Illinois Commerce Commission

**NEWS**

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ICC Hosts Summer Preparedness Policy Session

Chicago – Illinois Commerce Commission Chairman Brien J. Sheahan and Commissioner Ann McCabe led a policy forum today to ensure that utilities, generators and regional transmission organizations (RTOs) will continue to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy in the coming summer months.

“The summer and winter preparedness meetings give us the opportunity to hear how the RTOs and utilities are prepared to meet weather and distribution system challenges over the next six months,” said Commissioner McCabe.  “The meetings also provide the opportunity to discuss the benefits of grid improvements and practices that have been put in place.”

Panelists discussed factors such as infrastructure investments and extreme weather patterns and events and their impact on the ability to provide service during the summer months when demand is high.  The panelists communicated their readiness to meet the forecasted electrical load and their ability to respond to threats to the grid in the coming summer months. The utilities also presented their communication strategy to ensure that customers have access to real-time information about any disruptions in service.

The Utility Summer Preparedness presenters:

* Commonwealth Edison Company: electricity provider for 3.8 million customers in Illinois, including the City of Chicago, collar counties and northern Illinois
* Ameren Illinois Company: electricity provider for 1.2 million Illinois customers in central and southern Illinois
* Mid American Energy Company: electricity provider for 85,000 Illinois customers in northwestern Illinois Commerce Commission

The RTO Summer Preparedness presenters:

* Midcontinent Independent System Operator: the wholesale electricity provider for the central and southern portions of Illinois
* PJM Interconnection: the wholesale electricity provider for the north region of Illinois

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***About the Illinois Commerce Commission***

The Illinois Commerce Commission’s mission is to pursue an appropriate balance between the interests of consumers and existing and emerging service providers to ensure the provision of adequate, efficient, reliable, safe and least-cost public utility services. The Commission pursues this mission through three bureaus: the Consumer Services Bureau provides educational information on utility issues, resolves customer/utility disputes and develops rules on utility service and consumer protection; the Public Utility Bureau focuses on financial and operational analysis, policy development, public safety and enforcement activities related to electric, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies; the Transportation Bureau includes trucking insurance and registration, railroad safety, relocation towing, safety towing and household goods moving company enforcement activities. The ICC’s five commissioners are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Illinois State Senate for five-year terms.