

1 BEFORE THE
2 ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
3 PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULAR OPEN MEETING

4 Wednesday, December 2nd, 2020

5 Chicago, Illinois

6
7 Met pursuant to notice via videoconference
8 at 1:00 p.m. at 160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago,
9 Illinois.

10 PRESENT:

11 CARRIE ZALEWSKI, Chairwoman
12 (via Chicago Office)

13 D. ETHAN KIMBREL, Commissioner
14 (via Chicago Office)

15 SADZI M. OLIVA, Commissioner
16 (via videoconference)

17 MARIA S. BOCANEGRA, Commissioner
18 (via videoconference)

19 MICHAEL T. CARRIGAN, Commissioner
20 (via Springfield Office)

21 BRIDGES COURT REPORTING
22 BY: Stephen Mortensen,
 Notary Public

1 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Under the Open Meetings
2 Act, and in accordance with the Governor's
3 executive orders, I call the December 2nd, 2020,
4 Regular Open Meeting to order.

5 Before we proceed, and for clarity
6 of the record, I would ask everyone to state their
7 name before speaking and to speak slowly and
8 clearly so that the court reporter can capture
9 everything that is said.

10 I have already checked that all
11 five Commissioners are on the line; we have a
12 quorum.

13 We have five requests to speak
14 going in the order that they were received: 1st,
15 Gloria Fallon, 2nd, Evan Hoffman, 3rd, Georgia De
16 La Garza, 4th, Cailie Kafura, and 5th, Eleanor
17 Hall.

18 Under 2 Ill. Adm. Code
19 Section 1700.10: Any person desiring to address
20 the Commission shall be allowed up to three
21 minutes. Only one person may speak on behalf of any
22 organization. Please note that the Commission will

1 not respond directly to any comments. And Tanya,
2 my policy advisor, will be managing the clock.
3 She'll put three minutes up, and so hopefully
4 that's helpful.

5 Ms. Gloria Fallon, are you on?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: I'm going through my
8 panelists to make sure she is not -- Gloria Fallon?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Gloria Fallon, I see
11 that you're on, but you're muted.

12 MS. FALLON: Hello?

13 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hello.

14 MS. FALLON: Can you hear me?

15 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. We can hear you.

16 MS. FALLON: I'm sorry.

17 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. Great. We'll
18 put the -- set the clock for three minutes. It
19 sounds like you're calling in, though, so I will
20 let you know when your three minutes are up. And
21 then if you could just please state and spell your
22 name for the court reporter, and then you may

1 begin.

2 MS. FALLON: Okay. My name is Gloria Fallon.
3 The last name is F, as in "Frank," A-L-L-O-N.

4 I'm a concerned resident of
5 Illinois. I've been closely monitoring the science
6 on climate change for around 15 years. Our climate
7 is destabilizing. The effects of this
8 destabilization can be seen everywhere, but most
9 noticeably in the arctic, where the sea ice has
10 disappeared, and where, recently, northern Siberia
11 experienced temperatures over 100 degrees
12 Fahrenheit.

13 For this reason I'm asking the ICC
14 to seriously take another look at their decision to
15 allow the doubling of the Dakota Access Pipeline.
16 During the first hearing, the arguments that were
17 presented on climate change were ignored. We
18 cannot afford to ignore climate change any longer.
19 Even the state of Illinois recognizes that climate
20 change is a grave concern. We the people of this
21 planet have very little time, if any, to make the
22 necessary changes. Doubling the amount of the

1 pipeline is a step in the wrong direction. What we
2 should be doing is shutting it down.

3 I would also like the ICC to review
4 statistics on pipeline spills. Doubling the
5 capacity of the pipeline would greatly increase the
6 threat to our water. Both groundwater and rivers
7 are at risk of contamination by oil spills that
8 affect the drinking water of millions of people.
9 Rivers and aquifers provide water for crops. Clean
10 water is becoming increasingly scarce. Pipeline
11 spills run the risk of threatening our food and
12 water security. In some areas, the depth of the
13 pipeline would make detection difficult -- until it
14 becomes an extremely serious issue.

15 In the last five years, 7 million
16 gallons of crude oil spilled from around a thousand
17 ruptures. No wonder the Michigan Governor has
18 recently ordered the shutdown of the pipeline that
19 runs under the Straits of Mackinac. The ICC should
20 also reconsider the information on the decrease in
21 the --

22 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. Excuse me.

1 This is your court reporter. If you can just back
2 up a couple of sentences. I lost you there.
3 Something about, like, Mackinac Island, I think I
4 heard, maybe?

5 MS. FALLON: Yeah. I'm sorry. Just my time
6 is running -- the Michigan Governor has recently
7 ordered the shutdown of the pipeline that runs
8 under the Straits of Mackinac.

9 The ICC should also reconsider the
10 information on the decrease in demand for oil.
11 Even before COVID-19, falling demands and higher
12 investment risk caused by competition from clean
13 technology and tougher government climate standards
14 has shown a decrease in oil consumption. This
15 trend will make doubling the pipeline a waste of
16 time, money and secure our future in climate
17 destabilization.

18 During the last hearing, it was
19 revealed that Energy Transfer Partners and Simco
20 Oil failed to observe standards and show due
21 honesty in their operations. Once again, this was
22 given little thought. The ICC's decision is not

1 one of balancing the interests of commerce and
2 residents, but of profit and power for the oil
3 giants.

4 ICC is supposed to protect the
5 citizen in a fair and impartial way. This is not
6 evident to me when the ICC refuses to consider
7 evidence that is detrimental to all the citizens of
8 Illinois. Please schedule another hearing to
9 review the arguments against doubling the Dakota
10 Access Pipeline. We need our leaders to be bold
11 and to do the right thing. It is the ethical thing
12 to do for the people of Illinois now and in the
13 future.

14 Thank you for your time.

15 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you, Ms. Fallon.

16 Second is Evan Hoffman. And I
17 think I -- Mr. Hoffman, are you on?

18 MR. HOFFMAN: I am here. Can you hear me?

19 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. Great. We can
20 hear you. Same thing. Three minutes. My policy
21 adviser will set the timer for three minutes. And
22 then if you could just state and spell your name,

1 please. And then you may begin.

2 MR. HOFFMAN: Certainly. Thank you.

3 Good afternoon, everyone. My name
4 is Evan Hoffman. That's E-V-A-N, H-O, double F,
5 M-A-N. Good afternoon. Thank you for hearing me
6 here.

7 I want to fully and strongly
8 support a rehearing of the DAPL expansion case so
9 that you, the ICC panel, can provide us with
10 adequate reasoning, and transparency, behind your
11 original decision.

12 Now, the state of Illinois
13 recognizes that climate change is a grave concern,
14 as Gloria Fallon mentioned before me, yet you
15 refuse to even acknowledge this. The
16 administrative law judge's order was a single
17 paragraph summarizing Dakota access and ETCO's
18 position while ignoring the climate, safety, and
19 pandemic arguments raised by groups like the Sierra
20 Club, Save Our Illinois Land, and landowners.

21 It also failed to address the
22 rights of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe who have

1 been challenging this pipeline for years because it
2 is a dire threat to their water and land. It is
3 crystal clear to anyone paying attention that a
4 rehearing is desperately needed in this case.

5 Please, please, please, respect the
6 citizens you work for and heed our call.

7 Thank you very much.

8 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you, Mr. Hoffman.

9 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. Third is
11 Ms. Georgia De La Garza.

12 Ms. De La Garza, are you on the
13 line?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Ms. De La Garza, if
16 you're on, we cannot hear you. I'm actually
17 checking our list; it doesn't look like you're
18 connected.

19 Check one more time. Yeah. It
20 doesn't look like you're on. Okay.

21 Fourth, Ms. Cailie Kafura.

22 MS. KAFURA: Hi there. Can you hear me?

1 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: We can hear you. Same
2 thing. Three minutes. If you could please state
3 and spell your name and then we will start the
4 timer.

5 MS. KAFURA: Okay. My name is Cailie Kafura,
6 C-A-I-L-I-E, Kafura, K-A-F-U-R-A.

7 When you all approved to double
8 DAPL, your conclusion was legally insufficient with
9 only one paragraph explaining your decision. You
10 all, on the ICC Commission, did not meet the
11 requirements for your reasoning and this is your
12 job to do so. All five of you never took into
13 consideration the risk of doubling the pressure and
14 oil of a pipeline that has already ruptured
15 numerous times, even when Energy Transfer Partners
16 has admitted that 460 barrels of oil an hour could
17 be spilling and their systems could not detect it.

18 Not once was climate change or the
19 global pandemic mentioned in your conclusion or in
20 your decision-making process, both of which are
21 clearly correlated to the doubling of this
22 pipeline. The demand for oil has significantly

1 dropped, and the infrastructure needed to double
2 this pipeline means more workers at risk of being
3 infected by COVID-19 and the risk of infecting the
4 surrounding communities.

5 And not including climate change
6 about the most toxic fossil fuel on this planet
7 means that you all voted for climate chaos and the
8 genocide of indigenous people. When you all claim
9 that there are, "Six shippers that want to ship on
10 this pipeline," it was truly the most blatant
11 demonstration of the ICC's loyalty to corporate
12 America and complete betrayal to your own people,
13 who depend on you to make a fair and just decision.

14 I'm a nanny to small children and I
15 was furious to learn of yet one more devastating
16 decision that will affect their future. One that
17 will lead to more destruction. And as leaders of
18 the ICC Commission, your job is to look out for our
19 communities and not for corporations. So we demand
20 that you do a rehearing and explain to us, at the
21 very least, why you've decided to vote in favor of
22 something that is so devastating to our planet and

1 our communities.

2 Please, follow through with the
3 rehearing because it is the least you can do.

4 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you.

5 Finally, Ms. Eleanor Hall.

6 Ms. Hall, are you on?

7 MS. HALL: Can you hear me?

8 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: We can hear you. Same
9 thing. We'll set the timer and then if you could
10 state and spell your name, then you can -- may
11 begin.

12 MS. HALL: I'm Eleanor Hall, E-L-E-A-N-O-R
13 H-A-L-L. I'm a concerned citizen in Illinois. I
14 wanted to ask the Commission to approve the
15 application for a rehearing on the approval of the
16 pipeline.

17 In the past, the ICC ignored the
18 climate impact of the DAPL, claiming that it is not
19 relevant -- that climate is not relevant. I think
20 climate is relevant. On the ICC website, I found
21 the Illinois Gas Pipeline Safety Act. It says that
22 the Commission shall adopt rules establishing

1 minimum safety standards for the transportation of
2 gas at the pipeline facilities.

3 In only looking at transportation
4 of gas and pipeline facilities, the Commission is
5 looking at safety in too limited a way. The
6 dictionary definition of "safety" is the condition
7 from being safe from undergoing or causing hurt,
8 injury, or loss. Many of the results of climate
9 change affect safety. Higher temperatures
10 influence health. In the west, wildfires cause
11 death and destruction of property. In the Midwest,
12 flooding has caused death and the destruction of
13 crops. In northeastern Illinois, storms have
14 damaged the Lake Michigan shoreline.

15 Other speakers have described the
16 -- (Inaudible.)

17 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry, Ms. Hall.
18 This is your court reporter.

19 Sorry, you kind of broke up after
20 you made a comment about Lake Michigan.

21 MS. HALL: Oh, yes. Okay. I'll just
22 summarize by saying the doubling of the pipeline

1 will increase gas use, gas use will lead to
2 increased CO2 in the atmosphere, which leads to
3 climate change. Climate change is unsafe in many
4 ways in causing hurt, injury, and loss. And so
5 since safety is part of the mission of the ICC, I
6 ask the ICC to approve the application for a
7 rehearing on the decision to approve the doubling
8 of the DAPL.

9 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you, Ms. Hall.

10 This concludes our requests to
11 speak.

21 Under our Public Utilities Agenda,
22 Item 0-2 concerns a report by the chief executive

1 officer of Southern Company Gas, Ms. Kimberly
2 Greene, and the President of Nicor Gas, Mr. John
3 Hudson, on the compliance of Docket
4 Number 15-0558. Docket Number 15-0558 concerns the
5 reorganization of Nicor Gas into Southern Company.
6 If there are no objections for logistical reasons,
7 we are going to hear this item now.

8 (No verbal response.)

9 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing no objections,
10 Ms. Greene and Mr. Hudson, you may proceed.

11 MS. GREENE: Thank you very much, Chairman
12 Zalewski, and good afternoon, Commissioners. I
13 want to thank you for this opportunity to speak
14 with you today. This is my third time to be before
15 you as chairman, president, and CEO of Southern
16 Company Gas, and the fourth anniversary of Nicor
17 Gas becoming a part of the Southern Company family.

18 John Hudson, who recently took over
19 as president and CEO of Nicor Gas, and I, will be
20 providing an update today on Southern Company Gas
21 and Nicor Gas. In addition, I'm here today to
22 reinforce the commitments made to the ICC as part

1 of the Southern Company merger approval process. I
2 want to assure you that we remain committed to our
3 customers in Illinois and remain both citizens of
4 and servants in our community.

5 Since the closing of the AGL
6 Resources and Southern Company merger in 2016, we
7 remain in full compliance with the merger
8 conditions, with no issues to report, as we
9 continue to provide clean, safe, reliable, and
10 affordable service for our Illinois customers.

11 With respect to employment, we have
12 met or exceeded all required employment thresholds,
13 total employment, safety-related positions, and
14 executive management and will continue to do so.
15 With our substantial infrastructure programs
16 underway in Illinois, we see an ongoing need for
17 not only internal skilled labor and corporate staff
18 at Nicor Gas, but also for external resources
19 provided by our labor partners.

20 For example, in 2019, our
21 infrastructure program utilized the equivalent of
22 1,449 full-time jobs comprised of both internal and

1 external skilled labor. In addition, Nicor Gas has
2 not had a negative impact to the cost of capital as
3 a result of its affiliation with Southern Company
4 and its other subsidiaries. In fact, the credit
5 rating agencies have consistently noted the benefit
6 Nicor Gas receives by being a part of the Southern
7 Company family. Maintaining strong credit metrics
8 supports a strong Nicor Gas.

9 We also continue to meet or exceed
10 our community commitments. Our customers,
11 neighbors, and communities deserve to have the
12 support of strong corporate citizens like Nicor
13 Gas. We continue to invest more than \$2.2 million
14 annually in our community, funding, partnering
15 with, and volunteering to support a wide range of
16 organizations. John will cover this in greater
17 detail during his remarks.

18 Most importantly, we want our
19 workforce and our purchasing to be reflective of
20 the communities we serve. The full details of our
21 compliance with merger conditions will be provided
22 in our report to be filed with the ICC before the

1 end of the month. Let me add that after the
2 merger, we have demonstrated a strong track record
3 of operating successfully under these relevant
4 conditions and we plan to continue to do so for
5 many years to come.

6 Before we discuss specific
7 activities at Nicor Gas, let me say a few words
8 about Southern Company. Moving forward, our gas
9 and electric operating companies will represent the
10 core of Southern Company's value proposition:
11 State-regulated utilities that provide excellent
12 industry-leading customer service to large customer
13 bases. With this as its primary focus, Southern
14 Company is committed to reinvesting capital into
15 businesses that operate in constructive regulatory
16 environments and have healthy capital investment
17 programs to support our continued focus on safety,
18 serving new customers, and making us more
19 efficient.

20 Southern Company, like Southern
21 Company Gas, holds recruitment, development, and
22 retention of our employees as top priorities. This

1 fits well with our initiative in Illinois to
2 maintain employment levels and hire and retain a
3 well-qualified, capable, and diverse workforce.
4 John and I will provide additional details on our
5 efforts to operate our systems safely and ensure
6 compliance with all pipeline, storage, and safety
7 regulations, particularly in this COVID-19
8 environment, but I thought I would provide my
9 perspective on how I think about these issues as a
10 leader of our company.

11 First and foremost, safety is about
12 human beings and not about counts or statistics.
13 Nothing is more important to me than the safety and
14 well-being of our employees, our customers, and our
15 communities. I focus on employees working safely
16 together to ensure the safety of our natural gas
17 infrastructures and the customers that we serve.
18 Southern Company Gas has a strong history of
19 compliance and safe operations. And with our focus
20 on continuous improvement, we strive, daily, to
21 build upon our strong record.

22 I receive safety updates on a

1 near-daily basis, and each month, our safety and
2 compliance team provides Southern Company Gas'
3 leadership with a detailed review of our
4 performance. We examine a host of safety-related
5 initiatives, including our ongoing replacement of
6 aging pipeline, emergency response times, safety
7 notifications, enforcement actions, and the
8 industry incidents from which we can learn, just to
9 name a few.

10 The importance of safety was
11 highlighted during the outbreak of COVID-19. In
12 order to continue to safely serve all of our
13 customers during this pandemic, we had to
14 strengthen our efforts even more. To do that, we
15 work with the Center for Disease Control, the CDC,
16 and our medical directors, directly, to identify
17 needs for personal protective equipment and we
18 quickly developed new safety protocols. We didn't
19 want anyone to go without natural gas service. We
20 understood that all of our customers needed to have
21 heat, hot water, and the ability to prepare hot
22 meals. So I'm happy to report, in fact, very proud

1 to report, that we were able to quickly implement
2 those safety protocols and we never had a break in
3 service.

4 At every level, we are committed to
5 improvement by setting rigorous safety standards to
6 ensure a safe and secure work environment across
7 all of our operations. This continued emphasis on
8 improving the safety and reliability of our system
9 for the benefit of our customers is supported by
10 our significant investment in pipeline replacement
11 and improvement. We've invested over \$2.5 billion
12 dollars over the last three years. And again, John
13 will cover this in more detail.

14 Looking forward, the company
15 expects a similar level of investment in the
16 infrastructure of Nicor Gas' transportation and
17 distribution system. This robust investment
18 profile has been supported by a resilient financial
19 profile and strong credit quality which are
20 underpinned by a track record of constructive
21 regulatory support from this Commission. Credit
22 rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's, Moody's

1 and Fitch, have lauded the actions taken by the
2 company and the Commission, which has ultimately
3 allowed for the company to maintain its strong
4 credit ratings, post-tax reform.

5 At Moody's, in their most recent
6 credit opinion from July, where the agency affirmed
7 Nicor Gas' solid, stable A2 rating, Moody's noted
8 several key factors in support of their opinion,
9 including the increased allowed inequity ratio.

10 Additionally, Moody's highlighted the credit
11 supported rate-making framework in Illinois that
12 provides transparent regulatory mechanisms and
13 timely recoveries of costs. Moody's methodology
14 for utility companies includes the specific
15 criteria for rating the "consistency and
16 predictability of regulation." The ICC, as you
17 likely know, has consistently received an A rating
18 from Moody's in this category, which is one of the
19 largest factors supporting the Nicor Gas credit
20 rating. Moody's also highlights how Nicor Gas'
21 affiliations with the Southern Company is credit
22 causative. This is evidenced by the significant

1 annual equity contributions Southern Company has
2 provided to fund Nicor Gas' infrastructure programs
3 and to maintain its A credit rating post-tax
4 reform. This strong credit rating not only allows
5 Nicor Gas to issue debt at a favorable rate, but
6 also provides ready access to capital markets in
7 all market conditions. And these benefits are
8 realized by customers through low financing costs
9 and reliable operational performance.

10 Just recently, this benefit was
11 realized by Nicor's customers as the pandemic and
12 economic crisis worsened and many companies and
13 utilities had trouble accessing commercial paper
14 markets for companies who generally fund their
15 day-to-day operational and working capital needs.
16 Nicor Gas' program, however, a top tier A1/P-1,
17 short-term credit rating provided stability in an
18 uncertain and volatile time, and ultimately allowed
19 the company to maintain seamless, and most
20 importantly, safe operations.

21 And one other thing that occurred
22 this year that helped us maintain our strong

1 position was, as you said, Chairman Zalewski, the
2 landmark settlement to balance the needs of
3 customers and utilities during the COVID-19
4 pandemic. Illinois is a true leader in this
5 effort. Thank you.

6 In closing, the safety of our
7 customers, our communities, and our employees
8 always remains our top concern. Coupled with a
9 strong focus on customer service and a constructive
10 regulatory environment, we look forward to
11 continuing to provide efficient and effective
12 natural gas service to our Illinois customers in
13 the years ahead. Again, thank you for your time
14 today and I look forward to taking any questions
15 you may have following John's remarks.

16 MR. HUDSON: Okay. Thank you, Kim.

17 And good afternoon, Commissioners.
18 I'd like to thank you for this opportunity to
19 speak. It's good to be here with you today. It
20 was good to see all of you yesterday evening during
21 the IUBDC event as well.

22 As Kim mentioned and as all of you

1 know, I recently took over as president and CEO of
2 Nicor Gas. Since moving to Illinois, I've had the
3 honor of working alongside some of the most
4 hardworking and dedicated professionals in the
5 natural gas business. It's been a privilege to be
6 a part of the Nicor Gas team.

7 Before I share more about the work
8 of our employees, I'd like to start with safety.
9 The safety of our people, our pipeline, and the
10 public is, and always will be, our number one
11 priority. My predecessor, Melvin Williams, devoted
12 years of service to the sustained and strong
13 foundation of safety and compliance. I'm proud to
14 lead a company of more than 2,000 employees,
15 including more than 1,300 members of the IBEW Local
16 19, who are committed to providing clean, safe,
17 reliable, and affordable service every day while
18 focusing on continuous improvements. That
19 commitment to safety and putting customers first
20 was exemplified even more when the pandemic struck
21 and forever changed how we will go about our lives
22 every day.

1 At the outset, Nicor Gas' first
2 concern was ensuring our customers continue to
3 receive the service they expect and deserve safely.
4 Our value of putting safety first in all we do
5 drives our decisions and our actions. In order to
6 provide service to all of our customers, including
7 those who have a confirmed or suspected case of
8 COVID-19, we work with the Centers for Disease
9 Control, as Kim mentioned, and health and medical
10 experts, who identify our employees' needs for more
11 personal protective equipment and we quickly
12 developed new safety protocols. This has meant
13 clearly training our workforce to identify and
14 mitigate risks for working in and out of customers'
15 homes.

16 We conducted pre-access questions
17 and self-health checks, and ensure our tools,
18 supplies, and vehicles were sanitized before, and
19 after, every job. And those protocols remain today
20 as we continue taking every preventative measure
21 designed to keep our customers safe and keep their
22 service on. Now, more than ever, our customers

1 need and deserve to have reliable and clean natural
2 gas to heat their homes and businesses and be a
3 source to prepare hot meals for their families.
4 I'm happy to report that Nicor Gas never had a
5 break in service despite the challenges this
6 pandemic has levied.

7 We also were able to adapt with new
8 safety protocols to continue with our replacement
9 and improvement projects. This resulted in no
10 layoffs or workforce reductions for Nicor Gas
11 employees or our labor partners that work so
12 diligently to keep our systems safe.

13 As Kim told you a few moments ago,
14 our A1-P1 rating helped Nicor Gas continue
15 reliable, safe operations during the pandemic while
16 benefiting and aiding our customers. Our good
17 standing in the eyes of creditors is considerably
18 important. We are focused on the economic impact
19 of the pandemic -- that many of our service
20 territory were in a state of emergency prior to the
21 outbreak, and need substantial, sustainable,
22 economic solutions to thrive. We developed several

1 initiatives that go beyond charitable giving to
2 benefit our local and state economy through
3 development and investment.

4 I'll come back to that in a moment,
5 but first, I'd like to tell you more about the work
6 we are doing to aid our customers. In addition to
7 addressing economic ramifications, we're also
8 committed to the well-being of our customers and
9 our community. COVID-19 has exacerbated distress
10 felt by underserved populations. When this
11 Commission sent a letter asking Utilities to
12 voluntarily extend the moratorium of residential
13 customer disconnections for non-payment through
14 March of 2021, we agreed.

15 From a financial standpoint, this
16 put strain on our company. It's not easy to do.
17 But we chose to do it because it's the right thing
18 to do. No customer should have the added hardship
19 of interruption of services during this difficult
20 time. We also established a \$7.5 million fund for
21 bill payment assistance for our hardest hit
22 customers. Approximately \$4 million remain, and we

1 consistently encourage our customers to learn how
2 they may benefit. And this would not be possible
3 if not for the support of those who have partnered
4 in this effort, including the Commission. And for
5 that we thank you.

6 To date, Nicor Gas has directed
7 over \$3 million to relief efforts, and we work
8 closely with more than 2,600 faith-based
9 organizations, over a thousand schools, and
10 countless municipal leaders, chambers of commerce,
11 and non-profit organizations. Nicor Gas also has
12 identified ways to make a direct, positive impact
13 for customers that are experiencing financial
14 challenges. You may recall when the pandemic
15 struck earlier this year, Nicor Gas engaged in a
16 creative partnership with a grocery delivery
17 company, Shipt, who delivered one thousand boxes of
18 food and household essentials to struggling
19 communities.

20 Starting this month, and in
21 February of 2021, Nicor Gas will again partner with
22 Shipt and other organizations to further address

1 food insecurity with mobile food pantries and care
2 package deliveries. And through our collaboration
3 with Operation Warm, coats, hats and gloves will be
4 delivered to students at four local elementary
5 schools. In support of our local businesses, Nicor
6 Gas created a COVID-19 business resource center to
7 help small businesses navigate the assistance
8 resources available at the local, state, and
9 federal level, including information on the Rebuild
10 Illinois and Cares Act relief options. In the
11 coming weeks we will expand that support by posting
12 a webinar for small and diverse businesses. The
13 webinar will help educate businesses and provide
14 resources to assist in navigating the challenging
15 economy, adjust for the procurement of PPE, and
16 more.

17 And finally, we will be investing
18 \$50,000 to create a small business relief program
19 to provide utility bill assistance this winter. We
20 believe in supporting the communities we serve
21 because it has far-reaching benefits. In 2019,
22 Nicor Gas invested more than \$2.2 million in

1 community support activities which includes
2 charitable giving, as well as other community
3 outreach initiatives. So far this year, Nicor Gas
4 and our employees have already contributed nearly
5 \$200,000 for food and security causes. We work
6 closely with non-profits and local leaders to
7 enhance our ability to serve.

8 Since 1954, Nicor Gas has partnered
9 with the United Way, an organization close to my
10 heart because I really have witnessed how these
11 programs have provided so much for communities
12 around the country. I'm proud to champion those
13 efforts here in Illinois, as I now serve as a board
14 member of the Metro Chicago Chapter. We support
15 charities that make our communities safer and
16 healthier; from domestic abuse initiatives to
17 mental health. That's why we continue partnering
18 with the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, three
19 area food banks, and Habitat for Humanity.

20 Our company recognizes the critical
21 need to stem education to prepare our future
22 workforce. We contribute to education with

1 multiple universities and training programs to
2 prepare students for good paying jobs in the energy
3 field. But Nicor Gas' mission to help enrich and
4 grow our communities goes beyond charitable giving.

5 Recently, we established Northern
6 Illinois Community Initiatives, which is a
7 non-profit organization focused on helping build a
8 stronger region by investing in bold economic
9 development initiatives. NICI, as we refer to it,
10 focuses on community-transforming economic
11 development projects from growth-enabling
12 infrastructure and clean energy investment to the
13 incubation of diverse business entrepreneurship,
14 agricultural collaboratives, and more. To that
15 end, we will mobilize corporate partners in various
16 industries to seed a sustainable long-term funding
17 approach that shifts the Northern Illinois region
18 from a state of surviving to a state of thriving.

19 These approaches are the product of
20 the Nicor Gas philosophy of innovation. We
21 continually develop new ways to serve our customers
22 from the way we communicate with them, to the

1 installation of new technologies that enhance
2 reliability and safety.

3 Expansion of our digital billing
4 solutions has made payment convenient, and as a
5 result, customer satisfaction is increasing.
6 COVID-19 increased digital pay substantially.
7 57,000 customers switched to paperless billing
8 compared to 38,000 in 2019. The added benefit
9 here, and one that our customers appreciate, is the
10 positive impact this has on the environment. I'd
11 like to thank the Commission Staff for their help
12 in securing Commission approval on Nicor's
13 paperless billing pilot. The pilot was approved
14 earlier this year and has enabled more customers to
15 receive the benefit of paperless billing.

16 Going digital evolved our operating
17 practices to meet new and changing demands.
18 Through an industry-leading commitment to
19 innovation, we are developing customized energy
20 solutions our customers and communities require to
21 grow and prosper. Our Keep Me Informed app,
22 launching next year, expands our ability to reach

1 customers quickly and directly through a new
2 communications platform. It enhances customer
3 interactions and makes it easier to do business
4 with us.

5 Decarbonization. It is a major
6 focus of our research and development efforts, and
7 we're constantly assessing technologies that lower
8 greenhouse gas emissions. Our good credit rating
9 assists the speed of advancement because it allows
10 us to increase our investment in innovation while
11 protecting the affordability, reliability and
12 resilience of service. Our carbon reduction
13 efforts are supportive of customers' needs and
14 preferences. Southern Company, as Kim referenced
15 earlier, made a commitment in 2018 that was
16 recently updated in 2020 to reach net zero
17 emissions from operations by 2050. Southern
18 Company Gas is a part of this corporate commitment
19 and has embraced this commitment as a part of its
20 sustainability strategy.

21 In addition to Southern Company's
22 continued industry-leading research and development

1 efforts, the company is pursuing a diverse energy
2 resource portfolio including low-carbon and
3 carbon-free resources, negative carbon solutions,
4 and energy efficiency resources. It's important to
5 recognize the benefits of natural gas for direct
6 use by customers and the critical infrastructure
7 necessary to support GHG admissions reductions.
8 Our energy infrastructure will also be critical if
9 we want to add other low-carbon fuels to our supply
10 portfolio, like renewable natural gas and hydrogen.
11 And most importantly, keep customers' bills
12 affordable.

13 Nicor's typical average residential
14 bill is approximately 19% lower than the average of
15 the other major Illinois gas utilities. Through
16 decarbonization and low-carbon solutions, we are
17 committed to finding ways to help keep prices
18 affordable. Climate change is a global issue with
19 actions that must be taken across the natural gas
20 value chain. The change starts from within, and we
21 recognize our company's ability to embrace this
22 challenge, be a leader in the face of change, and

1 make a meaningful impact.

2 That's why Nicor Gas has taken the
3 bold step of setting a goal of becoming
4 methane-emission neutral from our operations by
5 2030. We have a plan to take our proposals to
6 state and federal policymakers and our regulators
7 to gain their support for Nicor Gas' approach to
8 managing its methane emissions and its water carbon
9 footprint. Through expansion of current
10 initiatives, leveraging existing infrastructure,
11 and working with business partners such as gas
12 suppliers, we could influence and facilitate the
13 economy-wide carbon reductions that address climate
14 change while fueling resiliency, energy security,
15 and the growth of the clean energy economy. Our
16 plan is bold, but it's doable, and we are committed
17 to its success.

18 I'd like to end by saying we
19 recognize that the coronavirus will continue to be
20 a challenge well into the New Year. Nicor Gas will
21 be there for our customers providing reliable,
22 affordable natural gas to keep their homes and

1 businesses warm this winter and beyond. We are
2 optimistic at the potential turn in mid-2021 with
3 the advent of a vaccine and we look forward to the
4 time we can come together again face-to-face.

5 Thank you for your time today. Kim
6 and I are eager to address any questions you may
7 have.

8 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you.

9 Do we have any questions right now?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: I'm not seeing any.

12 Ms. Greene, and Mr. Hudson, we
13 appreciate you taking the time to present the
14 report, both to the Commission and to the Public.

15 Thank you.

16 With that, we are going to continue
17 on with the rest of our Public Utility Agenda.
18 There are edits to the November 5th, 2020, Regular
19 Open Meeting minutes. There are no edits to the
20 November 12th, 2020, Special Open Meeting minutes.

21 Are there any objections to
22 approving the minutes as edited?

1 (No verbal response.)

2 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the
3 minutes are approved.

4 Under our Electric Items:
5 Item E-1 concerns Chicago Energy's cancellation of
6 certificate of service authority to act as an
7 agent, broker or consultant in Illinois. Chicago
8 Energy no longer wishes do business in Illinois.
9 The order cancels the certificate.

10 Are there any objections to
11 approving the order?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
14 is approved.

15 Item E-2 concerns a citation
16 against Commercial Energy Solutions for failure to
17 comply with Section 454 of the Commission's rules.
18 The respondent had filed a petition to cancel its
19 license in another docket, which the Commission
20 granted. Therefore, there is no certificate of
21 service authority to suspend or cancel in the
22 incident matter. The order thus dismisses the

1 proceeding.

2 Are there any objections to
3 approving the order?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
6 is approved.

7 Item E-3 concerns Docket 20-0475,
8 which is ComEd's annual energy efficiency formula
9 rate update and revenue requirement reconciliation.
10 There were no contested issues. As a completion of
11 the hearing of this docket, the order approved the
12 inputs supporting the 2021 application year Net EE
13 revenue requirements as reflected in the appendix
14 and finds that they were -- they are prudent and
15 reasonable, supported by substantial evidence and
16 uncontested. The order also adopts the approach
17 agreed to by ComEd and Commission Staff that would
18 permit ComEd to include and reflect in its
19 compliance filing any ComEd Marketplace costs if
20 the final order in Docket 20-0393 reallocates any
21 such costs to the energy efficiency.

22 Are there any objections to

1 approving the order?

2 (No verbal response.)

3 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
4 is approved.

5 Item E-4 concerns Docket Number
6 20-0477, which is Ameren's petition for approval of
7 the annual update to costs input for Rider Energy
8 Efficiency and demand response investment, or Rider
9 EE. Ameren and NRDC-CUB reached a joint proposal
10 in this matter that would allow Ameren to, first,
11 roll over one year's unspent budget to the next,
12 and second, recover expenditures that exceeded the
13 planned budget for a given year. Ameren and
14 NRDC-CUB sought the Commission's determination that
15 this approval comports with Section 8-103B of the
16 Public Utilities Act. The order approves the
17 annual updates and reconciliation as set in the
18 appendix for the order. The order does not make a
19 determination on Section 8-103B and does not accept
20 the parties' joint proposal. Instead, the order
21 directs Ameren to present the joint proposal and
22 planned budget flexibility concepts to the

1 stakeholder advisory groups to be addressed and
2 considered in a collaborative manner in the context
3 of the EE policy manual.

4 Are there any objections to
5 approving the order?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
8 is approved.

9 Item E-5 concerns 20-0703, which is
10 a complaint against ComEd regarding tampering
11 charges. The parties have filed a stipulation and
12 joint motion to dismiss, stipulating that matters
13 in dispute have been resolved and that the
14 Commission should dismiss the complaint with
15 prejudice.

16 Are there any objections with
17 granting the joint motion to dismiss?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the joint
20 -- excuse, me, the motion to dismiss is granted.

21 Item E-6 concerns an application
22 for a certification to install distributed

1 generation facilities. The order approves the
2 application, finding that the applicant meets the
3 requirements.

4 Are there any objections to
5 approving the order?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
8 is approved.

9 Items E-7 through E-9 concern
10 applications for licenses to operate as retail
11 electric agents, brokers and consultants in
12 Illinois. The orders grant the licenses, finding
13 that the applicants meet the requirements.

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

17 (No verbal response.)

18 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the
19 orders are approved.

20 Item E-10 concerns Docket 20-0738,
21 which is an investigation to determine whether
22 Ameren -- (Inaudible.)

1 THE COURT REPORTER: Excuse me, Chair
2 Zalewski?

3 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Yes?

4 THE COURT REPORTER: Sorry, you're --

5 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Sure. Sure.

6 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm getting some echo on
7 your end. If you don't mind backing up just a
8 couple of sentences.

9 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Sure. I can start --
10 it might help -- be helpful if everyone mutes and
11 then I'll just be sure to allow -- if the
12 Commission want to speak up, we'll make sure that
13 everyone has a chance.

14 Starting over, Item E-10 concerns
15 Docket 20-0738, which is an investigation to
16 determine whether Ameren Rider Net Metering
17 requires amendment to comport with Section 16-107.5
18 of the Public Utilities Act.

19 We have substantive edits to the
20 order that implement Staff's alternative proposal
21 and extend time for Ameren to file the revisions to
22 the Rider NM language.

1 In particular, the edits find that
2 the 5% threshold in Rider NM should be calculated
3 as suggested in Staff's alternative option, under
4 the conventional approach with both numerator and
5 denominator that consists of the same group of net
6 metering customers, including Community Solar and
7 the customers receiving their supplier from both
8 Ameren and the alternative electric suppliers. The
9 edits also direct Ameren to file new tariff sheets,
10 consistent with the order, within 21 days of the
11 order with an effective date of seven business days
12 after the date of the filing.

13 I move the proposed edits. Is
14 there a second?

15 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: I'll second, Chair.

16 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you. And then
17 any discussion?

18 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: Chair Zalewski, this
19 is Commissioner Bocanegra. I do have a couple of
20 remarks before we take vote, if that's okay.

21 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Absolutely.

22 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: Great. And court

1 reporter, just let me know if you need me to stop
2 or slow down.

3 So I want to start by saying I
4 agree with today's outcome, but I have to
5 respectfully disagree with my colleagues in their
6 analysis and how they arrived at today's decision.

7 The first issue I have, after much
8 deliberation, I cannot agree with how the majority
9 arrived at today's decision. First, there is no
10 analysis on what should be included in the
11 numerator and that is concerning to me.

12 And second, the analysis of how we
13 arrive at the denominator violates fundamental
14 understandings of both utility services and
15 statutory construction that I simply cannot agree
16 to.

17 Third and final, while the
18 Commission addressed the legal issues presented, it
19 doesn't really fix the problem that led us here in
20 the first place. That problem is, and will
21 continue to be, the fact that there will be solar
22 projects somewhere between close to finishing for a

1 project and -- excuse me, project that is taking
2 substantial steps toward interconnection. Perhaps
3 there are projects out there that have fronted
4 nearly 100% of their costs, all under the
5 assumption that they would benefit from net
6 metering. However, neither the statute, nor rules,
7 or any tariff, in my opinion, accounts for this
8 transition.

9 I ask my colleagues to consider for
10 a moment the very same issue presented in New York.
11 New York, as you know, has very similar legislation
12 in terms of its net metering incentive programs.
13 There, New York recognized this transition problem
14 and laid out specific criteria that a solar project
15 would need to meet by a certain cutoff date in
16 order to definitively take service under its net
17 metering laws or its successor tariff. And while
18 the laws might be different, the problem is the
19 same. I am disappointed we failed to exercise the
20 necessary discretion to fix the obvious problem
21 before us, but I remain confident that there may be
22 an opportunity to do so down the road. I just

1 think, procedurally, this is what we needed to do.

2 With that said, I will note my
3 agreement with the outcome, with the exception of
4 how it is we get there today. Accordingly, I will
5 be submitting a concurring opinion.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Any other
8 Commissioners?

9 COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Yes. Good afternoon.
10 This is Commissioner Sadzi Oliva.

11 I just want the record to reflect
12 that I will be dissenting in this case. I find
13 that the concerns raised in this case regarding the
14 application of Section 16-107.5 are for the
15 legislature to resolve. Rider NM has been in
16 operation without issue since the approval of the
17 Commission in 2017. While there may be unintended
18 consequences to the application of Rider NM, I
19 think the majority is misapplication of the law and
20 disregard for how Rider NM is to be effectuated.
21 It is not appropriate and may be an abuse of
22 discretion and you can read the rest of what I

1 believe in my dissent, which I'll be filing.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Any other Commissioner
4 comments?

5 COMMISSIONER KIMBREL: Hi, Madam Chair. This
6 is Commissioner Kimbrel.

7 I'd just like to note that this was
8 obviously a case where the parties had -- including
9 our own Staff and the ALJ, had varied stances and
10 positions -- the Commissioners as well. You know,
11 I think we came to a consensus and -- not an easy
12 process, but we got there.

13 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: I am not putting the
14 only Commissioner that has not spoken yet on the
15 spot, but are there any other comments?

16 (No verbal response.)

17 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay, hearing none.

18 So I am going to call the vote on
19 the approval of the edits. If you are in favor of
20 approving the edit, please say "aye," and if you're
21 opposed, say "nay."

22 Commissioner Bocanegra?

1 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: Aye.

2 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Carrigan?

3 COMMISSIONER CARRIGAN: Aye.

4 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Kimbrel?

5 COMMISSIONER KIMBREL: Aye.

6 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Oliva?

7 COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Nay.

8 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: I vote "aye."

9 So the four ayes have it and the
10 edits are approved.

11 So now I will call a vote on the
12 approval of the order as edited. If you are in
13 favor of approving the order as edited, please say
14 "aye," and if you are opposed, say "nay."

15 Commissioner Bocanegra?

16 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: Aye.

17 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Carrigan?

18 COMMISSIONER CARRIGAN: Aye.

19 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Kimbrel?

20 COMMISSIONER KIMBREL: Aye.

21 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Oliva?

22 COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Nay.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: I vote, "aye."

2 The four eyes have it, and the
3 order as edited is approved.

4 Items E-11 through E-19 concern
5 applications for a certification to install energy
6 efficiency measures in Illinois. The orders grant
7 the certificate, finding that the applicants meet
8 the requirements. Are there any objections to
9 considering these items together and approving the
10 orders?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the
13 orders are approved.

14 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Under our Gas Items:
15 Item G-1 concerns Consumer Gas Company's filing to
16 increase gas service rates. The Commission Staff
17 has recommended that the Commission suspend the
18 filing for further investigation and hearing.

19 Are there any objections to
20 approving the suspension order?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order

1 is approved.

2 Items G-2 through G-5 concern
3 Consumers' Gas Company, Liberty Utilities', North
4 Shores', and Peoples Gas' requests to reconcile
5 revenues under their gas adjustment charges for the
6 2019 calendar year. The orders approve the
7 reconciliations as set in the appendices to the
8 orders, finding that the costs during the
9 reconciliation period were prudently incurred.

10 Are there any objections to
11 considering these items together and approving the
12 orders?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the
15 orders are approved.

16 There are no Telecommunications
17 Items.

18 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Under our Water and
19 Sewer Items: Item W-1 concerns Aqua's requests for
20 reconciliation of revenues collected under the
21 Rider QIP, or Qualifying Infrastructure Plant, for
22 the calendar year 2019. The order approves the

1 reconciliation as set in the appendices to the
2 order, finding that the costs during the
3 reconciliation period were prudently incurred.

4 Are there any objections to
5 approving the order?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
8 is approved.

9 Item W-2 concerns Illinois-American
10 Water's application for approval of the purchase of
11 water distribution assets of the Four Lake Village
12 Condominium Homeowners' Association. The order
13 approves the acquisition of assets, finding it
14 necessary, and also approves the use of procedures
15 under Section 9-210.5 of the Public Utilities Act
16 to establish a rate-making -- rate base for the
17 Four Lake system.

18 Are there any objections to
19 approving the order?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
22 is approved.

1 Under our Miscellaneous Items:

2 Item M-1 concerns the annual updates to the
3 Illinois Statewide Technical Reference Manuals for
4 Energy Efficiency. This version was developed by
5 the technical reference manual administrator and
6 the stakeholder participants. The order finds that
7 the 2021 Illinois Technical Reference Manual,
8 version 9.0, provides a transparent and consistent
9 basis for calculating energy and capacity savings,
10 generated by the state of Illinois' Energy
11 Efficiency Program. The order also finds that the
12 2021 Illinois-TRM version 9.0, filed in this
13 docket, is a consensus document along -- among --
14 excuse me, non-financially interested parties and
15 is consistent with past Commission orders.

16 Are there any objections to
17 approving the order?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the order
20 is approved.

21 Under our petitions for rehearing,
22 Item PR-1 concerns Docket 19-0673, which is Dakota

1 Access and Energy Transfers' joint petition for
2 authority to install additional pumping facilities
3 on existing pipelines in Illinois. SOIL-Sierra
4 Club and William Klingele filed an application for
5 rehearing, alleging that the final order, among
6 other things, 1st: Lacked sufficient support and
7 explanation for public need and necessity of the
8 pipeline. 2nd: Does not correctly apply Section
9 15-401 of the Public Utilities Act. 3rd:
10 Misinterprets case law and errs in finding the
11 public need, and 4th: Improperly assesses the
12 safety of the pipeline. However, petitioners
13 present no new arguments or evidence that warrant a
14 rehearing. The administrative law judge also
15 recommends denying the application for rehearing.

16 Are there any objections to denying
17 the application for rehearing?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Hearing none, the
20 applications is --

21 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: Chair Zalewski, this
22 is Commissioner Bocanegra.

1 I do object. And if I may just add
2 some remarks to that.

3 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Sure.

4 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: I think that this is
5 confusing. If you may recall that the concurring
6 opinion I initially filed, and I said then, and I
7 continue to believe, that a lot of these arguments,
8 or issues, if you will, that were raised by some of
9 the parties to this case, could have been
10 addressed, had we allowed, or examined, this case
11 under Section 15-401. Obviously, from a purely
12 legal perspective, you know, your hands are sort of
13 tied when you don't analyze it under this
14 particular section. And so I also think that I
15 have to disagree that the petitioners present no
16 new arguments or evidence that would warrant a
17 rehearing. We would never know that if we did not
18 afford an opportunity to look at this through
19 Section 15-401. And so for those reasons, I have
20 to object.

21 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. Any other
22 comments? Commissioners?

1 (No verbal response.)

2 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. So I am going to
3 call -- do a roll call, and the way I'm going to
4 call it -- that -- vote "aye," if you're in favor
5 of denying the application for rehearing. So a
6 vote of "aye" is a vote to deny the application for
7 rehearing.

8 Commissioner Bocanegra?

9 COMMISSIONER BOCANEGRA: Nay.

10 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Carrigan?

11 COMMISSIONER CARRIGAN: Aye.

12 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Kimbrel?

13 COMMISSIONER KIMBREL: Aye.

14 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Commissioner Oliva?

15 COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Aye.

16 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: And I am an "aye," and
17 so the denial of the application for rehearing is
18 granted -- and sorry -- the double negatives.

19 Moving on to our Other Business
20 Items: Item 0-1 concerns approval of badges,
21 contracts and confirmations under the Adjustable
22 Block Program.

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

3 (No verbal response.)

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

6 Item 0-2, we already heard the
7 report at the beginning of this agenda, so this
8 concludes our Public Utilities Agenda.

9 Judge Teague-Kingsley, do we have
10 any other matters to come before the Commission
11 today?

12 JUDGE TEAGUE-KINGSLEY: No, Madam Chairman.

13 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Do any of the
14 Commissioners have any other business to discuss?

15 COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Yes. For the record,
16 this is Commissioner Sadzi Oliva, and just quickly;
17 I'm excited to announce that I have a new policy
18 advisor in my office. Her name is Kealie,
19 K-E-A-L-I-E, Vogel, V-O-G-E-L, and she holds a
20 bachelor's degree in natural resources and
21 environmental sciences with a concentration in
22 human dimension of the environment from U of I at

1 Urbana-Champaign. She's finishing up a master's
2 degree in environmental science with a focus on
3 energy policy from U of I at Urbana-Champaign.
4 She's particularly interested in renewable,
5 resilient energy systems and energy efficiency
6 improvement initiatives. I'm really excited to
7 have her on board and excited for everyone to meet
8 her.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Thank you,
11 Commissioner.

12 Welcome, Kealie. We are excited to
13 have you on board as well.

14 Are there any other comments from
15 other Commissioners?

16 (No verbal response.)

17 CHAIRWOMAN ZALEWSKI: Okay. Hearing nothing
18 and without objection, the meeting stands
19 adjourned.

20 Thank you.

21 (WHEREUPON, the above-entitled
22 matter was adjourned.)