



New Year, New Roles for Zalewski and Carrigan on RTO Organization Boards

Springfield, IL - The start of 2023 is bringing changes to representation on regulatory regional state committees for members of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). ICC Chairman Carrie Zalewski is moving to the Board of Directors for the Organization of PJM States (OPSI), and Commissioner Michael T. Carrigan will serve on the Board of Directors for the Organization of MISO States (OMS). Zalewski previously served on OMS as the DER liaison from 2020-2022.

“The safe, reliable, and affordable transmission of electricity is vital for all Illinoisans,” said Zalewski. “We do not live on an island. It’s important that the ICC has a seat at the table with regulators from other states to discuss issues impacting us all, like transportation electrification and making sure our grid has adequate capacity to meet our power needs. By serving on these boards, Illinois will open doors to regional collaborations wherever possible.”

OPSI is made up of the regulatory commissions of the 14 jurisdictions in the region PJM serves, including portions of northern Illinois, and all or parts of Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Formed in 2005 as a non-profit organization, OPSI plays an important role in advising PJM on regulators’ concerns and viewpoints.

Commissioner Carrigan has served on the Commission since January 2020. Effective January 9, 2023, he is a voting member of the Board of Directors for the Organization of MISO States. OMS was established to represent the collective interests of state and local utility regulators in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) region. The OMS consists of 17 members across 15 states served by MISO including: Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin as well as the Canadian province of Manitoba.

“Much has changed since my early days as an apprentice electrician and journeyman wireman, but the need to provide resilient power at the least-cost remains strong. With Illinois leading the way in the transition to a cleaner more modernized grid, we recognize challenges ahead that are going to require a regional approach to solve, such as transmission seams, market development and long-term regional transmission planning. I look forward to being Illinois’ voice and vote on critical issues that will help Illinois to achieve our decarbonization goals,” said Carrigan.

ICC Commissioner Ethan Kimbrel previously served on the Board of Directors for OPSI and as a member of OPSI’s Market Monitoring Advisory Committee.

“I want to give a special thank you to Commissioner Kimbrel for his service on the OPSI Board. He has

done a fantastic job as our representative on OPSI over the past few years and we appreciate all he has done,” said ICC Chairman Carrie Zalewski.

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