



NEWS

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Commissioner Oliva Appointed to NARUC Emergency Preparedness, Recovery and Resiliency Task Force

Chicago, IL- Illinois Commerce Commissioner Sadzi Martha Oliva was recently appointed by Brandon Presley, President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), to the newly created Presidential Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery and Resiliency. The task force will focus on protecting the reliability and resiliency of essential utility services during extreme weather events, natural disasters as well as the COVID-19 pandemic.

“These are very challenging times, and energy consumers across our nation need assurance that critical utility services will be available or quickly restored when a catastrophe strikes,” said Commissioner Oliva. “It benefits us all to share information and best practices on coping with emergencies and developing plans to build a more resilient energy infrastructure. I am proud to have been chosen to serve on this important task force.” At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICC imposed a moratorium on utility disconnections and late payment fees. In addition, the Commission initiated and approved more flexible credit and collection practices and historic consumer protections once the moratorium expires.

The primary goals of the Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery and Resiliency are to:

- Conduct research and continuing education on federal funding to support recovery;
- Support NARUC member preparedness in the event of a Black Sky event;
- Seek to build consensus on construction standards for FEMA reference in recovery; and
- Provide education on COVID-19 lessons learned and best practices for the path forward.

“We appreciate the efforts of each member of the task force. Individually and collectively, they will be responsible for contributing to the body of knowledge on this critical issue and creating an essential roadmap for state regulators,” Presley said earlier this month when he formally announced the task force.

The task force held its first meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2020.

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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.

