

MEEA Policy Insider: EEfficient News

September 18, 2017

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance's Policy Team is actively tracking policy developments in a number of states within MEEA's footprint. The MEEA Policy Insider captures the latest activity within each state and provides MEEA's most recently developed resources to aid members in their own outreach, education and advocacy initiatives.

This issue contains updates on policy activity in the following states. *Items noted with an asterisk have immediate advocacy opportunities.*

- Illinois*
- Iowa*
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Michigan*
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Ohio

At the end of the document you will find a section titled, MEEA's Events and Resources, which contains MEEA's latest webinars, written resources, staff contact information and upcoming events.

Illinois

Legislative

On August 11, the governor signed [Public Act 100-0077](#), the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act, enabling commercial PACE financing.

Regulatory

The electric and gas utilities filed their 4-year energy efficiency and demand response plans with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). The plans for each utility can be accessed on the ICC's website under the following docket numbers:

- ComEd [Docket 17-0312](#)
- Ameren Illinois [Docket 17-0311](#)
- Peoples Gas and Northshore Gas [Docket 17-0309](#)
- Nicor Gas [Docket 17-0310](#)

The Power and Energy System Area of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC/ECE) [has been chosen](#) as the facilitator for Illinois' [NextGrid](#) project, which will have a kick-off meeting on Thursday, September 28.

MEEA Activities

MEEA is reviewing the utilities' filings to understand the anticipated program offerings.

MEEA hosted an event with the Alliance to Save Energy in Chicago on July 21. The event explored the ways in which Illinois utilities, cities, companies, and the ICC are seeking to utilize big data and analytics to drive energy efficiency. Speakers included Chairman Brien Sheahan of the ICC, Val Jensen of ComEd, Dana Soukup of Siemens, and Chris Wheat of the City of Chicago. A delegation of staff from Congressional offices traveled from D.C. to participate in the event.

MEEA staff attended the ICC's annual supplier diversity meeting held on June 13. The [agenda and minutes](#) of the meeting are available for review. The utilities' reports from the last three years are accessible on the ICC's [website](#).

How to Get Involved

If you would like to submit public comment on a utility's energy efficiency plan filing, you may do so via each of the docket links above. Look for the "Public Comments" link on the eDocket webpage.

Indiana

Regulatory

All of Indiana's IOUs have pending DSM planning cases, which can be accessed on the [IURC Online Services Portal](#):

- NIPSCO (electric, 2018) - 43618 DSM 12
- IP&L (electric, 2018-2020) - 44945 NONE
- Vectren (electric, 2018-2020) - 44927 NONE
- Duke (electric, 2017-2019) - 43955 DSM 04
- IMP (electric, 2017-2019) - 22841 NONE
- Vectren (electric, 2016-2017, remanded on appeal) - 44645 NONE
- NIPSCO (gas, 2018) - 44001 GDSM 11

Iowa

Executive

On October 1, the Iowa Energy Center will be transferred from Iowa State University to the Iowa Economic Development Authority, which houses the Iowa Energy Office. The Center's \$4.4 million in annual funding will go to IEDA through 2022.

Regulatory

[Alliant Energy](#), [MidAmerican Energy](#) and [Black Hills Energy](#) have filed their 2016 annual energy efficiency plan reports with the Iowa Utility Board (IUB).

How to Get Involved

On November 8, the Fall Operations Report and Review meeting to discuss energy efficiency program changes will take place in Des Moines at the IUB hearing room. Prior to the meeting, the investor-owned utilities and stakeholders will simultaneously exchange proposals and recommendations for 2018 energy efficiency program adjustments via email on September 15. At the meeting, the utilities will provide the most recently available 2017 program achievements (participation, energy savings, spending), and discuss recommended or planned changes for 2018 programs. For more information, email the Office of Consumer Advocate of Iowa's Utility Specialist, [Sheila Parker](#).

Kentucky

Regulatory

[Talina R. Mathews](#), Ph.D., was appointed for a four-year term to the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) by Gov. Matthew Bevin on July 3, 2017. She previously served as the PSC's Executive Director.

Michigan

Regulatory

The initial Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) IRP planning modeling assessment (authorized in the recently enacted energy bill package ([PA 341](#) and [PA 342](#))) continues to develop. Soon, the process will move from the informal stakeholder process to the MPSC's more formal, but publicly open, docket.

On August 11, GDS released energy waste reduction potential studies for the [lower](#) and [upper](#) peninsulas.

On August 31, the MPSC released its second draft [strawman](#) proposal. This is the culmination of the informal process, and this draft strawman will be used as a jumping off point for the formal MPSC process throughout the fall, ending December 20, 2017.

MEEA Activities

On June 5, 2017 MEEA [submitted comments to the MPSC](#) relating to the treatment of energy waste reduction within the integrated resource plan.

On August 8, MEEA Staff attended an MPSC IRP Stakeholder meeting during which Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBNL) gave a presentation on the [Michigan IRP process](#), energy efficiency as a [capacity resource](#), energy efficiency as a [risk mitigation strategy](#) and IRP [stakeholder engagement](#).

How to Get Involved

The MPSC will have a three-location public hearing tour this September. The meetings will be held on 1) [September 6](#) in Livonia, 2) [September 13](#) in Grand Rapids and 3) [September 19](#) in Marquette.

Stakeholder written comments on the strawman must be submitted by October 20, following the three hearing dates. Comments should be emailed to [Bonnie Janssen](#) or [Cathy Cole](#).

Details of the recent stakeholder comments and meeting dates have been posted by the MPSC at www.michigan.gov/energylegislation.

Minnesota

Regulatory

On July 27, Minnesota regulators voted 3-2 to raise the state's social cost of carbon. The price will increase from the current range of \$0.44–\$4.53 per short ton to a range of \$9.05–\$43.06 by 2020. The commissioners who voted against the decision actually wanted a higher range of \$12.30 - \$63.56 per short ton, in line with recommendations from the MN Pollution Control Agency and MN Department of Commerce. Xcel Energy proposed a range close to the adopted range, while Great River Energy, Otter Tail Power and Minnesota Power proposed a lower range. Documents regarding the issue are at the [MN eDockets](#) website, Docket 14-643, however the written decision is not yet posted.

Missouri

Legislative

On July 11, [SB112](#) was signed into law by Governor Greitens. Previously, the Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act (MEEIA) precluded properties that participated in Missouri's low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) program from utilizing utility-run energy efficiency programs. SB112 strikes this provision from

MEEIA and allows LIHTC properties to participate in the energy efficiency programs offered by Ameren Missouri and Kansas City Power & Light.

Regulatory

On June 28, the Missouri Public Service Commission (MO PSC) issued final order to amend the rules governing the implementation of the MEEIA, case number [EX-2016-0334](#). These regulations govern all aspects of regulated utilities' demand-side management programs from establishing performance incentives for the utilities to structuring the large energy user opt-out provisions, the statewide stakeholder collaborative, and much more. The proposed changes correspond to rules CSR 240-[20.092](#), [20.093](#) and [20.094](#). The rules will be reviewed by the Governor's office, JCAR, and will be published in the Missouri Register. The rules go into effect at the end of July 2017.

The Public Service Commission staff report on the Emerging Regulatory Issues working case, [Case EW-2017-0245](#), was released on July 10. This case explores a range of issues including solar energy, electric vehicles, advanced metering infrastructure, rate design and clean energy financing. The report summarizes the positions of the comments filed by interested parties to the case and lists staff recommendations for next steps. MEEA wrote a [blog](#) summarizing the report.

MEEA Activities

MEEA submitted [comments](#) to the Missouri Public Service Commission's proposed changes to the [MEEIA rules](#). MEEA is reviewing the final draft rules.

MEEA met with the MO Treasury Department in August to discuss the state's [Linked Deposit](#) program.

Ohio

Legislative

The legislature is set to reconvene for regular session on September 12. Chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Balderson, has mentioned a desire to take up a comprehensive energy bill to be possibly considered in the fall that would use [HB 114](#), which, as discussed previously, revises the state's energy efficiency resource standard, as the vehicle.

Regulatory

On July 25-27, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) hosted the second phase of Power Forward, *Exploring Technologies*, which featured presentations that examined the technologies affecting a modern distribution grid, what grid modernization can offer consumers and what technologies are

in development to realize such enhancements. Interested parties can watch the live webcast of both Phase 1 and 2 proceedings on the [Power Forward website](#). The next phase will kick off with a meeting of regulators in early 2018 to address how to reform utility rates, revenue regulation and investment plans to meet PowerForward's main goal of providing policy objectives for Ohio that will guide the future grid modernization filings coming from the state's utilities.

MEEA Events and Resources

Recent Policy Publications and Resources

- [Energy Efficiency Collaboratives: Working together to save energy in the Midwest](#)
- [Midwest Multifamily Market Characterization: Building Attributes & Occupant Demographics](#)
- [Factsheet: Non-Energy Benefits of Energy Efficiency](#)
- [Energy Efficiency Tracking Considerations for Kentucky](#)
- [Monetizing Energy Efficiency: Implementation Strategies for Kentucky](#)
- [Well-Suited Energy Efficiency: Tailoring Programs for Multifamily Buildings](#)
- [The Economic Impacts of Energy Efficiency Investments in Indiana](#)
- [The Economic Impacts of Energy Efficiency in Michigan](#)
- [The Economic Impacts of Energy Efficiency in Ohio](#)
- [The Economic Impacts of Energy Efficiency Investments in the Midwest](#)