
ILLINOIS ENERGY FORUM

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October is Cyber Security Awareness Month

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month, but securing the nation's energy grid is the electric power industry's top priority all year long. Electric companies proactively safeguard the energy grid and partner with federal agencies to enhance sector-wide resilience to cyber and physical security threats.

With continued investment in grid security measures, enhanced mutual assistance networks, and partnerships with the government, electric companies remain committed to securing the energy grid in the face of evolving threats. The industry has forged a strong partnership with the government through the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC) to prepare for, and respond to, national-level incidents or threats to critical infrastructure. EEI also continues to work with industry leaders, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on critical infrastructure standards for cyber and physical security to protect critical assets of the bulk power system.

EPA Proposes Repeal of "Clean Power Plan"

On October 10, 2017, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing to repeal the so-called "Clean Power Plan (CPP)." After reviewing the CPP, EPA has proposed to determine that the Obama-era regulation exceeds the Agency's statutory authority. Repealing the CPP will also facilitate the development of U.S. energy resources and reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens associated with the development of those resources, in keeping with the principles established in President Trump's Executive Order on Energy Independence.

"The Obama administration pushed the bounds of their authority so far with the CPP that the Supreme Court issued a historic stay of the rule, preventing its devastating effects to be imposed on the Ameri-

can people while the rule is being challenged in court," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. "We are committed to righting the wrongs of the Obama administration by cleaning the regulatory slate. Any replacement rule will be done carefully, properly, and with humility, by listening to all those affected by the rule."

The CPP, issued by the Obama administration, was premised on a view of Agency authority that the Trump administration now proposes to determine is inconsistent with the Clean Air Act. The CPP was put on hold in February 2016, when the U.S. Supreme Court issued an unprecedented, historic stay of the rule.

"EPA will respect the limits of statutory authority. The CPP ignored states' concerns and eroded longstanding and important partnerships that are a necessary part of achieving positive environmental outcomes. We can now assess

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FROM THE STAFF

Veto Session for the Illinois General Assembly will come early this year with scheduled session days now set for October 24-26 and November 7-9. Usually, the legislative Fall Veto Sessions run the week before and the week after Thanksgiving. Major energy policy legislation is not expected but when it comes to Veto Sessions, you just never know what will happen. Last year, one of the most important energy bills in the last two decades passed in Veto Session. As always, we'll be watching and keeping our readers informed. **IEF**

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Cyber Security Month

The industry shares actionable information through the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC). The E-ISAC also manages the Cybersecurity Risk Information Sharing Program (CRISP), a public-private partnership co-funded by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the industry, that facilitates timely bi-directional sharing of actionable unclassified and classified threat information, using advanced collection, analysis, and dissemination tools to identify threat patterns and trends across the electric power industry. **IEF**

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“Clean Power Plan”

Whether further regulatory action is warranted; and, if so, what is the most appropriate path forward, consistent with the Clean Air Act and principles of cooperative federalism,” said Administrator Pruitt.

The CPP was issued pursuant to an expansive view of authority under Section 111 of the Clean Air Act (CAA). The CPP required regulated entities to take actions “outside the fence line.” Traditionally, EPA Section 111 rules were based on measures that could be applied to, for, and at a particular facility, also referred to as “inside the fence line” measures. Prior to the CPP being issued, every single Section 111 rule on the books, including a handful of existing source rules and around 100 new-source rules, obeyed this limit. As the CPP departed from this traditional limit on EPA’s authority under an “inside the fence line” interpretation, EPA is proposing to repeal it.

EPA has now sent the NPRM to the Federal Register for publication. Upon publication, the public will have 60 days to submit comments.

The repeal package includes:

1. The “preamble,” which lays out the proposed legal interpretation, policy implications, and a summary of the cost-benefits analysis of the proposed repeal; and
2. The “Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA),” an in-depth cost-benefit technical analysis.

The proposed repeal both examines the Obama administration’s cost-benefit analysis, as well as provides insights to sup-

port an updated analysis of the environmental, health, and economic effects of the proposed repeal. The Trump administration estimates the proposed repeal could provide up to \$33 billion in avoided compliance costs in 2030. **IEF**

Nicor Gas, Local Fire Departments Partner to Educate Public on Natural Gas Safety

In its ongoing effort to raise awareness of natural gas and promote safety in the communities it serves, Nicor Gas will offer its natural gas safety program at 54 fire department open houses across northern Illinois. The annual public education events, which will run from Sept. 9 to Oct. 15, focus on ways residents can protect themselves and their families. It also coincides with National Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 8 – 14).

For 12 years, Nicor Gas has worked together with various fire departments to provide safety information to residents and educate them on natural gas safety in and around the home. At the events, Nicor Gas volunteers will provide kid-friendly demonstrations and important tips and tools to ensure that families know what to do in the unlikely event of a natural gas emergency. Display tables featuring hands-on activities will engage children about natural gas, its origin, use, and safety tips. Participants can learn about the Nicor Gas energySMART program, as well as energy assistance programs. **IEF**

Exelon Joins UN HeforShe Initiative to Advance Gender Equality and Improve Company Retention of Women

Exelon has joined the United Nations Women's HeForShe campaign with a commitment to invest \$3 million in STEM programs for young women and girls and to improve the company's retention of women by 2020. Launched by UN Women three years ago, HeForShe was created to foster a movement with a systematic approach and targeted platform where men can become change agents for gender equality.

Exelon committed to improve retention of women at the company by 2020, with a goal to reach parity in voluntary turnover of men and women professionals. In addition, to continue building the pipeline of women pursuing careers in the historically male-populated energy sector, the Exelon Foundation will invest \$3 million over the next three years to encourage and support young women's involvement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). The programs will create opportunities for girls and women to learn about and pursue careers in STEM-related fields.

"A diverse team of people – with different backgrounds, experiences, cultures and perspectives – makes Exelon a better company and a stronger community partner, and results in greater innovation and market competitiveness," said Chris Crane, Exelon president and CEO. "We are actively and successfully recruiting women to join Exelon; it's just as important that they thrive here and find a long-term career with our company. We are pleased to join with UN Women and distinguished world leaders to create the change necessary to build a brighter, more sustainable future where generations of boys and girls have the tools to solve societal challenges together."

In 2016, HeForShe launched a Thematic Champions program with global leaders who stand out as visionaries on gender equality. Each Champion is assigned a focus area and will actively leverage their unique resources to drive change that's fundamental to gender equality. Crane was named as one of six new HeforShe champions at their annual meeting. **IEF**

Commissioner Rosales Elected President of Organization of PJM States (OPSI)

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) has announced that Commissioner John R. Rosales has been unanimously elected to serve as President of Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI). The selection was made at the OPSI 2017 Annual Meeting at the Hilton Crystal City in Arlington, VA. Prior to the election, Commissioner Rosales had served a one-year term as Secretary of the Board.

"I am honored to have been chosen by my peers to serve as President of the OPSI Board. I appreciate the confidence my colleagues have placed in me and look forward to continue working on PJM and FERC issues that impact consumers," said Rosales.

"Commissioner Rosales has shown tremendous leadership as a member of the board of directors for OPSI and will do an outstanding job as President," said ICC Chairman Brien J. Sheahan. "Consumers are fortunate to have Commissioner Rosales working on their behalf in this very important field of utility regulation. The ICC is proud of his accomplishments and the recognition by OPSI."

Other newly elected OPSI officers include:
 Vice President: Michael Richard, Maryland Public Service Commission
 Secretary: Rachael Eubanks, Michigan Public Service Commission
 Treasurer: Dallas Winslow, Delaware Public Service Commission

OPSI, a non-profit corporation established in May 2005, is an inter-governmental organization of utility regulatory agencies in the 13 states and the District of Columbia whose utilities are served by PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM), the regional transmission operator (RTO) that oversees the operation of the electric transmission grid and related services. OPSI actively participates in PJM meetings and issues to the extent such issues may eventually affect the distribution customers of electricity that are under the individual jurisdiction of the 14 regulatory agencies within the PJM footprint. **IEF**

Energy Association Coordinates Illinois Night Reception

The Illinois Energy Association will coordinate the Illinois Night Cocktail Reception at the 129th Annual Convention of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in Baltimore, Maryland. The reception will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, at The Royal Sonesta Hotel.

Illinois Night provides an opportunity for all convention attendees from the state to get together for a social hour during the four-day convention.

Reservations to attend the Illinois Night event can be made until November 7 by contacting the Energy Association offices at 217-523-7348. **IEF**

NARUC Annual Convention in Baltimore, Maryland

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) will hold its Annual Convention in Baltimore, Maryland, from November 12-15, 2017. 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.

Members of the Illinois Commerce Commission serve on key NARUC policy committees. An Illinois Night Reception will be held on Tuesday, November 14. **IEF**

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