NextGrid Illinois

The response to our call for nominations to serve on the first *NextGrid* working group has been tremendous with over one hundred nominations and counting. Thank you for your interest. Nominations will be accepted through the end of the business day on Friday, November 10.

Dr. Mohammad Shahidehpour, Distinguished Bodine Chair Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, Director of the Robert W. Galvin Center for Electricity Innovation, and Associate Director of WISER at Illinois Institute of Technology will lead the first working group, "*New Technology Deployment and Grid Integration.*"

In consultation with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) and the *NextGrid* lead facilitator, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), Dr. Shahidehpour will select participants for the first working group. The UIUC will notify selected participants early next week to attend the group's first meeting on November 17 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm at the ICC's main hearing room in Chicago.

NextGrid seeks input from all stakeholders. Our goal is to ensure the working groups are productive, diverse and balanced. If you or your nominee are not selected to serve on this first working group, we have six other working groups over the next 18 months which will provide opportunities for participation. Working groups will meet regularly for several months.

To learn more about the different working groups, visit the <u>NextGrid website</u>. The study invites suggestions, comments and white papers based on the topics and agendas for each of the working groups via the website.

Crafting a roadmap to modernize Illinois' electric grid is an exciting task and it is going to take a great deal of hard work and input from all stakeholders. Thank you in advance for your interest and commitment to making the *NextGrid* study a success.

