



1 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Then under the Open  
2 Meetings Act, I call the September 15, 2022,  
3 Regular Open Meeting to order. Commissioners  
4 Kimbrel, Carrigan and McCabe are with me in  
5 Springfield rather.

6 We have a quorum.

7 We have two requests to speak today. Going  
8 in the order we received the requests, we will hear  
9 from the following people: First, Michele McGee  
10 and second, Rodger Cooley.

11 Under 2 Illinois Administrative Code,  
12 Section 1700.10, any person desiring to address the  
13 Commission shall be allowed up to three minutes.  
14 Only one person may speak on behalf of any  
15 organization. Please note that the Commission will  
16 not respond directly to any comments.

17 So first we are going to hear from Michele  
18 McGee. Ms. McGee, are you on?

19 (No response.)

20 MADAM CLERK: I don't see either one of  
21 them on.

22 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: I will do a second

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1 call for Ms. Michele McGee.

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: All right. Moving  
4 onto our second public speaker, Rodger Cooley.  
5 Rodger Cooley, are you there?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: A final call for Ms.  
8 McGee or Rodger Cooley?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Okay. Hearing none,  
11 all right. Then we are moving on from our public  
12 comment period moving onto our agenda.

13 We are moving onto our public -- all  
14 righty. One second.

15 Okay. We have now -- we have noticed --  
16 our clerk just indicated that the public speakers  
17 are showing up on our screen. So I was going to  
18 call for public comment period.

19 I will just note that under 2  
20 Administrative Code, Section 1700.10, any person  
21 desiring to address the Commission shall be allowed  
22 up to three minutes. Only one person may speak on

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1    behalf of the organization and note that the  
2    Commission will not respond.

3            So Ms. Michele McGee, are you on? Can you  
4    please check if you are muted? If you are on, we  
5    can't hear you. Ms. McGee?

6            Ms. McGEE: Yes, I'm here.

7            CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Okay. Ms. McGee,  
8    I'm going to start the timer for three minutes, but  
9    before that, if you can state and spell your name  
10   for the record.

11           MS. McGEE: Yes. Good afternoon. My name  
12   is Michele, spelled with one L. That's  
13   M-I-C-H-E-L-E. Last name McGee, M-C-G-E-E.

14           CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Okay. You may  
15   proceed. I've started the clock. Thank you.

16           MS. McGEE: Yes. Thank you for this  
17   opportunity to share my feelings regarding the  
18   Green Era - Urban Growers Collective which is  
19   coming to 650 or is at 650 West 83rd Street in the  
20   Auburn Gresham neighborhood. I am a long-time  
21   resident of the City of Chicago. I am a current  
22   resident, over 18 years, in the West Chatham

1 neighborhood which is a block, a skip, jump and  
2 away from where the 83rd Street campus is.

3 I'm excited about this and have been since  
4 it was brought to my attention in 2015. I'm  
5 excited, and I will give you the top seven reasons.

6 No. 1, this emerging technology that they  
7 are using with the anaerobic digester is something  
8 my community hardly ever, if ever, sees. I'm  
9 excited about the opportunity for the jobs and the  
10 development it brings and a reinvestment in the  
11 community in that particular area, and we will go  
12 from three to four blocks in either direction. It  
13 has been blighted, it has been forgotten, and it  
14 has been neglected.

15 Since Urban Growers have come, there has  
16 been areas of beautification, we've had murals on  
17 the viaduct. There is also interest in efforts  
18 right now underway to revitalize Mahalia Jackson  
19 Park. It is becoming a light in a very desolate  
20 neighborhood.

21 I'm also very proud of the youth  
22 engagement. They have used, and continue to use,

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1 students from Simeon Career Academy to develop the  
2 property and bring programs and teacher events to  
3 the property.

4 Oftentimes our youth are forgotten. Young  
5 people feel neglected and left out, and they have,  
6 they being Urban Growers Collective, have made an  
7 amazing attempt to engage and continue to engage  
8 the youth and the community.

9 And also I'm looking forward to the health  
10 and safety aspects to the property whereas teaching  
11 people to be sustainable micro urban farmers;  
12 teaching people how to use, you know, the herbs and  
13 seeds and things they have to not be food insecure  
14 and to take a little piece of land to make a  
15 vibrant garden. They also have lots of tools,  
16 educational pieces and things like that and are  
17 very easy to understand and adapt to.

18 And, like I said, most importantly, the  
19 vitalization of that property. It was a city pound  
20 for many, many decades. It had been neglected,  
21 and, you know, they are bringing this project to  
22 our community. The outreach to the community, the

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1 asset to the community is phenomenal. I have  
2 never, in all of my almost 54 years on this planet,  
3 have seen a program that is doing what they are  
4 doing. Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Thank you. That's  
6 time. Thank you, Ms. McGee.

7 I will just note that if anyone ever wants  
8 to submit written comments, too, that's always a  
9 possibility. If there is additional comments, you  
10 can do that by contacting -- I don't know who,  
11 someone is -- got it. Okay.

12 Next, second speaker is Rodger Cooley.  
13 Mr. Cooley, you have three minutes. If you can  
14 state and spell your name, and then I will start  
15 the clock.

16 MR. COOLEY: Yeah, my name is Rodger  
17 Cooley, R-O-D-G-E-R, C-O-O-L-E-Y. I'm the  
18 executive director of the Chicago Food Policy  
19 Action Council speaking in support of Green Era's  
20 permit to interconnect with People's Gas.

21 We are very excited for this project, and  
22 it's been years in coming. For the urban

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1 agriculture and food systems community in Chicago,  
2 needing access to healthy, clean, affordable  
3 compost which provides the fertility necessary for  
4 communities to help feed themselves while taking  
5 control over the local food systems, and the Green  
6 Era project is going to be a national model and  
7 regional model for this program. I am very excited  
8 for it to be based on the south side of Chicago to  
9 be a big, a strong anchor for the Auburn Gresham  
10 community.

11 We believe this project will be incredibly  
12 beneficial by recycling food waste to produce  
13 renewable energy as well as providing the  
14 good-paying green jobs and providing the fertility  
15 that is needed for communities to become more  
16 self-sufficient, self-directed around their own  
17 food and nutrition needs.

18 This project is also going to provide youth  
19 and educational opportunities, STEM programs on  
20 the, at the urban agriculture site that is there,  
21 working in collaboration with local high schools.  
22 There will be the greenhouse, farm plots, learning



1 center, technology center.

2 I am also seeing this as a strong anchor  
3 for the state's Climate and Equitable Jobs Act,  
4 CEJA. This is a compliment, an acceleration of the  
5 priorities that the state has set through  
6 legislature and the Governor's signature.

7 We believe this also anchors the city's  
8 climate action goals as well as goals that have  
9 been set through the city's food equity council.

10 We are incredibly excited for this project,  
11 especially where it is located within the city, and  
12 it is an opportunity for broad-scale transformation  
13 and to be a national model.

14 So thank you for your time and stop my  
15 comments there.

16 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Great. Thank you.

17 All right. So that concludes our public  
18 comment period. And we finished our Transportation  
19 agenda, so I'm going to move directly onto our  
20 Public Utilities agenda.

21 There are edits to the August 17, 2022  
22 Regular Open Meeting minutes. Are there any

1 objections to approving the minutes as edited?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
4 minutes are approved.

5 Under our Electric Utility items, Item E-1  
6 concerns docket 21-0122 which is a complaint  
7 against XOOM Energy alleging that they switched the  
8 complainant's energy supply from ComEd to XOOM  
9 Energy in 2016 without first obtaining consent.  
10 The Order denies the complaint finding that the  
11 complainant failed to prove that service was  
12 initiated without his consent and authorization.

13 Are there any objections to approving the  
14 Order?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
17 Order is approved.

18 Item E-2 concerns a complaint against ComEd  
19 regarding overbilling in Chicago. The parties have  
20 filed a joint motion to dismiss the matter with  
21 prejudice stipulating that all matters in dispute  
22 have been resolved.

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1 motion to dismiss?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
4 motion is granted.

5 Item E-5 concerns docket 21-0810 which is  
6 an investigation into ComEd's tariff amendments.  
7 The Order dismisses the investigation finding that  
8 there are no contested issues, and no further  
9 review of the tariff amendments is necessary.

10 Are there any objections to approving the  
11 Order?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
14 Order is approved.

15 Items E-6 through E-9 concern applications  
16 for a Certificate of Service Authority to operator  
17 -- operate as an installer of distributed  
18 generation facilities in Illinois. The Orders  
19 grant the certificates finding that the applicants  
20 meet the requirements.

21 Are there any objections to considering  
22 these items together and approving the Orders?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
3 Orders are approved.

4 Items E-10 through E-16 concern proceedings  
5 initiated by the Commission against Respondent for  
6 failure to timely file required compliance reports.  
7 Respondents failed to appear and show cause why the  
8 Commission should not revoke their licenses or take  
9 away -- or take other action. Commission staff  
10 recommends that Respondents' certificates of  
11 service authority to operate as an agent, broker  
12 and consultant in Illinois be revoked. The Orders  
13 revoke their certificates.

14 Are there any objections to considering  
15 these items together and approving the Orders?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
18 Orders are approved.

19 Item E-17 concerns a joint motion for  
20 approval to release one of Ameren's residential  
21 customers to be provided electric service by  
22 Tri-County Electric. There are no disputes between

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1 the parties as to the customer release. The Order  
2 grants the petition finding it be in the public  
3 interest.

4 Are there any objections to approving the  
5 Order?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
8 Order is approved.

9 Items E-18 through E-23 concerns  
10 applications for authority to install energy  
11 efficiency measures. The Orders grant the  
12 certificates finding that applicants meet the  
13 requirements.

14 Are there any objections to considering  
15 these items together and approving the Orders?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
18 orders are approved.

19 Moving onto our Gas Utility items, Item G-1  
20 concerns GRM 22-271 which is Illinois Gas' filing  
21 of a general rate increase. The Commission staff  
22 recommends suspending the rate filing to hold a

1 hearing concerning the proprietary, excuse me, the  
2 propriety of the general rate increase. The Order  
3 suspends the rate increase and revisions to other  
4 terms and conditions of service.

5 Are there any objections to approving the  
6 order?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
9 order is approved.

10 Under Telecommunication, Item T-1 concerns  
11 request for proprietary treatment of information in  
12 the petitioner's reports. The Order grants the  
13 protection finding that the information is highly  
14 proprietary and confidential.

15 Are there any objections to approving the  
16 Order?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
19 Order is approved.

20 Items T-2 and T-3 concern applications for  
21 Certificates of Authority to operate as the  
22 facilities based carriers of telecommunication

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1 services or as resellers of telecommunication  
2 services. The Orders grant the certificates  
3 finding that the applicants meet the requirements  
4 and will comply with all current and future  
5 Illinois, Federal and Commission rules and  
6 regulations.

7 Are there any objections to considering  
8 these items together and approving the orders?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
11 Orders are approved.

12 Under our Water and Sewer items, Item W-1  
13 concerns Illinois-American Water's application for  
14 a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity  
15 to provide water and wastewater service to the  
16 areas in Douglas County, Illinois and for the  
17 approval of a purchase of the City of Villa Grove's  
18 water system assets. The Order approves the  
19 certificate finding that the applicant meets the  
20 requirements. The Order also approves the purchase  
21 agreement and finds the acquisition necessary to  
22 provide adequate, reliable and efficient service to



1 Villa Grove's customers.

2 Are there any objections to approving the  
3 Order?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
6 Order is approved.

7 Under our Miscellaneous items, Item M-1  
8 concerns docket 19-0673 which is Dakota Access and  
9 Energy Transfer's Joint Petition to install  
10 additional pumping stations and pumping facilities  
11 on existing certificated pipelines. The Commission  
12 entered a final order in this proceeding on October  
13 14 of 2020. The Appellate Court vacated the  
14 Commission's Order and remanded the case to the  
15 Commission for a new decision. The Order on remand  
16 before us today includes sections included in the  
17 original Order as well as two new sections, Section  
18 3 and 5, which, in accordance with the Appellate  
19 Court's opinion, addresses the issues on remand.

20 First, the Order on remand finds that based  
21 on the record when reviewed and judged in  
22 accordance with the Appellate Court opinion, joint

1 petitioners demonstrated the need for, and provided  
2 the evidence and details necessary, to establish  
3 that the proposed project is reasonable and  
4 necessary. The record also demonstrates that the  
5 proposed project will be beneficial for and  
6 convenience the public in accordance with Section  
7 8-503 of the Act.

8 And second, the Order finds that many of  
9 the problems dealt with in Pennsylvania occurred  
10 during the construction of a new pipeline.

11 The Order concludes that the documents  
12 contained in remand Ex. 1 do not alter the  
13 conclusion that the joint petition should be  
14 granted under Section 8-503 of the Act.

15 Are there any objections to approving the  
16 Order on remand?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
19 Order is approved.

20 Under Other Business, Item 0-1 concerns  
21 approval of batches, contracts and confirmations  
22 under the Illinois Adjustable Block Program.

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1           Are there any objections to approving the  
2 program administrator's submissions?

3                           (No response.)

4           CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
5 submissions are approved.

6           Item 0-2 concerns September 2022  
7 solicitation of bids to sell standard energy  
8 projects to Ameren.

9           Are there any objections to approving the  
10 procurement administrator's recommendations on  
11 selection of winning bids?

12                           (No response.)

13           CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the  
14 recommendations are approved.

15           This concludes our agenda. Judge Teague  
16 Kingsley, do we have other matters to come before  
17 the Commission today?

18           JUDGE TEAGUE KINGSLEY: No, Madam Chairman.

19           CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Do the commissioners  
20 have other business to discuss?

21           COMMISSIONER CARRIGAN: Chairman, if I can  
22 have one item?

1 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Sure.

2 COMMISSIONER CARRIGAN: One item but an  
3 important item. I announced a few weeks ago that a  
4 legal and policy advisor, Sarah Cronin, had left  
5 for an employment opportunity in the private  
6 sector. I also announced that Noah Berman had come  
7 to work for my office. Noah has hit the ground  
8 running and is doing just an excellent job.

9 But today is Ashley Bukowski's last day, in  
10 fact just last few hours. Ashley applied for, and  
11 accepted, a position within the ICC in the Office  
12 of OGC. So Ashley's service of over two, two and a  
13 half years has been invaluable. She is totally  
14 dedicated, well read, a very gifted individual.  
15 She will make a fine OGC attorney. I have full  
16 confidence in that. So I wish her well and thank  
17 her for her years of service to my staff. Thank  
18 you.

19 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Thank you, Ashley.  
20 We will miss you on our side of the office but glad  
21 to keep you in the building for sure.

22 Is there any other comments because I do

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1 have one?

2 MADAM CLERK: Chairman, my staff has just  
3 asked on E-2 that it should have been without  
4 permission and it was granted with permission, I  
5 believe.

6 E-2 there is a question of whether it  
7 should be without permission.

8 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Without prejudice?

9 MADAM CLERK: I am sorry, without  
10 prejudice. The memo indicates without.

11 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: I don't have the  
12 memo in front of me.

13 MADAM CLERK: Perhaps Judge Teague Kingsley  
14 can help.

15 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Judge Teague  
16 Kingsley, can I ask a question? So we are trying  
17 to make sure that our record is accurate and clear.  
18 Going to --

19 JUDGE TEAGUE KINGSLEY: Sure.

20 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: -- E-2?

21 JUDGE TEAGUE KINGSLEY: Yes.

22 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: So I stated that the

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1 parties filed a joint motion to dismiss the matter  
2 with prejudice. Do you know if it is with or  
3 without prejudice?

4 JUDGE TEAGUE KINGSLEY: Oh, I'm not -- I  
5 don't know that offhand. I am sorry. I can check.

6 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Our record says with  
7 prejudice.

8 MADAM CLERK: Okay. The memo indicates  
9 without. So I'm not quite sure what the  
10 discrepancy might be. I can check if you want me  
11 to check with my staff.

12 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: We will need to  
13 check with the ALJ.

14 While we do that, I know Judge Teague  
15 Kingsley is double-checking. It is my  
16 understanding it is with prejudice, but I will let  
17 Judge Teague Kingsley confirm that, and if at the  
18 same time I was going to make an announcement on  
19 Lifeline Awareness Week, and then I will check back  
20 in with her.

21 So I just, just going back as a, to the  
22 final comment portion of the agenda, September 12th

1 through 16th is Lifeline Awareness Week. The FCC's  
2 Lifeline program helps low income customers stay  
3 connected to family, jobs, emergency and health  
4 care services. Under the federal Lifeline program,  
5 a low income consumer who participates in certain  
6 public assistance and veterans pension program or  
7 who may qualify based on income can receive a  
8 discount of up to \$9.25 per month off their monthly  
9 broad band qualifying service bill and up to \$5.25  
10 off their voice qualifying service bill.

11 Information on the program eligibility and rules  
12 are available at [www.lifelinesupport.org](http://www.lifelinesupport.org). It is  
13 important to note that Lifeline participants must  
14 recertify every year.

15 A complementary program, the Affordable  
16 Connectivity Program, is also available to  
17 qualifying households. The ACP provides a monthly  
18 discount on broad band service up to \$30 per  
19 eligible household. There is also a subsidy to  
20 permit customers to purchase a computer or tablet  
21 at a discount. For more information on the ACP,  
22 visit [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp). To learn more to see if you

1 qualify, visit the UTAC web site at [www.linked --](http://www.linkupillinois.org)  
2 [linkupillinois, rather, .org, linkupillinois.org.](http://linkupillinois.org)  
3 UTAC is a not-for-profit corporation which oversees  
4 the Universal Telephone Assistance Program, or  
5 UTSAP, in Illinois which promotes the Lifeline  
6 program in Illinois and provides a subsidy toward  
7 the cost of installing a new phone or broad band  
8 connection for wire lines subscribers.

9           In May of 2021, the Commission approved a  
10 proposal to distribute UTSAP funds for, to PCs for  
11 People for the purpose of distributing refurbished  
12 computers to qualified low income consumers. PCs  
13 for People is a national nonprofit working to get  
14 quality computers and internet into low income  
15 households. PCs for People obtains donations of  
16 used computers from numerous Fortune 500  
17 corporations and various governmental  
18 organizations, refurbishes that equipment and then  
19 distributes the computers to thousands of people in  
20 need. To lean more to see if you qualify, please  
21 visit [www.pcsforpeople.org](http://www.pcsforpeople.org).

22           Hold for one second. I want to read the



1 order.

2 JUDGE TEAGUE KINGSLEY: Madam Chair, I have  
3 the answer for you when you are ready.

4 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Yeah, thank you.  
5 Please.

6 JUDGE TEAGUE KINGSLEY: It is actually with  
7 prejudice. The title of the motion says  
8 incorrectly without, but when you read the motion  
9 closely, it is with prejudice. So it was a little  
10 bit unclear, but it is with prejudice.

11 CHAIRPERSON ZALEWSKI: Okay. Thank you for  
12 checking. That's how I called the vote, so I do  
13 think the record is clear and accurate. Yep, I  
14 appreciate your effort there and thanks for  
15 double-checking.

16 Okay. With all of that, I don't think  
17 there is any other comments or if there is no  
18 objection, then I will just adjourn the meeting.  
19 Thank you.

20 (Whereupon the above matter was adjourned.)  
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