



Illinois Commerce Commission

NEWS

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ICC Commissioner Sadzi M. Oliva Shares Best Practices with Central American Regulators

NARUC delegation traveled to Panama for talks on renewable energy integration and smart grid development

CHICAGO... Commissioner Sadzi M. Oliva of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) traveled to Panama City, Panama, June 19 to 21, to serve on a peer review partnership for renewable energy integration and smart grids in Central America. She was one of three expert volunteers from the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) to participate in the partnership with Central American energy regulators from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama as well as regional officials from the Comisión Regional de Interconexión Eléctrica (CRIE) and the Ente Operador Regional (EOR).

The partnership was made possible through the assistance of the Power Sector Program of the Bureau of Energy Resources of the U.S. Department of State. NARUC collaborates with the State Department to assist foreign regulators in developing stronger, more stable and more efficient power sectors and helping advance economic development and energy security.

During the three-day review, which also included regulatory experts from Vermont and Minnesota, Commissioner Oliva participated in roundtable discussions and presented information on various issues, including challenges and solutions to renewable energy integration and smart grid optimization.

“As an Illinois regulator, I was honored for the opportunity to work collaboratively with my fellow regulators in Central America and support their efforts to integrate renewable energy,” said

Commissioner Oliva. “Working with the Central American regulators was incredibly valuable as we shared our experiences in pursuing increased distributed energy resources integration to optimize the benefits for the consumer.”

NARUC is a non-profit organization that represents the interests of state public utility commissions before the three branches of the federal government. Representing the collective knowledge of the U.S. regulatory community, NARUC seeks to empower regulators globally to drive meaningful change in their energy sectors. In addition to its work in Central America, NARUC works in Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and Eurasia, Asia and elsewhere to help improve the quality and effectiveness of energy regulation.

[Commissioner Oliva](#) was recently named Vice Chair of NARUC’s Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity. She serves on NARUC’s Committee on Critical Infrastructure and Committee on Water. She also serves on the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Advisory Council, Financial Research Institute (FRI) Advisory Board, Gas Technology Institute (GTI) Public Interest Advisory Committee, and as Illinois’ representative on the Organization of MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator) States (OMS) Board of Directors. She is currently participating as a mentor for the International Confederation of Energy Regulators 2018 Mentoring Program.

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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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