BEFORE THE

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

BENCH SESSION

(TRANSPORTATION)

Wednesday, April 8, 2014

Chicago, Illinois

Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 A.M.,
at 160 North La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

PRESENT:

BRIEN J. SHEAHAN, Chairman

JOHN R. ROSALES, Acting Commissioner

ANN McCabe, Commissioner

SHERINA E. MAYE, Commissioner

MIGUEL DEL VALLE, Commissioner

SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by

PATRICIA WESLEY

CSR NO. 084-002170
CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Good morning. In Springfield, are you ready?

MR. MATRISCH: Yes, we are.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, I call the April 8, 2015 Bench Session of the Illinois Commerce Commission to order.

Commissioners McCabe, del Valle, Maye and Rosales are present with me in Chicago. We have a quorum.

Pursuant to the Administrative Code, we allow members of the public to address the Commission. According to the Chief Clerk, we have one timely-received request to speak at today's meeting.

Ms. Worman, would you please come forward, have a seat, and make sure the mic is on, if you will introduce yourself and spell your name for the record, please. You will have three minutes.
PRESENTATION

BY

MS. WORMAN:

Thank you. I'm Terri Worman, T-E-R-R-I W-O-R-M-A-N. Good morning. I serve as the Associate State Director for Advocacy and Outreach for AARP in Illinois, and I speak today on behalf of the more than 700,000 AARP members in the City of Chicago and Lake County.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to address the distinguished members of the Illinois Commerce Commission on a critical issue potentially affecting thousands of Chicago area consumers.

With Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas on the verge of being acquired by Wisconsin Group, we urge state regulators to insure that specific provisions are built into the deal to protect consumers against poor service and unwanted higher rates.

Wisconsin Energy is looking to buy Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas, which serves
consumers of the City of Chicago and Lake County.

The request for the merger must be approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission. Consumers of both utility companies have often complained about poor service, slow reconnection and increasing rates.

People Gas is in the middle of a $300 million infrastructure revamp and has just won a large delivery rate increase. With Peoples Gas being significantly late in replacing its outdated cast iron gas pipes and with projected costs of this massive infrastructure project mushrooming from $2.2 billion to $4.6 billion, additional service disruptions and higher monthly bills are very likely to affect consumers if the acquisition is approved without any protections built into the agreement. Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas consumers are justifiably concerned.

On behalf of our members in the City of Chicago and Lake County and on behalf of the ratepayers, we urge the ICC to hear from consumers about their experiences with Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas before voting on the merger request.
Along with this testimony, we are delivering over 260 petitions and stories collected by AARP among Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas customers in Chicago and Lake County. It is critical that state regulators hear the voice of the consumers so that if the merger is approved consumers are assured of quality service and affordable rates. Thank you.

What do I do with these?

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Okay. If you want to just leave them there, we will have someone pick them up.

MS. WORMAN: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you.

(Public comments can be found in the Public Utility transcript.)

Moving on to our regular transportation agenda, we have some corrections to the March 25, 2015 Transportation Bench Session Minutes.

Are there any objections to making these changes?
Without objection, the edits are approved.

Is there a motion to approve our --

COMMISSIONER MAYE: So moved.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: -- March 25th Bench Session Minutes as amended?

Is there a second?

ACTING COMMISSIONER ROSALES: Seconded.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: All those in favor, say aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed, say nay.

(No response.)

The motion carries.

Our railroad agenda, Items RR-1 through RR-5, all involve granting authority for various public safety improvements to grade crossings.

Are there any objections to considering these items together and approving the proposed Orders in RR-1 through RR-5?

(No response.)
Without objection, the Orders are approved.

Moving on to our Motor Carrier agenda, Items MC-1 through MC-7 are all Stipulated Settlement Agreements for Violations of the Illinois Commercial Transportation Law.

Are there any objections to considering MC-1 through MC-7 together and approving the proposed Orders?

(No response.)

Without objection, the Orders are approved.

Under our Collateral Recovery agenda Item CR-1 concerning Application for Rehearing for a Class E Recovery Permit made pursuant to the Collateral Recovery Act, is there a motion to deny rehearing?

COMMISSIONER MAYE: So moved.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Is there a second?

ACTING COMMISSIONER ROSALES: Seconded.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Is there any discussion?

(No response.)
All those in favor of denying
rehearing, say aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed, say no.

COMMISSIONER del VALLE: No.

COMMISSIONER McCabe: No.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: The motion passes 3 to 2 and
the Motion for Rehearing is denied.

Mr. Matrisch, are there any further
transportation items to come before the Commission
today?

MR. MATRISCH: No, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you.

(Whereupon, the above matter
was adjourned.)