



For Immediate Release

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May 15, 2018

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ICC Hosts Summer Preparedness Policy Session

Chicago, IL...The Illinois Commerce Commission held a policy session last week to ensure that electric utilities and regional transmission organizations (RTOs) are prepared to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy over the hot summer months.

Moderated by ICC Commissioner John Rosales, the session featured presentations from the electric utilities and the RTOs as they detailed their plans to handle traditional peak seasonal summer usage. In addition, consumer advocates gave presentations outlining customer concerns about costs and reliability. “Summer heat and storms can lead to power outages and high energy usage. The utilities today told us that forecasters are predicting a hotter than normal summer, but the power supply is adequate to handle the demand, and the frequency and duration of outages is on the decline. In a change from previous years, consumer advocates were invited to participate in the policy session to ensure consumer concerns about grid reliability, demand response and affordability were at the forefront of discussion,” said Commissioner Rosales.

Panelists communicated their readiness to meet the forecasted electrical load and their ability to respond to threats to the grid. The utilities also provided updates about the various programs they offer to help consumers save money and energy and presented their communication strategy to ensure customers have access to real-time information about any disruptions in service.

The Utility Summer Preparedness Panel:

Panelists: Commonwealth Edison Company, electricity provider for 3.8 million customers in Illinois including the City of Chicago, collar counties and northern Illinois

- Terry R. Donnelly – Executive VP and Chief Operating Officers
- Michelle Blaise – Senior VP, Technical Services

MidAmerican Energy Company: electricity provider for 85,000 Illinois customers in northwestern Illinois.

- Neil Hammer – Director of Market Assessment
- Brian Rybarik – Deputy General Counsel

Ameren Illinois Company: electricity provider for 1.2 million customers in central and southern Illinois

- Ron Pate – Sr. VP, Operations & Technological Services
- Brice Sheriff – Director, Regulatory Affairs

Illinois Attorney General’s Office

- Susan L. Satter – Public Utilities Counsel

The RTO Summer Electricity Preparedness Panel:

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO): the wholesale electricity provide for the central and southern portions of Illinois

- Robert Benbow – Exec. Director of Energy, Market Process

PJM Interconnection: the wholesale electricity provider for northern Illinois

- Paul McGlynn – Senior Director of System Operations
- Evelyn Robinson – Managing Partner of State Government Affairs

Consumer Advocate for PJM States/Citizen Utility Board

- Kristin Munsch – Deputy Director

Click [here](#) to view the Summer Preparedness Policy Session presentations on the ICC website.

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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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