCEO.
- Is there any discussion?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I just wanted to say on this
- 5 particular level I'm sensitive to what ELPC and the
- 6 AG are seeking to accomplish through a broader
- 7 reading of the gas utility spending limits. I don't
- 8 believe that position is a correct reading of Section
- 9 8-104 of the Public Utilities Act here. Having
- 10 served in the legislature, I know that these
- 11 legislative colloquies, such as between
- 12 Representative Reitz and Flider in this case are not
- 13 happenstance and there was clearly constructive
- 14 intent associated with this particular exchange.
- As a result I'll be voting for the
- 16 entry of this Order as decided by ALJ Yoder as well
- 17 as the other two Orders up for consideration today
- 18 which decide in favor of Staff's construction of
- 19 Section 8-104 spending limit.
- 20 I would move to enter the Order on
- 21 rehearing.
- 22 Is there a second?

- 1 COMMISSIONER FORD: Second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 3 All in favor say "aye."
- 4 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 8 the Order on Rehearing is entered.
- 9 Our fourth item today is Docket
- 10 No. 10-0562. This is Nicor's application for
- 11 approval of its Energy Efficiency Program under 8-104
- of the Public Utilities Acc. ALJ Kimbrel recommends
- entry of an Order approving the Company's efficiency
- 14 plan and deciding various contested issues within the
- 15 proceeding.
- Is there any discussion?
- 17 (No response.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a motion to enter the
- 19 Order?
- 20 COMMISSIONER FORD: So moved.
- 21 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 22 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Second.

- 1 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 2 All in favor say "aye."
- 3 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 5 (No response.)
- 6 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 7 the Order is entered.
- 8 The fifth item today is Docket
- 9 No. 10-0564. This is Peoples and North Shore Gas's
- 10 Programs under 8-104 of the Public Utilities Act.
- 11 ALJ Hilliard recommends entry of an Order approving
- 12 the Company's efficiency plan and deciding on various
- 13 contested issues within the proceeding.
- 14 Is there any discussion?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a motion to enter the
- 17 Order?
- 18 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: So moved.
- 19 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 20 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Second.
- 21 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 22 All in favor say "aye."

- 1 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 5 the Order is entered.
- 6 Items 6 and 7 can be taken together.
- 7 These items are Jacqueline Coleman and Gail Wrotten,
- 8 complaints as to billing and/or charges against
- 9 ComEd. In each case the parties apparently resolved
- 10 their differences and brought a Joint Motion to
- 11 Dismiss, which ALJ Gilbert recommends that we grant.
- 12 Is there any discussion?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a motion to grant the
- Joint Motions to Dismiss?
- 16 COMMISSIONER FORD: So moved.
- 17 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?
- 18 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Second.
- 19 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 20 All in favor say "aye."
- 21 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 22 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?

- 1 (No response.)
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 3 the Joint Motions to Dismiss are granted.
- 4 We will use this 5 to nothing vote for
- 5 the remainder of the regular open meeting agenda
- 6 unless otherwise noted.
- 7 Item 8 is Docket No. 11-0145. This is
- 8 Blue Star's complaint against ComEd and Ameren
- 9 alleging a failure to file a statutorily required
- 10 tariff for the purchase of uncollectible accounts
- 11 from alternative retail electric suppliers. The
- remaining parties in this case have apparently
- 13 resolved their issues and have filed a Joint Request
- 14 for Termination in this docket, which ALJ Gilbert
- 15 recommends that we grant.
- Is there any discussion?
- 17 (No response.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any objections?
- 19 (No response.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Hearing none, the docket is
- 21 dismissed.
- Items 9 through 17 can be taken

- 1 together. These items each involve citation
- 2 proceedings against telecommunications providers for
- 3 failure to file their 2009 Annual Reports with the
- 4 Commission. In each case ALJ Baker recommends that
- 5 the Commission enter an Order canceling and revoking
- 6 the Respondent's Certificate to provide
- 7 telecommunication service due to a failure to file a
- 8 statutorily required report.
- 9 Is there any discussion?
- 10 (No response.)
- 11 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any objections?
- 12 (No response.)
- 13 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Hearing none, the Orders are
- 14 entered and the Certificates are canceled and
- 15 revoked.
- 16 Items 18 and 19 can be taken together.
- 17 These are petitions -- Stephenson County to modify
- its 9-1-1 system by changing its backup public safety
- 19 answering point to the Ogle County Sheriffs Office
- 20 PSAP and the Ogle County 9-1-1 system and by McHenry
- 21 County to modify its 9-1-1 system by changing its
- 22 backup PSAP to the Lake in the Hills PSAP. In each

- 1 case ALJ Benn recommends that the Commission enter an
- 2 Order approving the petition and allowing the change.
- 3 Is there any discussion?
- 4 (No response.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any objections?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Hearing none, the Orders are
- 8 entered.
- 9 Item 20 is Docket No. 11-0316. This
- 10 is the Illinois Telecommunications Access
- 11 Corporation's Petition for approval of its proposed
- 12 access line charges under Title 83 Part 755.500 of
- 13 the Administrative Code. ALJ Hilliard recommends
- 14 that the Commission enter an Order granting the
- 15 petition.
- Is there any discussion?
- 17 (No response.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any objection?
- 19 (No response.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Hearing none, the Order is
- 21 entered.
- 22 Item 21 is Docket No. 10-0281. This

- 1 item concerns proposed amendments to Title 83 Part
- 2 300 of the Administrative Code regarding guidelines
- 3 for right of way acquisitions. ALJ Sainsot
- 4 recommends that the Commission enter an Order
- 5 adopting the proposed amendments with an effective
- 6 date of June 1st, 2011.
- 7 Is there any discussion?
- 8 (No response.)
- 9 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any objections?
- 10 (No response.)
- 11 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Hearing none, the Order is
- 12 entered and the proposed amendments to Title 83 Part
- 13 300 are adopted.
- 14 I'm going to skip Item 22 for just a
- moment and come back to that one at the end.
- 16 Item 23 is Commission
- 17 reconsideration of the results of the recent ComEd
- 18 and Ameren Renewable Energy Credit Procurement
- 19 Events.
- 20 Is there any discussion regarding the
- 21 REC Procurement?
- I move to approve -- I'm sorry.

- 1 Commissioner Elliott.
- 2 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I
- 3 just -- I know that we're limited in what we can say
- 4 with regard to these matters. And I think I'd be
- 5 safely in the limits that we -- strict limits that
- 6 we've been imposed through legislation on the
- 7 Commission. But I, for one, am pleased to see the
- 8 Illinois preferences rolling off and the costs of
- 9 these renewable energy credits significantly going
- 10 down as the competitive aspects of a market for these
- 11 things are fully asserted. And I am just pleased as
- 12 punch to see that happening.
- 13 So I just wanted to make that
- 14 comment --
- 15 COMMISSIONER FORD: And I agree with that
- 16 comment, Commissioner Elliott.
- 17 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: I third that.
- 18 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Fourth.
- 19 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Is there any discussion
- 20 regarding the REC Procurement?
- 21 (No response.)
- 22 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I would vote to approve the

- 1 REC Procurement results.
- 2 Is there a second?
- 3 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Second.
- 4 COMMISSIONER FORD: Second.
- 5 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 6 All in favor say "aye."
- 7 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 8 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any opposed?
- 9 (No response.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing and
- 11 the REC Procurement results are approved.
- 12 Item 22, going back to it, is a
- 13 resolution expressing our support and thanks for
- 14 Deborah Lewis-Johnson for her many years of great
- 15 service working here at the Commission.
- 16 Deborah, would you like to come
- 17 forward? I know you've got family members here, too.
- 18 Are they over at the party already?
- 19 MS. DEBORAH LEWIS-JOHNSON: Okay. I won't be
- 20 shy. I shouldn't be shy. I worked in the Consumer
- 21 Service Division.
- 22 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: That's right. Let me read

- 1 this to you. We have a resolution in the form of a
- 2 plaque and then another paper copy here for you.
- 3 By the Commission: Resolution,
- 4 whereas Deborah Lewis-Johnson on June 4th, 1979,
- 5 began her career at the Illinois Commerce Commission
- 6 Consumer Services Division and continued to serve for
- 7 32 years. And whereas throughout Deborah
- 8 Lewis-Johnson's years with the Commission she has
- 9 been an invaluable member of the CSD, providing
- 10 leadership, experience, an example of professionalism
- 11 for others to emulate. Deborah has remained on
- 12 course throughout her years of service, undeterred
- and true to her objective to represent the
- 14 Commission.
- 15 And whereas Deborah has served the
- 16 utility customers of Illinois well, and as in the
- 17 course of doing so earned the respect and friendship
- of her colleagues at the ICC, utility representatives
- 19 and consumer advocates, based on her skill, diligence
- and good-natured professional courtesy.
- 21 And whereas it was well known in the
- 22 Consumer Services Division that Deborah's positive

- 1 attitude, welcoming smile and patience have been
- 2 examples to all.
- Now, therefore, be it resolved that
- 4 the Illinois Commerce Commission hereby acknowledges
- 5 Deborah Lewis-Johnson's 32 years of public service
- 6 during employment with the Illinois Commerce
- 7 Commission and expresses its deep appreciation for
- 8 her public service and dedication on the occasion of
- 9 your retirement.
- 10 Congratulations and thank you.
- 11 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: I just have one
- 12 question. You must have started here when you were
- 13 2.
- 14 MS. DEBORAH LEWIS-JOHNSON: Thank you so
- 15 kindly.
- 16 I just want to say this real briefly
- 17 because I know this has been a long -- kind of a long
- 18 hearing. But it's so befitting because when I
- 19 started in '79 Commonwealth Edison was before us
- 20 requesting a rate increase and it was really a lot
- 21 different.
- 22 But I just -- I've had friends, family

- 1 members ask me, How did you do that for 32 years,
- listen to customers complain? Are you crazy? And I
- 3 would say, No, I pray every morning. And it's God.
- 4 When I walk into work, I'm like, God, give me
- 5 patience, give me wisdom, knowledge and understanding
- of how to deal with our citizens in the state of
- 7 Illinois as well as the utility company reps as well
- 8 as coworkers. Lord, just help me, and he has done
- 9 that for 32 years. So I got to give God the glory
- 10 and praise and honor.
- 11 And I want to thank the dear Chairman,
- 12 welcome.
- 13 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you.
- 14 MS. DEBORAH LEWIS-JOHNSON: And my lovely
- friend, Erin O'Connell-Diaz. You're about the only
- one here now that started around -- yeah, decades.
- 17 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: Okay. I was 1.
- 18 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: She still has to vote on the
- 19 resolution.
- 20 MS. DEBORAH LEWIS-JOHNSON: And I just want to
- 21 say this quickly about Commissioner Erin O'Connell
- 22 and my old friend, Ed Hurley -- Chairman Ed Hurley.

- 1 They were both a blessing to me throughout the years.
- 2 I remember going into their room -- their office and
- 3 sitting down, talking sometimes and they'd see me on
- 4 the elevator and they'd ask me, How are you doing up
- 5 there with the consumers? How's it going? And that
- 6 meant so much to me because I was probably about up
- 7 to here on that day. And I really appreciate -- and
- 8 sitting in your office, I love those horn lamps. And
- 9 I know those are precious so I won't ask you for
- 10 those. You all have been just a real great -- great
- 11 role model, I'll say it like that.
- 12 And to the Chairman and Commissioners,
- 13 I want to thank you all. God has blessed me down to
- the years to work with professional, very
- 15 hardworking, caring people. And I appreciate that.
- 16 That made my job a lot easier, just not a lot of
- 17 drama. So I appreciate -- God for this.
- 18 32 years working for the citizens of
- 19 Illinois have been really, really interesting. I
- 20 will miss my coworkers and I will also miss -- there
- 21 are utility Staff here that I have been working with
- 22 for decades. Commonwealth Edison -- I see Ramona.

- 1 Then there's Tom Moretti. They've just been around.
- 2 And, you know, our persona is to be -- you know, we
- 3 have to balance rates and all of that. But over the
- 4 years when you're speaking and working with utility
- 5 staff, you do tend to ask each other, Well, how are
- 6 your children? Did they graduate? What are they
- 7 doing? So you do begin to, you know, develop some
- 8 type of rapport. And they have been -- but then they
- 9 know that after I ask, like, How are your children?
- 10 I'm going to be enforcing the ICC laws. So they know
- 11 that, and we just do what we have to do.
- 12 But I appreciate them down through the
- 13 years as well as just friends. I see people from --
- 14 I saw AG Office, a young lady for decades we've been
- 15 crossing each other's paths. And there are others.
- 16 So all of my friends here, I appreciate -- oh,
- 17 attorney -- the Auditor General right across from us.
- 18 I see Brenda and Denise. Thank you such for stopping
- 19 by. Just all of you all -- I know I'm missing
- 20 someone but we're going to party after this so I'm
- 21 going to shorten this up. I just appreciate God for
- 22 everybody here.

- 1 Thank you for your time and I just
- 2 appreciate you -- oh, Consumer Service, I love you
- 3 all. Stay encouraged. Okay. I don't know what
- 4 happened to the 32 years, but stay encouraged. Do
- 5 the work -- the hard work -- the balance. Consumers
- 6 let them know what their rights and responsibilities
- 7 are as well as the company, keep them in check, too.
- 8 My director, appreciate you, and my
- 9 Springfield coworkers as well. They are holding down
- 10 the fort. They're taking the calls so this can
- 11 happen. So I appreciate them. And thanks again
- 12 Chairman and Commissioners for allowing this to
- 13 happen during our work- -- our busy workday. And you
- 14 all have been a blessing. Keep working hard,
- 15 establish that balance, and God bless you all.
- 16 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Thank you.
- 17 Pretty easy to see how she did so well
- 18 in Consumer Services.
- I'm going to move to adopt the
- 20 resolution that I just read a moment ago.
- Is there a second?
- 22 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: Second.

- 1 ACTING COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded.
- 3 All in favor say "aye."
- 4 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The vote is 5 to nothing. The
- 6 resolution is adopted.
- 7 And, again, Deborah, thanks so much.
- 8 There's a reception in Deborah's honor
- 9 in Room N-808 after the conclusion, which will be in
- 10 just a couple of seconds.
- MS. DEBORAH LEWIS-JOHNSON: Oh, oh. One last
- 12 thing. I want to acknowledge my husband, supportive.
- 13 He has heard a lot of the stories -- he has heard a
- 14 lot of the stories. So I thank you for your -- and
- my two wonderful daughters Chloe, with my new
- 16 grandbaby girl and Brandy with my new grandbaby
- 17 girl -- they have been where through infancy,
- 18 toddler, these two girls. They're very familiar with
- 19 the Commission.
- 20 And I'm going to tell you this -- and
- 21 I'm really leaving -- if it wasn't for you two, I
- don't think I would have been here 32 years. So

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1
     thank you.
2
           CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Judge Wallace, are there any
     other matters to come before the Commission today?
3
           JUDGE WALLACE: No, I don't think we can top
4
5
     that anyway.
6
          CHAIRMAN SCOTT: You're right. Thank you, sir.
                    Hearing none, this meeting stands
7
8
     adjourned.
9
                                     (Meeting adjourned.)
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