Illinois Commerce Commission to Host Policy Session on Solutions to Resource Adequacy in MISO Zone 4

CHICAGO-- On Thursday, December 10, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) will host a Policy Session to discuss solutions to Resource Adequacy in in the Ameren Illinois footprint, which is part of Zone 4 of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) RTO market construct.

The session is a follow up to the Resource Adequacy Policy Session the ICC hosted on November 19 in which the Commission brought stakeholders together to identify and discuss potential Resource Adequacy issues in Zone 4. During the discussion, panelists tackled questions regarding the long term balance of adequate energy availability and capacity with a consensus that the topic draws a potential concern.

“As stated during our first Session on November 19, the ICC does not have a position on this issue or any potential solution. Our Goal is to support the achievement of resource adequacy, including ensuring there is enough capacity available to meet the needs of all Illinois consumers in the MISO footprint during peak times and at just and reasonable rates,” said ICC Chairman Brien Sheahan. “Additional and supporting goals include maintaining confidence in the attainability of resource adequacy in all time horizons, building confidence in MISO’s resource adequacy assessments and providing sufficient transparency and market mechanisms to mitigate potential shortfalls.”

The Session will commence with brief presentations on the current state of resource adequacy in Zone 4. ICC Chairman Sheahan will moderate and presenters include Dr. David Patton, Independent Market Monitor for MISO, Potomac Economics; J.R. Tolbert, Sr. Director for State Policy, Advanced Energy Economy; and John Moore, Sr. Attorney, Sustainable FERC Project, Natural Resources Defense Council.

The Session’s second panel will explore whether resource adequacy in MISO Zone 4 is an issue and, if so, the discussion will focus on identifying potential solutions, including, but not limited to, new build, redesigning the market construct, demand response and energy efficiency. ICC Legal & Policy Advisor Elizabeth McErlean will moderate and panelists include Jeff Bladen, Executive Director of Market Development, MISO; Jim Blessing, Sr. Director of Power Supply & Infrastructure Development, Ameren Illinois; Bill Berg, VP, Wholesale Market Development, Exelon Corp.; Dean Ellis, VP of Regulatory Affairs, Dynegy, Inc.; Greg Poulos, Manager, Regulatory Affairs, EnerNOC, Inc.; Erika Diamond, VP & GM of Energy Markets, EnergyHub; and Dave Kolata, Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board.

In the day’s final panel, speakers will discuss the potential ramifications of proposed solutions on constituents including residential, industrial and manufacturing consumers. ICC Legal & Policy Advisor Anastasia Palivos will moderate and panelists include Jeff Bladen, Executive Director of Market Development, MISO; Jim Blessing, Sr.
The Session will take place from 9:00 am to 2:45 pm in the Main Hearing Room at the ICC’s Chicago Office located at 160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite C-800. Video stream will be available in the ICC’s Springfield Hearing Room A, and audio stream will be available online via the Commission’s website, www.icc.illinois.gov.