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**ICC CONTACT:** Marianne Manko

Office: (217) 782-5793

Mobile: (217) 993-1000

[Marianne.Manko@Illinois.gov](mailto:Marianne.Manko@Illinois.gov)

Victoria Crawford

(217) 557-5819

[Victoria.Crawford@Illinois.gov](mailto:Victoria.Crawford@Illinois.gov)

## ICC: Illinois Rated 2<sup>nd</sup> Best in Grid Modernization

Chicago, IL...Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) Chairman Brien J. Sheahan today announced that Illinois received the second highest rating among all states for its leadership in moving toward a modernized electric grid. *Gridwise Alliance* in collaboration with *Clean Edge Incorporated* today released the results of its fourth Grid Modernization Index (GMI).

“I am very pleased Illinois is being recognized as a national leader for our efforts to embrace innovations in technology and modernize our grid. Under the leadership of Governor Bruce Rauner, Illinois adopted the Future Energy Jobs Act that is leading to a greater investment in smart technology, renewables and energy efficiency programs by our public utilities,” said Sheahan. “I am especially proud the Illinois Commerce Commission’s *NextGrid: Illinois Utilities of the Future Study* is mentioned several times in the report and contributed to Illinois’ high rating.”

The ICC recently launched NextGrid, an 18-month customer-focused study, to explore emerging technologies, address customer demands for greater choice, and layout a roadmap to become a clean energy state and modernize the grid while minimizing costs for consumers. Professors from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the University of Illinois (UIUC/ECE) Urbana-Champaign are working with the ICC as lead facilitators for the study.

Gridwise based its ratings on three primary areas:

- State support, which includes plans and policies that support grid modernization
- Customer engagement, which ranks states on their rate structure, customer outreach and data collection practices.
- Grid operations, which benchmarks the deployment of grid modernization technologies such as smart meters, sensors, controls and analytics.

Illinois received a score of 73.0. California received the top rating with a score of 81.5 and Texas was third with a score of 64.0. The last GMI report was issued in 2015.

The Grid Modernization Index report is available for download at [www.gridwise.org](http://www.gridwise.org) and [www.cleandedge.com](http://www.cleandedge.com). If you would like to learn more about NextGrid click [here](#).

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### ***About the Illinois Commerce Commission***

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices and bureaus, click [here](#). If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint [here](#). For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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