BEFORE THE

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

REGULAR OPEN MEETING

PUBLIC UTILITY

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Chicago, Illinois

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

PRESENT:

BRIEN J. SHEAHAN, Chairman

SADZI MARTHA OLIVA, Acting Commissioner

SHERINA E. MAYE EDWARDS, Commissioner

MIGUEL DEL VALLE, Commissioner

JOHN R. ROSALES, Commissioner

SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by
PATRICIA WESLEY
CSR NO. 084-002170
CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Good morning. Are we ready to proceed in Springfield?

DEPUTY DIRECTOR MATRISCH: Yes, we are.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, I call the June 28, 2017 Regular Open Meeting to order.

Commissioners del Valle, Edwards, Rosales, and Acting Commissioner Oliva are present with me in Chicago. We have a quorum.

There are no requests to speak this morning and, therefore, we are moving to our first item of Other Business, which is a report from the CEO of Southern Company Gas and the president of Nicor Gas on the status of compliance with the Order in Docket No. 15-0558.

With us this morning we have Andrew Evans, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Southern Company Gas, and Mr. Melvin Williams of Nicor Gas.

Welcome. Please join us at these two seats here, just make sure the button is on and the floor is yours.

MR. EVANS: Good morning.
CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Good morning.

MR. EVANS: Melvin and I have a few prepared comments and then we would love to take questions if that is satisfactory to you.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Sounds great.

MR. EVANS: So good morning, Commissioners, and I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak with you.

This is the fifth time that the company has come before you and the second time that I have been in front of this body to report on how we are preparing relative to the merger agreement that was stipulated in 2011.

As you know, on July 1st of last year AGL Resources was acquired by Southern Company, and our new name is Southern Company Gas. Despite changes in ownership of the company, I remain president of Southern Company Gas and join the management council -- management committee of Southern Company's parent.

Further, our Board remains independent and well represented by members from Illinois --
citizens of Illinois, and Melvin continues his role as president of Nicor Gas.

I am also here to reinforce the commitments that were made to the ICC as part of the Southern Company merger approval process, and I want to assure the Commission that we will remain committed to our customers in Illinois and remain both citizens and servants in our community.

Since closing the Nicor merger in 2011, we have maintained a focus on compliance with the merger conditions and we seek to insure clean, safe, reliable, and affordable service for our Illinois customers. That's a common set of four goals across our jurisdiction.

With respect to employment, we have met or exceeded all required employment thresholds, have total employment safety-related positions and executive management, and we will continue to do so.

With our substantial infrastructure programs under way in Illinois, we see an ongoing need for both skilled labor and corporate staff at Nicor Gas.
We will also continue to meet or exceed our community commitments. Our customers, neighbors, and communities deserve to have this important strong corporate system like Nicor Gas. We continue to invest over $2.2 million annually in our community funding, partnering with and volunteering to support a wide range of organizations in the community.

Most importantly, we want our workforce and our purchasing to be reflective of the communities that we serve.

The full details of our compliance with the merger conditions were provided in our recent report to the ICC.

Let me just add that after five years of operating in Illinois, we have demonstrated I think a strong track record of operating successfully under the relevant conditions and we plan to continue this for many years to follow.

Now with regard to the Southern Company merger, over the past 22 months we have been working diligently across Southern Company and the
legacy holding company of AGL Resources to insure
efficient, effective integration of our businesses.

The vast majority of this integration
is related to the reduction of corporate overlap in
Atlanta, so two strong corporations in Atlanta. It
allows us really to reduce inflation in our business
and focus on investment and infrastructure which is
our core goal.

To offer better employment,
development, and opportunity, we currently are
focused on harmonizing human resource functions and
offerings such as compensation, benefits, and
pensions, and, in many cases, this has resulted in
even stronger programs for our employees, and
luckily with the larger purchasing power generally
better expense.

One particular change is that we have
extended pension benefits to our employees. That's
the first time since 1998 which will positively
impact well over half of our workforce in Illinois,
but, most importantly, we have done this in a
cost-effective and sustainable manner because of
pensions being something difficult for corporations
to manage.

We are excited about the expanding
investments that we are making in our employees, and
our goal is to promote a more secure financial
future for them.

We expect the integration efforts to
be ongoing for several years to come, but the bulk
of our key initiatives will be completed by the end
of 2018.

Southern Company, like Southern
Company Gas, holds recruitment, development, and
retention of its employees and top talent and top
priorities for the company. This fits well within
our initiatives in Illinois to maintain employment
levels and hire and retain well-qualified, capable,
and diverse workforces.

Some of you may have been at the MARC
Conference earlier this month for Beth Reese. Our
CFO and I both spoke on this topic. I thank
Mr. Rosales. It was a great event last week and I
hope that we represented ourselves well there.
Following the Southern Company merger, we have adopted a common set of corporate values. We have some copies for you of them for you here. I will tell you that they really are a combination of the corporate values of both Southern and -- Southern Company classic, we call it, and AGL Resources but very consistent with our mission and our focus going forward long term. I'll leave these with you to review, but the values, as part of the Southern Company family, are very similar to what we upheld as an independent entity.

Now on pipeline, storage, and safety regulations, Melvin will provide additional details on our efforts to operate our systems safely and insure compliance within all pipeline and storage safety regulations.

I thought I would provide a little bit of my perspective on how I think about these issues as a leader of a business.

First and foremost, safety is about human beings and not about counts and statistics for me in particular. I focus on employees working
safely together to insure the safety of our infrastructure and the customers that we serve. I will tell you that safety is probably the one thing that keeps me up at night as I think about the complexities of our business. Even though Southern Company Gas has a strong history of effective compliance of safe operations, we don't stop at good enough and we strive to improve our performance in this area consistently over time.

In our compliance filing, we responded to a staff question about our plans to adopt voluntary recommended practice on complex safety processes. What that really means is that we are being asked to look at the length of activities, such as design, construction, operations, and maintenance of the pipeline system rather than just managing these areas discreetly.

We do agree that some of these -- that many of these practices are necessary across the industry to insure public safety, but what we would like to do in the early stages is pilot them, and
actually one of our sister utilities is Virginia Natural Gas. Because of its smaller size, we get a better sense of its effectiveness and cost benefit. We plan to leverage the learning from that program to further augment safety practices across the company and we are committed to a significant multi-year undertaking that will involve the integration of the company's many safety and compliance management systems and processes.

I receive safety updates on nearly a daily basis. Each month our safety and compliance team provides a detailed review of our performance. We examine a host of safety-related initiatives, including our ongoing replacement of aging pipeline, a very important program for us, emergency response times, safety notification, enforcement actions, and any industry incidents that we can learn from, just to name a few of the things that we are measuring on a very frequent basis.

At every level we are committed to improving and ultimately to zero incidents across our operations, including Nicor Gas.
In closing, the safety of our customers, our communities, our employees always remain my top concern coupled with a strong focus on customer service and constructive regulatory environments with a focus on providing efficient and effective natural gas services to the customers in the years ahead.

Thank you again for your time and I look forward to taking any questions that you have after Melvin's comments.

MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Good morning, Commissioners.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Good morning.

MR. WILLIAMS: I am pleased to be here to give our annual update. It's been a year and a half since we met for this occasion and a lot has changed since then.

As Andrew mentioned, we are now part of the Southern Company family and our parent company, AGL Resources, is now Southern Company Gas. We have a new look, a common set of values, and a new code of ethics that join our two companies.
What has not changed is our commitment to providing safe, reliable service to the 2.2 million customers here in the State of Illinois.

We remain focused on our four priorities: safety, reliability, growth, customer engagement, and employee engagement.

First and foremost, I would like to just take a few minutes to talk about the safety of our people, of our pipeline, and the public is always our number one priority.

To insure safety of our people, we continue to establish a culture of safety at Nicor Gas, and to insure the safety of our pipeline and public, we are committed to complying with all current and anticipated pipeline safety rules and we continue to communicate safety education to all of our customers.

Our qualified infrastructure program "Investing in Illinois" has been the cornerstone of our success in safety and reliability by allowing us to accelerate to the modernization of our natural gas infrastructure.
In 2016, we replaced 147 miles of aging natural gas main, 24,100 natural gas services, and we are on target to replace 146 miles of main and 26,400 services in 2017.

Upgrading our natural gas system also allows us to continue to meet the demand for our current customers to expand their businesses as well as potential customers looking to relocate their companies here in our state.

We recognize that a stable, modern infrastructure with a foundation to a strong business environment in our state and we continue to work with economic development organizations to promote Illinois as a great state to do business in.

In 2016 we added approximately 10,000 new customers and we are eager to bring natural gas services to areas under Rider 33, which we will market as our neighborhood expansion program, to allow more residents an affordable option to convert to natural gas.

We are proud of our consistent efforts around business diversity. In 2016 we achieved $145
million in diverse spend. We remain committed to creating a customer-centric culture at Nicor Gas while enhancing our customers' overall experience.

We know that customers value personal engagement from their service providers and we are working hard to insure that our customers want to do business with us.

To-date, we engage more than 650,000 residential business customers in our energy efficiency program. We are pleased to have assisted the state DCEO in the transition of income-qualifying energy efficiency programs serving the public sector in June of this year.

We recently expanded our sharing program in order to better serve veterans and at-risk customers and we will work what we consider a good faith payment to insure our customers have what they need.

Together these efforts will further our relationships with our customers. We also look to incorporate new technologies to support customer demand for more information and tools to support the
energy for the future.

Our total commitment extends beyond our customers, our communities as well. In 2016 we contributed more than $2 million to 200 organizations and our employees gave more than 2200 volunteer hours to efforts within our communities.

Our employees are the most important resource we have for meeting the obligations of providing safe, reliable natural gas service. As such, workforce development will continue to be the key priority of our business.

We are well aware of -- the Center for Energy Workforce Development estimates that nearly 50 percent of the energy workforce will retire in the next five to ten years. That, coupled with our accelerated infrastructure program, is resulting in new job creativity for a more qualified workforce.

We proudly support joint initiatives to increase the awareness of careers in the energy industry and we participate instilling that to promote Nicor Gas and to recruit new employees.
In 2016 we held more than 50 events reaching nearly 40,000 attendees. We are continuing these efforts in 2017. In fact, we have already completed over 40 events this year, and, of course, we are focusing on training, development, and retaining our workforce.

We see significant opportunity for growth and advancement in our organization and we want to insure we are utilizing the diverse skills, talents, and experiences that exist across our organization.

In summary, we have fully complied with conditions established in our merger agreement and we are pleased with our performance around the key areas of our business focus areas, safety and reliability, growth and economic development, customer engagement and employment engagement.

Thank you. We welcome the opportunity.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you.

Commissioners, any questions?

COMMISSIONER ROSALES: I have one. Thank you,
both of you, for being here.

Yesterday the power systems in the Ukraine were attacked through a cyber attack, and my question would be as you merge the two companies together, are you more vulnerable or less vulnerable if attacks were to occur?

I'm not sure if, from a business perspective, your merging your systems together would be a benefit. But is it better or not to be separate in that situation?

MR. EVANS: It's a great question. It is something we are talking a lot about. In fact, there was some notice of a potential attack on U.S. power facilities just a couple of days ago.

I will tell you -- a simple answer to your question is we are absolutely more secure as part of Southern. So, as a smaller business entity, we are just AGL Resources. We had very good disaster recovery and threat penetration controls in place.

We have two very important party systems, one is SCADO (phonetic), which is control
of our pipeline infrastructure; the other one is protecting customers from aging systems and servers, and we have really focused in on those two areas.

Southern is a much -- Southern Company in total is a much more complex business that is dispatching their electric utilities every 8 or 12 minutes, and so the entirety of their security around their infrastructure is actually significantly greater.

We know that we will spend in the millions of dollars more on technology security over the next couple of years as an entire family because of our integration at Southern.

I think we were best in class for a mid-cap utility. They're best in class for the Fortune 100, and our -- I should say our CEO is involved in national -- security on a national level and very active.

COMMISSIONER MAYE EDWARDS: Thank you. Welcome to the Commission and Chicago, Mr. Evans.

I have a question. I wonder what the total number of terminations and/or involuntary
retirees there were as a result of the merger at Nicor Gas.

MR. EVANS: Commissioner, I don't know that I have an exact number for you, but if I had to put a number on it, it's less than 50.

So, in general, we lost some senior corporate level executives that used their retirement because of the change of control agreements. That was the treasurer and head of human resources, our CEO, John Somerhalder, who preceded me. That really was the mass of it with pretty strong folks moving into those roles. We're integrating some really basic things into Southern so that falls in the category of IT, to the Commissioner's question, a little bit of accounting and a little bit of human resources, but, in general, we don't see a lot of head count reduction. The benefits are related to coming on to common platforms, reducing costs with outside vendors, having better supply chains. The other areas I don't think we have seen any loses in Illinois.

MR. WILLIAMS: No, we have not seen any losses
here, and it was really around our corporate functions, and we certainly don't anticipate, as we continue through the integration, that there will be any additional reduction.

COMMISSIONER MAYE EDWARDS: So those reductions didn't have necessarily a negative impact around the city?

MR. WILLIAMS: No, not at all.

MR. EVANS: Southern is a more traditional holding company in that they operate large, strong electric utilities. Gas is a very unique business to them, so I think it requires expertise.

In their production, much like in this area, electricity from natural gas has grown from 20 or 30 percent to something greater than 40, almost 50 percent, and they needed some sophistication in the acquisition of natural gas for those facilities, and that's what they acquired from us.

COMMISSIONER MAYE EDWARDS: Just one more question, Mr. Chairman. I know -- I think Nicor has done a phenomenal job in the two years since I have been here. I have seen an increase in the amount of
programs in recent years in the area of diversity.

You mentioned your priority was safety, as ours. I was curious to know if there's any similar events that have occurred with Southern Gas and other subsidiaries over the last year.

MR. EVANS: Yes. I think -- I don't want to fall flat on your business and supplier diversity question, but safety is the other thing you asked about.

We do have incidents from time to time and we find them on the systems where our infrastructure is the oldest, and so that means generally for us New Jersey and a little bit in Illinois. In particular, I'm sure you are probably thinking about that was more of a customer premise issue, something that concerns me just as much, which is the maintenance of equipment within a customer's premise.

Our main goal is to remove the bare steel and cast iron components of our system that are most susceptible to problematic conditions maybe is a little bit to the utilities, but maybe we might
have safety events for consumers.

I think investing in Illinois is going to give us a really good head start, help us make really good progress very quickly on it.

In Georgia we had a lot of bare steel and cast iron in our system and that commission was very progressive in the late 90s and early 2000s and literally removed all their bare steel and cast iron over that period.

The New Jersey Commission is actually less progressive than what we have here, so our placement there is actually less but they do occur across the system.

COMMISSIONER MAYE EDWARDS: Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Mr. Evans, I want to add my congratulations and appreciation for the company's efforts in approving supplier diversity. In particular, Mr. Williams' leadership in that area has been extremely valuable for all utilities in Illinois.

As you know, Illinois is one of the most diverse states in the nation and this is the
most diverse Commission in the nation. It's an important priority for the Governor as it is for myself, but one area within that topic that we are trying to pay some closer attention to is improvement of supplier diversity in professional financing services.

And I just want to ask what your thoughts were in terms of maybe some of challenges there and a way that the utilities can improve their record in those two areas in particular.

MR. EVANS: So it's an important area of focus. Diversity inclusion is an immensely important topic for me and my goal is to be a more modernized company.

I think personally I have a responsibility and a commitment there. It relates to our employee base and focusing on the pools that we're drawing from and the panels that we use to interview, being as reflective of the community as we can, but on the business diversity side that you mentioned, we can't simply rely on custodial and food service as a means to be more diverse in our
supplier diversity, so we have been very deliberate about making sure construction services, engineering construction services and operating services that we're moving to more diverse vendors.

The same is true of financial services, and there are some hurdles related to it, because if you think about the traditional debt capital markets -- the debt capital markets, demand for the 401Ks and pension funds, demand for Visas, these have been dominated by large Wall Street institutions as opposed to what we would consider to be minority women, veteran-owned businesses.

What we've tried to do is make sure we are exposed to all companies that participate in those sectors and to be deliberate about selecting some of those folks that we would like to sort of mentor along in the process so they can move from being a second tier debt capital market provider to being a primary distributor of our bonds.

And in this last financial issuance that we did in Illinois private placement, we included two diverse vendors in that, and I will
tell you that they did work in the second tier of
that facility, but they got great exposure to how
the distribution of this private placement occurred.
I think they'll be better vendors for us long term.
We have got to do it there or we're not going to
meet our goal long term. There's a lot of money
moving in.

COMMISSIONER del VALLE: Mr. Chairman, I
appreciate your statement, and I think the message
has been clear from the Chairman and the other
Members of the Commission that this is a priority
and important for us, but I just want to point out,
because I was not able to participate in the policy
session that we had on our annual reports, that the
spending and minority side appear to be heavily
weighted towards out-of-state business vendors.

So I'm wondering -- I know you fully
recognize that, because you have had the
conversation, but what steps are you taking to
generate more activity with Illinois businesses?

MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Commissioner. And,
yes, we have had a very robust discussion regarding
that particular perspective in the last policy session, and our commitment is to insure that we continue to advance all efforts associated with our supplier diversity imperative.

You heard me say before that it's not a program. It's not an initiative. It's a value and imperative for us and where we have opportunities and insure we are supporting businesses here in Illinois and we will certainly continue to do.

There are some challenges, and one of the things that we said in the last policy session in the area of our business where we have scale and scope particularly around construction identifying those minority firms or minority partners that are of scale and designed to be able to do the type of work that we have done out there and we have a focus to insure and not only are we doing this on a tier two level but bringing those smaller contractors in to work with our larger contractors allowing them the opportunity to be able to get to the scale, experience, and exposure that will allow them to be
able to be tier one or prime partners is one of the areas of focus that we have.

The other is to be able to identify those companies that may not necessarily be doing business with Nicor Gas at this point in time. They may be doing business with other utilities that we may have an opportunity to potentially partner with them as well.

Now, again, the challenge around that is there's a lot of construction and a lot of business going on and we don't want to move them from one utility just to be able to meet our commitment which will place a challenge on that commitment because they're simply going from one to the other. It's a complex set of variables, as I said before, but it does not go without our commitment to insure we're continuing to focus on every opportunity for supporting diverse businesses in the State of Illinois.

I will say that our commitment is also to insure we are creating an environment that allows for businesses wanting to come to the State of
Illinois, particularly to insure that we're supporting economic development, and the opportunity to be able to grow those businesses here as well. Finally, our diverse businesses we encourage them to be able to grow within our commitment with them and that partnership to be able to grow outside of Nicor and outside of Illinois as well, which, again, further supports the economic development for this state, and so this is an area of focus.

I welcome the opportunity to continue to be engaged with the Commissioners to make sure that we understand all the factors and variables associated with this particular dynamic.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you, gentlemen. I don't think we have any other questions. You are dismissed.

MR. EVANS: Thank you for having us.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: We are going to save the remaining items in our agenda on other business until the end of the meeting around our Transportation agenda.
There are edits to the Minutes of our June 7, 2017 Regular Open Meeting.

Are there any objections to approving the proposed edits?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Minutes are approved.

Moving on to our Public Utility agenda, there are edits to the Minutes of our May 24th, and June 1st, and June 7 -- June 7, 2017 meetings.

Are there any objections to approving the Minutes as edited?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Minutes are approved.

We also have our semi-annual review of closed meetings and transcripts.

Are there any objections to approving the Office of General Counsel's recommendation that 125 transcripts and meetings remain closed and none be released.
Hearing none, the recommendation is approved.

Moving on to our Electricity agenda,

Item E-1 is a consumer complaint against ComEd.

Are there any objections to approving the Joint Motion to Dismiss?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the motion is granted.

Items E-2 and 3 concerns MidAmerican's petition to engage in transactions with an affiliated interest.

Are there objections to considering these items together and granting the motion to withdraw?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the motions are granted.

Item E-4 concerns Spark Energy's Application for pro forma changes.

Are there any objections to granting the motion to withdraw?

(No response.)
Hearing none, the motion is granted.

Item E-5 concerns Progressive Energy Consultants' petition for a protective order of its ABC Annual Recertification.

Are there any objections to granting the Motion to Withdraw?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Motion is granted.

Items E-6 and 7 concern applications for certificates.

Are there any objections to considering these items together and approving the proposed Orders granting the certificates?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Orders are approved.

Item E-8 concerns Champion Energy's petition for confidential treatment of proprietary information.

Are there any objections to approving the proposed Order granting the petition?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the petition is
Item E-9 concerns ComEd's Order for Petition for Special Permission to file and place into effect tariff revisions on less than 45 days' notice.

Are there any objections to this Special Permission?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Special Permission is granted.

Items G-1 and 2 concern reconciliation of revenues collected under riders associated with energy efficiency and ongoing financial programs.

Are there any objections to considering these items together and approving the proposed Orders?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Orders are approved.

Item G-3 concern Spark Energy Gas' application for approval of pro forma changes.

Are there any objections to granting
the Motion to Withdraw?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the motion is granted.

Item T-1 on our Telecommunications agenda concerns the joint application for approval of reorganization for a waiver of certain conditions imposed in Docket 10-1025.

Are there any objections to approving the proposed Order approving the application?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Order is approved.

Item T-2 concerns Alliant Technologies' Application for a Certificate of Non-Prepaid Wireless Authority.

Are there any objections to approving the proposed Order granting the certificate?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Order is approved.

Item T-3 through 5 concerns petitions to cancel various certificates.

Are there any objections to considering these items together and approving the
proposed Orders canceling the certificates?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Orders are approved.

Item T-6 concerns ACN Communication Services' petition for confidential treatment of certain proprietary information.

Are there any objections to approving the proposed Order granting the petition?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the petition is granted.


Are there any objections to approving the proposed Order granting the certificate?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Order is approved.


Are there any objections to approving
the proposed Order?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Order is approved.

Moving back into our Other Business agenda, the second item is the Commission's Annual Report on Cable and Video Service Deployment.

Are there any objections to approving the Report?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the Report is approved.

The last item on our Other Business agenda concerns FERC Docket No. ER17-1016. This item involves potential litigation and, therefore, we will move into closed session for discussion.

Is there a motion to move into closed session?

COMMISSIONER ROSALES: So move.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER MAYE EDWARDS: Second.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: All those in favor say aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

The ayes have it and we'll ask our
public guests to leave the room.

(Whereupon, the following proceedings were held in closed session:)

* * * *

(Whereupon, the following proceedings commenced in open session:)

We would like to open the doors and invite our public guests back into the hearing room.

We are back in open session. Are there any objections to approving the proposed settlement strategy in FERC Docket ER17-1016?

(No response.)

Hearing none, the settlement strategy is put through.

Judge Kimbrel, do you have any other matters to bring before the Commission.

JUDGE KIMBREL: No, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Commissioners, do any of you have any other business you would like to discuss?
COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Yes, I do.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Commissioner Oliva.

COMMISSIONER OLIVA: Good morning, everyone. I would like to announce the Annual Policy Session immediately following the Commission's Regular Open Meeting on July 12th.

The policy session will consist of a morning and afternoon panel discussion on Renewable Energy in Illinois and the Future Energy Jobs Act. Dynamic panelists will address the possible and actual effects on the development of solar and wind in the State of Illinois, as well as the potential impact on the state's transmission and distribution systems.

To conclude, the panelists will examine the environmental policy in today's evolving energy landscape. We hope you will join us for this energetic and very current dialogue. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: Thank you.

I am also very pleased to introduce four summer interns, Ivy Bonner, Haley Bracken, Colleen Durkin, and Carlie Leoni. They're in the
back of the room.

Will you stand up just so that we can introduce you to the folks. Thank you for being here. We are glad to have you with us this summer.

I would also like to take this opportunity to just recognize all of the work that staff put in, that Commissioner Rosales put in in leading our hosting of MARC and Ann McCabe for all the work as a consultant and fundraising.

Ann handled, you know, what is a difficult transition with a lot of class, and John and his team and staff really took up the reigns and put on what I think is being discussed as maybe one of the best, if not the best, regional meetings that's ever been conducted.

So congratulations again, John.

COMMISSIONER ROSALES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN SHEAHAN: And staff as well. I know everyone put in a lot of time.

In addition to the staff, we had a lot of stakeholders from the utilities and others, and the sponsors, of course, who contributed to make it
really a terrific event.

The final announcement I've got is that the next phase of our NextGrid Utility of the Future Study. The electric utilities are going through the process of selecting an independent facilitator for this important initiative.

The utilities are going to issue an informal request for information at the end of this week and interested candidates are encouraged to respond promptly to the RFI.

With that, unless there's any other comments, we will stand adjourned. Why don't we take ten minutes to kind of regroup before BP, so that would make it 11:20. We will be back at 11:20 for the BP presentation. Thank you.

(Whereupon, the above matter was adjourned.)