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# ILLINOIS ENERGY FORUM

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## **EI-IEI Forecasts 7 Million Plug-In Electric Vehicles By 2025**

**The** Edison Electric Institute (EII) and the Institute for Electric Innovation (IEI) released a new report, *Plug-in Electric Vehicle Sales Forecast Through 2025 and the Charging Infrastructure Required*, which projects more than 7 million plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) will be on U.S. roads by 2025. The report also assesses the charging infrastructure necessary to support this growth, projecting an estimated 5 million charging ports will be needed.

Today, the majority of PEV charging occurs at home. However, as PEVs become more common, customers will expect to have the ability to charge their vehicles at work and at public places. The report finds that an estimated 2.2 million of the 5 million charging ports will be developed as away-from-home charging stations, and highlights the PEV infrastructure development efforts already underway in several states.

"America's electric companies are leading efforts to advance the electrification of the transportation sector, and these companies are well-positioned to develop the charging infrastructure we need to support 7

## **Legislature Overrides Governor's Vetoes To Approve 2018 Budget**

**The** Illinois General Assembly first passed, then overrode Gov. Bruce Rauner's vetoes of, a package of bills that provide the state's first comprehensive budget in more than two years. The package of bills included **Senate Bill 9** (an increase in the state's personal and corporate income tax rates), **Senate Bill 6** (a general spending plan for FY18) and **Senate Bill 42** (a budget implementation bill).

The action came during the first week of the new fiscal year that began July 1<sup>st</sup>. On the Fourth of July Holiday, the State Senate voted for the three bills and sent them to the governor, who promptly vetoed all three. Since they were Senate Bills, the Senate was first to take up consideration of overriding the vetoes, which they did that same day by very slim margins.

On July 6, the House of Representatives' scheduled vote on the vetoes was first interrupted

by a lockdown of the Capitol building caused by a suspicious white powdery substance that was allegedly thrown into the Governor's Office, the Lt. Governor's Office and the House Gallery. The substance was later determined to be non-toxic and the House finally went into session some two hours later.

The House then proceeded to vote to override the vetoes, also by very slim margins. The key to overriding the vetoes was the same as in passing the package of bills in the first instance – a fair number of House Republicans voted with nearly all of the House Democrats to pass the tax increase and budget bills.

An important part of the new budget that relates to the energy industry was language attempting to protect the State Supplemental LIHEAP Fund, which contains money raised from utility customer surcharges to assist

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## FROM THE STAFF

**Wow!** That was a pretty intense first week of July. Lots of fireworks, traditional and governmental, around Springfield during Fourth of July week, not to mention a haz-mat scare at a very inopportune time. However, we all made it through the week and the state came out of it with a budget. It's certainly not everything that everyone wanted, but it is actually a real live budget for the first time in recent memory. Hopefully, our elected leaders can build on it and take a few more steps toward righting the ship of state in the next few weeks. Happy Summer! **IEF**

*(Continued from Page 1)*—————

## EEL-IEI

**Million** PEVs by 2025," said EEI President Tom Kuhn. "Electric transportation is a win-win, meeting customer needs while also supporting America's energy security and sustainability."

PEV sales are expected to represent 7 percent of all vehicle sales by 2025, with PEVs projected to make up 3 percent of all vehicles (cars and light trucks) registered in the United States.

Developing charging ports and the accompanying infrastructure requires significant investment, which includes the cost of the equipment itself, installation costs, permits, and inspections. The electric power industry already is pursuing innovative solutions to help develop PEV charging infrastructure and to

plan for the smart integration of PEVs into the energy grid. **IEF**

*(Continued from Page 1)*—————

## 2018 Budget

**Low** income households with paying their utility bills. Nearly 300,000 low-income households in Illinois are assisted by LIHEAP every year through a combination of state and federal funds.

Another override vote was also important to the energy industry. **House Bill 1811** (Rep. Brandon Phelps, D-Harrisburg and Sen. Bill Cunningham, D-Chicago) was a major telecommunications policy bill that among other things would allow AT&T to convert older copper wire communication infrastructure to more modern wireless communication systems.

Utilities and power generators were concerned that provisions in the original bill would threaten some of their critical infrastructure circuits which were still tied to the older technology. The Illinois Energy Association and its member utilities and power generators negotiated an amendment to the bill which allowed more time for them to phase out the older technology.

Governor Rauner vetoed the bill that had passed both chambers of the General Assembly by overwhelming margins because of his opposition to a provision that increased the surcharge on residential users to provide more financial support to the 911 emergency number systems. Both the Senate and House voted to override the governor's veto and the bill became law.

Leaders in both the House and Senate indicated that despite passing the budget, their work was not finished and that legislators should expect to be called back to Springfield soon to continue to work on other pressing matters. **IEF**

## NextGrid Collaborative Seeks Facilitator

**The** NextGrid collaborative is seeking interested parties for the role of facilitator.

An initiative of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), NextGrid is a collaboration between the ICC, Illinois' large electric utilities, and energy stakeholders to study critical issues facing the electric utility industry and prepare for future demands on the industry.

The approximately 18-month initiative will be a consumer-focused effort to study ways to leverage the state's restructured energy market, investment in smart-grid technology, and significant expansion of renewables and energy efficiency as a result of the recently passed Future Energy Jobs Act.

In a resolution announcing the formation of NextGrid, the Commission called for the creation of an independent facilitator to lead the effort:

"...'NextGrid' will be managed by the Commission, with the assistance of an expert, independent third-party facilitator who will engage electric utilities, communities, and other stakeholders, including industry, academia, ratepayer and environmental advocates in a process of education and discourse..."

**IEF**

## Mayor Emanuel Joins Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas at Opening of its New Training Center in Little Village

**Mayor** Rahm Emanuel joined Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas President and CEO Charles Matthews; Alderman Ricardo Munoz (22nd); Illinois Senator Martin Sandoval and other community leaders in celebrating the grand opening of Peoples Energy Training Center, a new utilities training center in the Little Village. The state-of-the-art facility will provide annual training to more than 1,600 utility workers and fire officials across the region, while also providing much-needed vocational programming to help prepare Chicago Public Schools(CPS) students for future jobs in the gas and energy field.

"Today we are opening more than a training center; we are opening the doors to future job opportunities for our youth," said Mayor Emanuel. "Training is a critical component that will ensure our workforce, both current and future, have the skills they need to compete for stable, well-paying jobs in the growing field of energy. And I want to commend Peoples Gas for working to bring this important resource to Chicago."

"Turning this once vacant piece of property into a state-of-the-art training center for generations of workers was only possible because so many people shared a vision of what could be accomplished together," Matthews said. "Our customers, CPS, the city of Chicago and the local community will all share in the benefits this facility."

The new facility will be home to the Peoples Gas Utility Training program, a vocational job training partnership with CPS. The program kicks-off this summer and will prepare students from Dunbar Vocational, Fenger, Little Village, Lawndale, and other area high schools for potential jobs as "Gas-Track" Workers following graduation.

"I'm excited the new \$20 million Peoples Energy Training Center is coming to the Little Village community, the 11th district of where I represent the people on the southwest side of Chicago," said Senator Sandoval. "Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas along with the Illinois General Assembly have come together in partnership to invest in training the future workforce of the energy industry. The partnership with CPS and Mayor Rahm Emanuel are essential in getting our youth involved, and enabling students to receive the training necessary to compete for stable, well-paying jobs in the growing energy industry."

**IEF**

## Exelon Recognizes Service Firms For Commitment To Diversity and Inclusion

**As** part of ongoing efforts to promote diversity and inclusion (D&I) in all aspects of its business, Exelon has named 20 professional service partners to its 2017 D&I Honor Roll. Now in its seventh year, the honor roll recognizes finance, insurance and IT organizations for their work in 2016 to include women, people of color and other diverse groups in key roles on Exelon's account teams. The annual program will expand this year to include an opportunity for honorees to share best practices with each other and additional participants at a one-day forum focused on encouraging contributions from women and minorities in their businesses.

"Just as we seek to engage professional service firms who are the best at what they do, we want to work with partners who are committed to our values, including fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace," said Jack Thayer, Exelon's senior executive vice president and chief financial officer. "In our experience, those things go hand in hand -- having diverse teams leads to stronger results. We want our D&I Honor Roll program to serve as encouragement to other companies, and with the new best practice forum we look forward to learning from them as well."

Exelon's D&I honorees have doubled since the program's inception in 2011. The following companies will be recognized during this year's 2017 D&I Honor Roll program on July 20:

- Banking: Northern Trust Company, Citibank, MUFG, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, BNP Paribas, Mizuho, J.P. Morgan and CIBC
- Insurance: Beecher Carlson, Marsh and Aon
- IT Services: TradeMux LLC, 720 Worldwide Inc., Hi Tech Solutions Inc., ICON Information Consultants and Deloitte Consulting LLP
- Professional Services: Ernst & Young, Willis Towers Watson and PricewaterhouseCoopers

"Exelon and Northern Trust share a common goal of consistently demonstrating accountability and outcomes in our practice of diversity and inclusion," said Connie Lindsey, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility and Global Diversity & Inclusion at Northern Trust, a seven-year honoree. **IEF**

## **NCSL Annual Meeting in Boston**

**Monday**, August 7, marks the beginning of the Annual Meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in Boston. The NCSL's mission is to "improve state legislatures, foster communication among states and ensure a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system." Several Illinois legislators are members of key NCSL committees. The NCSL serves the legislators and staffs of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories. It is funded by the states and governed by a 56-member executive committee. For more information go to [www.ncsl.org/summit](http://www.ncsl.org/summit). **IEF**

## **NARUC Summer Policy Summit in San Diego**

**The** National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) will hold its Summer Policy Summit in San Diego, from July 16-19. State Commissioners and staff members from around the country will meet in various committees and subcommittees with an eye toward developing NARUC policy on several important issues of interest to the regulatory community.

Policies developed at the summer meetings may be acted upon at the NARUC annual meeting in Baltimore in November. **IEF**

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