

STATE OF ILLINOIS

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COMMERCE COMMISSION

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

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CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

Northern Illinois Gas Company)
d/b/a Nicor Gas Company)
Proposal to change the Terms and Conditions)
relating to the Extension of Distribution Systems.)

Docket No. 06-0762

Direct Testimony of

J. MARK HARRISON

Executive Vice President
of the Home Builders Association of Illinois

April 12, 2007

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF J. MARK HARRISON

ICC DOCKET 06-0762

1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is J. Mark Harrison, 112 West Edwards Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62704.

2. Q. Please state your occupation.

A. I am the Executive Vice President of the Home Builders Association of Illinois, a Non-profit association. I am also the past President of the Executive Officers Council of the National Association of Home Builders.

3. Q. What is the Home Builders Association of Illinois (HBAI)?

A. Since 1956, the Home Builders Association of Illinois (HBAI) has been representing the interests of the citizens and home builders of Illinois by acting as the non-partisan public voice with state government, local government, and the media.

HBAI represents approximately 5,000 members throughout the State. The Association provides its members with many benefits, including insurance programs, publications, and contacts within the industry. Members are able to participate in local trade shows, and to attend the International Builders Show, which is one of the largest conventions in the world.

Another important aspect of HBAI membership is the networking that goes on. As a professional trade association, the Home Builders Association of Illinois offers its members the opportunity to work together to make meaningful changes in our industry. We also sponsor educational programs to help our members learn methods which will help their business grow and prosper.

4. Q. What is the Governmental Affairs Division of the HBAI?

A. HBAI's Governmental Affairs Division monitors an average of 5000 bills every year in the Illinois General Assembly. Our record of success in State Government is unsurpassed. In the last nine years, there has not been a bill signed into law effecting the housing industry that we have opposed. Our success is due to our ability to keep three full-time lobbyists on staff to handle this immense amount of work.

HBAI's Governmental Affairs Division also helps in writing laws. Working with legislators and state agencies, HBAI initiates legislation which protects the members' ability to earn a living within the housing industry. HBAI protects members' private rights and strives to maintain and create attainable home ownership throughout Illinois. HBAI takes the lead on issues of land use, labor and management, taxation, and government regulation. We are the voice for the home building industry in our State Capitol.

5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to comment on the revisions made by NICOR to the tariff at issue in this docket. We met with NICOR toward the end of February 2007 and proposed numerous changes to the NICOR tariff.

6. Q. Have you examined the NICOR Exhibits RG 1.1 and RG 1.2?

A. Yes, I have: NICOR has revised their proposed tariff and HBAI has no problem with the revised proposed tariff.

7. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

A. Yes.

VERIFICATION

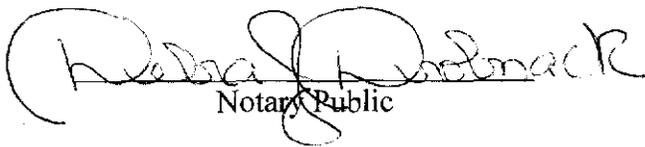
STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF SANGAMON)

The undersigned, J. Mark Harrison, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and states that he is the Executive Vice President of the Home Builders Association of Illinois; that he has read the foregoing instrument, and that the statements contained therein are true, correct and complete to the best of his knowledge, information and belief. If called to testify in this docket, he would make the same statements, under oath, as contained in the foregoing Direct Testimony.



J. MARK HARRISON

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 12th day of April, 2007.



Notary Public

