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BEFORE THE
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
REGULAR OPEN MEETING
PUBLIC UTILITY
Tuesday, November 24, 2015
Chicago, Illinois

Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 A.M.,
at 160 North La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

- PRESENT:
- BRIEN J. SHEAHAN, Chairman
 - ANN MCCABE, Commissioner
 - SHERINA MAYE EDWARDS, Commissioner
 - MIGUEL DEL VALLE, Commissioner
 - JOHN R. ROSALES, Commissioner

SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by
PATRICIA WESLEY
CSR NO. 084-002170

1 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Good morning. Are we ready to
2 proceed in Springfield?

3 CHIEF CLERK: Yes, we are.

4 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Pursuant to the Open Meetings
5 Act, I call to order the November 24, 2015 Regular
6 Open Meeting of the Illinois Commerce Commission.

7 Commissioners McCabe, del Valle, Edwards
8 and Rosales are present with me in Chicago. We have
9 a quorum.

10 We have no requests to speak and will,
11 therefore, move into our regular agenda. There are
12 edits to the Minutes of our November 4, 2015 Special
13 Open Meeting.

14 Are there any objections to approving
15 the Minutes as edited?

16 (No response.)

17 Hearing none, the Minutes as edited
18 are approved.

19 Item E-1 concerns MidAmerican's filing
20 to modify its definition of "Residential Service"
21 and clarify how certain charges are applied to
22 high-use residential customers.

1 Are there any objections to not
2 suspending the filing?

3 (No response.)

4 Hearing none, the filing is not
5 suspended.

6 Item E-2 concerns MidAmerican's
7 Application for a Certificate of Service Authority.

8 Are there any objections to granting
9 the Emergency Motion to Extend the Time for
10 obtaining MISO Membership?

11 (No response.)

12 Hearing none, the motion is granted.

13 Item 3 concerns a billing complaint
14 filed against Commonwealth Edison.

15 Are there any objections to granting
16 the parties Joint Motion to Dismiss?

17 (No response.)

18 Hearing none, the motion is granted
19 and the complaint is dismissed.

20 Item E-4 concerns Astral Energy's
21 Application for a Certificate of Service Authority.

22 Are there any objections to approving

1 the proposed Order and denying the application?

2 (No response.)

3 Hearing none, the Order denying the
4 application is approved.

5 Item E-5 concerns Ameren Transmission
6 Company's Petition Requesting Authorization to Use
7 Eminent Domain.

8 I believe we have a few
9 non-substantive edits to the Order.

10 Are there any objections to approving
11 the proposed Order as edited?

12 (No response.)

13 Hearing none, the Order as edited is
14 approved.

15 Item E-6 concerns Energy Choice's
16 Application seeking Authority to Operate as an
17 Agent, Broker or Consultant under the Public Utility
18 Act.

19 Are there any objections to approving
20 the proposed Order?

21 (No response.)

22 Hearing none, the Order is approved.

1 Item E-7 concerns Glacial Energy's
2 Petition Requesting to Cancel its Certificate of
3 Service Authority to Operate as a Alternative Retail
4 Electric Supplier.

5 Are there any objections to approving
6 the proposed Order?

7 (No response.)

8 Hearing none, the Order is approved.

9 Item G-1 concerns MidAmerican Energy's
10 filing modifying two riders in anticipation of
11 future action by the Illinois General Assembly.

12 Are there any objections to not
13 suspending the filing?

14 (No response.)

15 Hearing none, the filing is not
16 suspended.

17 Item G-2 concerns Mt. Carmel Public
18 Utility Company's modification to its gas tariff to
19 comply with its Implementation Plan relative to
20 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 280.

21 Are there any objections to not
22 suspending the filing?

1 (No response.)

2 Hearing none, the filing is not
3 suspended.

4 Item G-3 concerns a complaint filed
5 against Nicor Advanced Energy.

6 Are there any objections to granting
7 the parties Joint Motion to Dismiss?

8 (No response.)

9 Hearing none, the motion is granted
10 and the complaint is dismissed.

11 Under other business, the Commission
12 would like to take a moment to give thanks for a
13 special young Illinois heroine, Ashley Aldridge.

14 On September 15, 2015, Ashley was
15 making lunch for her children when she heard Earl
16 Moorman cry for help as one of the wheels of his
17 chair was caught between the rails at a crossing
18 across the street from her home. She bravely ran to
19 the tracks and pulled him free from his chair only
20 moments before an Amtrak train struck and destroyed
21 it.

22 Yesterday, the ICC Police Chief, Kim

1 Castro; and ICC Railroad Safety Specialist and State
2 Coordinator for the Operation Lifesaver, Chip Pew;
3 and Bob Gough, Senior Public Information Officer,
4 made a presentation to honor Ms. Aldridge.
5 Chief Castro and Chip are here to tell us more.

6 Gentlemen, welcome and thanks for your
7 work on this. You have the floor.

8 Mr. Pew

9 MR. PEW: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you.

11 MR. PEW: Mr. Chairman and Fellow Commissioners,
12 two days before Thanksgiving we had a situation
13 where we can truly be thankful.

14 As you said, Chief Castro, and myself,
15 and Bob Gough met with Ashley Aldridge at the site
16 of the crossing at Auburn, Illinois, and it was
17 refreshing her modesty, her humility, the fact that
18 we had what would have been a traffic incident
19 involving a 75-year old man stuck in a wheelchair.

20 We know all too well that almost any
21 incident involving a train and a vehicle or a person
22 generally ends tragically, and, fortunately for this

1 woman, she took it upon herself to truly save
2 somebody's life, and it worked out really well.

3 I'm just happy to be here talking
4 about something that had a good ending as opposed to
5 one that we know all too well doesn't end very well.

6 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Yes. Thank you. That's
7 really a remarkable story and an example of courage
8 on behalf of, you know, somebody who took it upon
9 themselves to put themselves at great risk to save
10 somebody else.

11 Any other Commissioners have anything
12 they would like to add?

13 COMMISSIONER MAYE EDWARDS: Thank you,
14 Mr. Chairman.

15 Mr. Pew, I just want to thank you for
16 your service, and your diligence, and your
17 dedication.

18 I have been here for over two years.
19 It wasn't until the last few months that I even met
20 you, and you are so hard working, your team. It's
21 great. You are doing things that the Commission
22 doesn't even support you to do, because we don't

1 have the finances. I just want to say thank you and
2 thank you for what you do for the consumers of
3 Illinois.

4 MR. PEW: Thank you. I hope I do a better job
5 out there than I do working the swing.

6 (Laughter.)

7 I appreciate that. When we work with
8 our volunteers and we go and talk to people, we say
9 we can make a difference, but in many cases it's one
10 of those situations where you don't really know if
11 you made a difference. You assume that you have,
12 because maybe less incidents, less people are
13 involved or injured.

14 Certainly in this case it's as real as
15 it can get. She saved that man's life. There's no
16 question.

17 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: And she put herself at a lot
18 of risk.

19 Chief Castro, we have just been
20 talking about Ms. Aldridge's efforts to save someone
21 disabled. You have got a long career in law
22 enforcement. Would you like to offer a perspective

1 on the incident or her bravery?

2 CHIEF CASTRO: Actually quite often you find
3 people who don't want to make a move like that.
4 They would let it pass or something like that.
5 Here's somebody screaming and they wouldn't do
6 anything.

7 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Apparently there were cars
8 that kind of passed by and the guy was struggling.

9 CHIEF CASTRO: Yes, exactly, the way it was, and
10 being the young lady that she is, it was surprising
11 that she took notice of it, and not to look out the
12 window like many Chicagoans who look out the window
13 watching it go by and let it go at that.

14 She decided to make a move. She got
15 somebody to watch her two children and ran out
16 there, and not only did she try, she tried hard,
17 because she tried hard enough to get him out of
18 there.

19 Once she saw that she couldn't get him
20 off the rails, the wheels, she pulled him out of his
21 chair, his wheelchair -- sorry. She had to pull him
22 out of his wheelchair and she dragged him over and

1 out just as the train was coming and it destroyed
2 the wheelchair. It was something really beyond the
3 normal. It was definitely beyond the normal.

4 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: I think the Legislature and
5 the Governor also have various ways they recognize
6 outstanding acts of individuals, so we should make
7 sure we forward this along to the appropriate
8 legislative and executive offices.

9 Commissioner del Valle.

10 COMMISSIONER del VALLE: Mr. Chairman, I think
11 that's an excellent suggestion.

12 I also want to thank you, because we
13 had a conversation early on when I read about this
14 heroic action. I thought it appropriate for the
15 ICC to do something, and I want to thank you for
16 following up and taking this action.

17 Basically by bringing it to the
18 Commission and making it a formal action, rather
19 than an informal recognition, I think that's really
20 important, and I hope we can do more of this. What
21 better way to deal with this when we talk about the
22 resolution that you sponsored on rail safety and how

1 it kind of coincides with that recognition of the
2 rail safety.

3 So we need to look for more
4 opportunities to educate the general public about
5 the kind of actions that people and individuals can
6 take to protect themselves. Thank you.

7 MR. PEW: It certainly makes sense in the fact
8 that we do have jurisdictional oversight of all the
9 public crossings in the state of which many people
10 don't realize we are second only to Texas, and Texas
11 is 4 1/2 times the size of Illinois, and when we
12 talked about it, we thought certainly to recognize
13 her efforts, and particularly around Thanksgiving
14 certainly gives us something to be thankful for.

15 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you. Thank you,
16 gentlemen.

17 Judge Kimbrel, do we have any other
18 matters to come before us today?

19 JUDGE KIMBREL: No, there's nothing further,
20 Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Commissioners, do we have any
22 other business to discuss this morning?

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(No response.)

Hearing none, we stand adjourned.

Thank you.

(Whereupon, the above
matter was adjourned.)