



**For Immediate Release**

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**ICC to Hold Supplier Diversity Policy Session**

CHICAGO – The Illinois Commerce Commission will hold its third annual Policy Session focusing on Supplier Diversity on Monday, June 6, from 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm.

ICC Commissioners Miguel del Valle, Sherina Maye Edwards and John Rosales will moderate the session.

The Commission supports the goal of Public Act 97-1041 to increase the participation of women, minority and veteran business enterprises in procurement contracts with regulated entities. At the meeting, the Commission will review Illinois utilities' compliance with Section 5-117 of the Public Utilities Act which requires regulated gas, electric and water utilities with 100,000 customers or more to annually report procurement goals and actual spending for minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned and small businesses.

Illinois utilities will present an overview of their procurement goals and actual spending with diverse businesses from the previous year. The overview will also describe each utility's internal and external outreach activities to diverse businesses and identify the organizations and events in which the utilities participate to promote procurement diversity.

The reports, filed by Illinois American Water, Ameren Illinois, Commonwealth Edison, Peoples Gas and Nicor Gas, were filed April 15, 2016 and may be viewed on the ICC's website [here](#).

The policy session will end with a Commission-led roundtable discussion on some of the current trends in supplier diversity, procurement challenges and triumphs, and solutions for sustaining and improving the pool of qualified vendors. You can see the policy session's agenda [here](#).

Participants include State Representative William Davis (D-30), Ralph G. Moore, president of RBMA; John Rogers, Jr., Chairman and CEO, Ariel Investments, LLC; Anne Pramaggiore, president and chief executive officer of Commonwealth Edison; Charles Matthews, president of Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas; Bruce Hauk, president of Illinois American Water; Melvin Williams, president of Nicor Gas; and Gloria Castillo, president and CEO of Chicago United.

The meeting will take place at the Commission's Chicago office located on the 8th floor of the Michael A. Bilandic Building, 160 North LaSalle, and via video conference in Springfield Hearing Room A. In addition, there will be an audio stream of the meeting on the Commission's [website](#).

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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 Bureau of External Affairs, which provides educational information on utility issues for consumers, governmental entities and communities and through its Consumer Services Division, resolves customer/utility disputes and develops rules on utility service and consumer protection; the Public Utilities Bureau, which focuses on financial and operational analysis, policy development, public safety and enforcement activities related to electric, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies; and the Transportation Bureau, which 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.