To All Interested Parties:

As you may be aware, in its Final Order in Docket No. 19-0995, the Commission directed Staff to initiate workshops to “explore amending Part 466 and Part 467 to alleviate ... issues raised” by, among other things, price uncertainty and queue position. Accordingly, Staff is conducting workshops to discuss possible amendments to 83 Ill Admin Code 466, Electric Interconnection of Distributed Generation Facilities (Part 466) and 83 Ill Admin Code 467, Electric Interconnection of Large Distributed Generation Facilities (Part 467). The Final Order also directs Staff, within six months of the issuance of the Order, “to submit to the Commission a Staff Report, including suggested rule changes, and a draft Initiating Order for a rulemaking proceeding.”

Staff intends to conduct the workshop process according to the following timeline:

**February 27, 2020** – Staff solicits other stakeholders’ proposed revisions to the rules;

**March 24, 2020** – Parties share informal comments and proposed changes to Parts 466 and 467

**March 31, 2020** – Staff circulates Parts 466 and 467 with all proposed changes incorporated and identified by proposing party

**April 7, 2020** – Workshop held, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

In order to ensure the workshop is productive, Staff asks that parties share their respective proposed edits to Parts 466 and 467 in advance of the workshop. I have attached the current Rules in Word format. Parties are asked to make any changes or edits they propose to the Rules, with changes tracked, and send those to Staff with a copy to the parties included on this email no later than March 24, 2020. The proposal advanced by the Joint Solar Parties in Docket No. 20-0109 may be informative in drafting your proposed changes, but we ask that you focus on sharing edits to the rule, rather than the justification for those changes, as the workshop should provide ample opportunity for discussion.

Staff will incorporate all of the proposed edits and changes into a single document; this document will serve as the strawman for the workshop. Staff will circulate a document incorporating all the proposed changes by March 31, 2020.

Staff will host a workshop on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 in the video conference rooms at the ICC’s offices in Chicago and Springfield. The workshop will run from 9 am to 4 pm, with a break for lunch from 12 pm to 1 pm. The workshop will be conducted as a settlement discussion in the interest of encouraging the free exchange of ideas and identifying areas of consensus. The agenda for the workshop will be a discussion of each
of the proposed edits to each rule, with a goal of either reaching consensus on each proposed rule change, or identifying those issues unlikely to be resolved.

At the end of the workshop, there will be discussion of next steps, including whether convening a further workshop is likely to be beneficial.

Finally, Staff recognizes that the Docket No. 19-0995 Final Order directs consideration in the workshops of whether the requirement of a signed interconnection agreement should be removed from the project readiness criteria. Without taking a position on whether the requirement should be removed, Staff believes that there is merit to considering amendments to the Rules regardless of whether this requirement is removed. Moreover, this requirement does not appear to be a product of the rules but rather of IPA’s procedures. Staff welcomes participants’ thoughts as to whether this issue should be addressed separately from the Rules at the workshop, whether we should address it as the issue arises in the context of the discussion of the rules, or if there is another way this issue should be addressed.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Torsten Clausen or Marcy Sherrill at the numbers or emails below.

Torsten Clausen
312 / 814-1629
torsten.clausen@illinois.gov

Marcy Sherrill
312 / 814-2860
marcy.sherrill@illinois.gov