



**For Immediate Release**  
October 24, 2017

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## **ICC Policy Session Examines Integration of Renewable Energy at the Regional Transmission Level**

**Chicago:** On Thursday, October 19, 2017 the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), led by **Commissioner Sherina Maye Edwards** and **Acting Commissioner Sadzi Martha Oliva**, held a policy session titled *Illinois' Power Meter: Renewable Energy and Illinois Transmission System* to assess the impact increased integration of renewable energy sources will have at the regional transmission level.

This was the second installment of the *Illinois' Power Meter* policy sessions. The first session, held in July, examined the integration of renewables at the distribution level.

"Experts at Illinois' Power Meter 2 highlighted the complexity and scope of factors to be considered with integrating renewables," said Acting Commissioner Oliva. "This discussion reinforced the value of collaborating with stakeholders in developing the best plan post adoption of the Future Energy Jobs Act and NextGrid, Illinois' Utility of the Future Study."

The first panel titled *The Infrastructure/Transmission System Challenges of Integrating Renewables* focused on the challenges and opportunities with integrating renewable energy resources onto Illinois' power systems. The second panel titled *The Market Challenges of Integrating Renewables* examined the effect that renewables pose on the energy market as Illinois reforms and implements its environmental policies.

Panelists Scott Baker (Sr. Business Solutions Analyst, PJM), Jeffrey Bladen (Executive Director of Market Development, MISO), Daniel Barr (Supervising Engineer, ITC Holdings Corp.), Joseph Paladino (Sr. Advisor of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, U.S. Dept. of Energy), Paul Centolella (President, Centolella & Associates) and Dr. Joseph Bowring (PJM Independent Market Monitor) shared their expertise on the infrastructure and regulatory needs of the direct and ancillary stakeholders in this sphere, and on incorporating planning and pricing mechanisms for renewables at the regional level.

The Future Energy Jobs Act was signed into law by Governor Rauner in December of 2016 and went into effect June 1, 2017. The bipartisan legislation aims to pivot Illinois into the new clean energy

economy by strengthening and greatly expanding the Renewable Portfolio Standard to increase renewable energy sources, as well as reduce emissions, substantially expand energy efficiency programs and save or create thousands of clean energy jobs in our state.

“This is a very exciting time in Illinois’ energy journey,” said Commissioner Edwards as the session wrapped up. “As we continue to move forward with plans to integrate renewable energy resources into our power grid, we must continue to communicate with all of the stakeholders to exchange information and ideas. The information shared at the policy session is very helpful in our planning.”

Presentations from the policy session’s expert panelists are available for public viewing by clicking [here](#). You may also access presentations from the first *Illinois’ Power Meter* policy session [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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