



NextGrid Study Working Groups Draft Report Review and Public Comment Session Agenda

September 21, 2018

10:00 am - 3:20 pm

Location: ICC Main Hearing Room, 160 North LaSalle, Suite C-800
Chicago Illinois 60601

WebEx Information: www.webex.com or 1-415-655-0002

Meeting number (access code): 804 384 525

Meeting password: TyKCaF37

Meeting Summary

[Note: descriptions of comments and discussion are condensed summaries and paraphrases]

Agenda Item I: Welcome and Overview

Agenda Item II: WG 4 Draft Report Review and Public Comment

Attendee List

NextGrid Project Team:

In Person:

- Marty Cohen, *WG 4 Leader and NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Annette Beitel, *NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Terrance Garmon, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

WebEx:

- Pete Sauer, *University of Illinois, NextGrid Lead Facilitator*
- Katharine McErlean, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

Working Group Members:

In Person:

- Chris Townsend, *NextGrid Coalition*
- James Gignac, *Union of Concerned Scientists*
- Chris Foley, *Commonwealth Edison*
- Sarah Galioto, *Gridliance*
- Phil Casey, *Gridliance*
- Trent Carlson, *Gridliance*
- Paul Jett, *Gridliance*
- Monica Martinez, *Rubens Strategy Group*
- Katie Stonewater, *Illinois Chamber of Commerce*
- Janice Dale, *Illinois Attorney General*
- Karen Lussan, *Illinois Attorney General*
- James Gignac, *Union of Concerned Scientists*

Public:In Person:

- Bruce Montgomery, *Technology Access Television*

WebEx:

- Cheryl Dieter
- Nick Greyer
- Chris Villarreal, *Plugged In Strategies*

WG 4: Customer and Community Participation Draft Report Review and Public Comment Presentation by Marty Cohen, WG 4 Leader and NextGrid Senior Study Consultant:

- Meeting was opened by Marty Cohen, Working Group 4 leader and NextGrid Senior Consultant under the Open Meetings Act.
- Participants introduced themselves.
- Marty Cohen gave a brief overview of the Working group 4 draft report.
 - The draft report was a culmination of working group member perspectives that reflected opportunities and challenges in regard to the grid of the future and its impact on a wide array of customers.

Public Comments:

- Marty Cohen opened the floor for public comments.
- Comment 1- Did the draft talk about Alternative Retail Electric Suppliers (“ARES”) and their interaction with customers and utilities?
 - Marty Cohen - Yes, look at Section 5 (pg. 12). Marty Cohen then went into the legislative history of ARES rule making and how customer choice evolved in Illinois.
- Comment 2 - Encouraged the report include statistical information regarding ARES from the Commission’s annual ORMD report and Dr. Phil O’Conner’s paper on ARES analysis. Specifically, information regarding the prices customers have paid if they used an ARES vs. if they used default supplier, and statistics of how much customers have paid. Numbers speak not only to what people have lost in terms of dollars, but also to the very nature of trying to understand consumer demand. They had a choice, but when they chose it hurt them. Information about prices was not readily available to consumers. This is due to complicated and confusing nature of how electricity is priced.
- Would also encourage more education in terms of where customers can go to get information so that they can make the best decisions. If they cannot find the information on the Commission’s website, would encourage they call ICC and have someone from the Commission help them navigate site.
- Dr. Sauer, Lead Facilitator from University of Illinois- our draft report will be made public in October. There will be another chance to look at it. There will be another chance to identify what is missing.
- Marty Cohen - We did footnote Dr. O’Connor’s research in the report.

- Comment 3 - Applaud efforts of NextGrid. There has been a lot of very good discussion that has occurred within the working groups. Think there are indeed benefits in open market structure. Want to highlight that all benefits and successes may not be economical in nature. Ex. Ease of access with new technologies, etc. Dr. O'Connor presented figures in several different forums that have demonstrated economic benefits that have seen benefits. Both residential and large customers have seen benefits. Also provides additional products, green power, different forms of pricing. Additional benefits (such as gift cards). Illinois consumers have received tens of billions of benefits. Types of discussions are important Should be balanced.
- Comment 4 - Who do we email additional comments to at this point?
- They should be emailed to ICC.NextGrid@illinois.gov. You may also cc Katharine McErlean at Katharine.Mcerlean@illinois.gov.
- Comment 5 - Want to know about status of intro chapter and the inclusion of a disclaimer as to what the report will and will not be used for.
- Comment 6 - Agreed. Since there were no attribution to where statements and statistics came from, we do not know the validity of such statements. Would like to see language at the beginning that states the scope of NextGrid, the time constraints and way meetings were conduction and reports generated. Things to include:
 - Clear recitation
 - Not docketed proceedings
 - No cross examination
 - No ability to independently verify data presented as fact
 - No ex parte protections as part of the process.
 - Opinions were not tested
 - Each working group had approximately four meetings
 - Series of presentations – not enough time to evaluate each of the topics. Not enough time to have discussions.
 - Important that each Chapter not attempt to “fill in the gaps”
 - Consensus should not be assumed on any topic. Consensus was not reach on any topic.
 - To extent public policy makers pick up this report as the basis for making law, must have it be clear about time limitations and procedure in this process.
 - Members of the General Assembly may be asked to rely on this report in formulating law, this will be primary concern that we have.
Thank the leaders and we appreciate time and energy.
- Dr. Sauer – great comments. We will try to include. I think we are bound by the Chatham rules. However, I think we will list who were the contributors in the sense that everyone contributed to some part of the report. We will include your comments to be reflected in the introductory chapter and will rely on goals of the NextGrid set out in this process.
- Marty Cohen - Do not like the word “disclaimer,” but do believe that it is important to outline the scope and manner in which NextGrid was conducted. Mr. Cohen read an excerpt from the Working Group 4 Draft Chapter that attested to the scope and uses of the final report. (See chapter 4 section 1.4 on process discussion)

- Dr. Sauer - Agree that scope should be included. I have already started revising the introductory chapter and pulling from other WG introductions. This is a good point.
- Annette Beitel, NextGrid Senior Consultant – how do we go back and attribute comments to previous chapters?
- Comment 7 - It is a difficult thing to do and probably impossible. Since comments are not attributed, would like to see a statement upfront that explains statements were not attributed to specific commenters.
- Comment 8 - It is a challenge how to reconcile these different views in a way that is useful. The way the report is being presented, creates the impression It is a collection of opinions, we still don't know how this report will be used. Because the views being collected in this report are so broad and contradictory, I'm concerned that it will be difficult.
- Marty Cohen read an excerpt from his chapter that says statements are not attributed.
- Annette Beitel – Results of competition: Residential consumers pay extra money and benefit from extra benefits. Chapters 4 and 5 big discussion from Dr. O'Connor. How would you articulate why both set of contradictory facts are true?
- Comment 9 – No way to verify and put into context, figures I quoted are from Illinois Commerce Commission. Without verification and attribution question is how valuable is discussion for policy making?
- Marty Cohen – No conflict between two sets of data, Dr. O Connor's data has to do with benefits and outcomes of wholesale restructuring. All customers in Illinois have competitively sourced energy. If it is not clear, we should make change in the draft. Residential customers have four options. Flats rates, IPA procurement, municipal aggregation purchased from retailers, primarily what RMD report is discussing or access wholesale market through hourly pricing. Question has to do with difference in wholesale market competition vs. any added value thus far. This is discussed in report. If you want to see addressed another way, suggest making those comments.
- Comment 10 - RMD report data on prices comes from retailers themselves. This report is different than the way ICC writes other reports.
- Comment 11 - Suggest as get final report from University of Illinois to bring all working groups together to talk about introductory chapter.
- Hearing No additional comments, meeting is closed by Marty Cohen.

Meeting Adjourned.

Agenda Item III. WG 5 Draft Report Review and Public Comment

Attendee List

NextGrid Project Team:

In Person:

- Marty Cohen, *WG 4 Leader and NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Annette Beitel, *NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Terrance Garmon, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

WebEx:



- Pete Sauer, *University of Illinois, NextGrid Lead Facilitator*
- Katharine McErlean, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

Working Group Members:

In Person:

- Chris Townsend, *NextGrid Coalition*
- James Gignac, *Union of Concerned Scientists*
- Katie Stonewater, *Illinois Chamber of Commerce*
- Monica Martinez, *Rubens Strategy Group*
- Chris Foley, *Commonwealth Edison*
- Denis, *Illinois Chamber of Commerce*

WebEx

- Chris Foley, *Commonwealth Edison*
- Monica Martinez, *Commonwealth Edison*
- Chris Villarreal, *Plugged In Strategies*
- Danny Waggoner, *Advanced Energy Economy*
- Nathan

WG 5: Electricity Markets Draft Report Review and Public Comment presentation by Annette Beitel, NextGrid Senior Study Consultant:

- Working group was structured with design thinking, first had exploratory discussions about key areas that should be considered in retail markets and received input from the group about design principles and functionality requirements. Subject matter was proposed by working group members. Discussions described what retail market would include. Dr. Kiesling created process through surveys, discussions and expert presentations on what functionality requirement should be on pg. 34 and design principles are on pg.37. Group voted on what are key physical attributes in designing retail markets and what they thought was most important. Did not end meetings with a proposed retail market design. Tried to characterize the value and customer base. Examples of customer base are in chapter 5. Dr. Kiesling developed a road map about different options to getting to visions which would include long term retail market design not be develop too early or too quickly.

Public Comments:

- Annette Beitel opened the floor for public comments.
- Comment 1 - Question about the process, this working group process made it different than others. Would like an opportunity to provide additional information? Will there be another draft published? Request another meeting to discuss draft chapter.
- Annette Beitel - Updated draft of WG 5 Report will be posted on website on September 24th.
- Annette Beitel - Hearing no more public comments meeting is closed. The next meeting will resume at 1:05 pm.

Agenda Item IV: BREAK

Agenda Item V: WG 6 Draft Report Review and Public Comment

Attendee List

NextGrid Project Team:

In Person:

- Marty Cohen, *WG 4 Leader and NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Annette Beitel, *NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Terrance Garmon, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

WebEx:

- Pete Sauer, *University of Illinois, NextGrid Lead Facilitator*
- Katharine McErlean, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

Working Group Members:

In Person:

- Denis, *Illinois Chamber of Commerce*
- Chris Townsend, *NextGrid Coalition*
- James Gignac, *Union of Concerned Scientists*
- Chris Foley, *Commonwealth Edison*

•

WebEx

- Chris Foley, *Commonwealth Edison*
- Monica Martinez, *Commonwealth Edison*
- Chris Villarreal, *Plugged In Strategies*
- James Gignac, *Union of Concerned Scientists*
- Mark Templeton, *University of Chicago*
- Philip R O'Connor, *PROactive Strategies*
- Danny Waggoner, *Advanced Energy Economy*
- Nathan
- DW

WG 6: Regulatory and Environmental Policy Issues Draft Report Review and Public Comment presentation by Annette Beitel, *NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*:

- Overview: Working group covered beneficial electrification and decarbonization. To examine working group areas, conducted 4 meetings, each had a reading list, lists are in appendix to the chapters, in each session members of working group heard presentations by experts.
- The group broke out in small groups and had discussions and the report summarizes what transpired during each meeting.
- Covers feedback that emerged from small group discussions.

- Meeting no.1 explored DERs resources and had a presentation by Jason Prince from Rocky Mountain Institute a leading sustainability think tank. Meeting no. 2 was on climate change, extreme weather and grid resiliency. The main presentation was by Tom Skilling who is a weatherman from WGN and explained weather impacts are already occurring in Illinois due to climate change. The group discussed climate adaptation and mitigation. The 3rd meeting at request of participants covered beneficial electrification presentation by David Fransworth from the Regulatory Assistance Project and final meeting discussed pathways to decarbonization by David Little and Ken Colburn from the Regulatory Assistance Project. This report does not conclude with next steps.

Public Comments:

- Request for public comments in the room- hearing none.
- Any comments on the phone? Hearing no comments going to conclude this meeting and resume at 2:05 for a discussion of Chapter 7 lead by Marty Cohen.

Agenda item VI: WG 7 Draft Report Review and Public Comment

Attendee List

NextGrid Project Team:

In Person:

- Marty Cohen, *WG 4 Leader and NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Annette Beitel, *NextGrid Senior Study Consultant*
- Terrance Garmon, *Illinois Commerce Commission*

WebEx:

- Pete Sauer, *University of Illinois, NextGrid Lead Facilitator*
- Katharine McErlean, *Illinois Commerce Commission*
- Ken Costello, *NNRI, WG 7 Co-Leader*

Working Group Members:

In Person:

- Chris Foley, *Commonwealth Edison*

WebEx

- Chris Villarreal, *Plugged In Strategies*
- James Gignac, *Union of Concerned Scientists*
- Mark Templeton, *University of Chicago*
- Philip R O'Connor, *PROactive Strategies*
- Erin O'Connell Diaz, *Future Forward*
- Danny Waggoner, *Advanced Energy Economy*

WG 7: Ratemaking Draft Chapter Review and Public Comment Presentation by Ken Costello, WG 7 Co-Leader:

- Overview: This is an open meeting. Meeting is open under the Open Meeting Act. A meeting summary will be available after the meeting.
- Held our last meeting last Thursday. A couple day before we sent out the first draft. Main purpose of the meeting was to have people comment on first draft at our last meeting. There was vibrant discussion from the group.
- Some parties thought the introductory part was not balanced enough because they took utility perspective rather than consumer.
- Group Discussion of different interpretations of what was in WG 7 draft report.
- Meeting ended, and parties requested to submit comment by September 27th, next Thursday. We will incorporate those comments into the next draft and then send that draft out to working group members for final review before it goes to University of Illinois.
- Spent a significant amount of time going through comments we have and are now waiting for the next submission of comments due next Thursday.
- Comment 1- Both dates the 27th and 28th were discussed in the meeting. Some people are under assumption comments are due the 28th.
- Ken Costello– Comments by COB on 28th will be fine.
- Next draft will be submitted from Work Group Leaders to University of Illinois and posted to the NextGrid website.
- University of Illinois was asked to provide the ICC with all the chapters back on October 5th.
- Will be new perspectives we did not discuss. Will be new material.
- Annette Beitel – Can you explain the process once you receive your comments?
- Ken Costello – will be more conclusive statements. What we saw last Thursday, parties did not articulate their positions, sounds like the parties are going to be more definitive and aggressive in their positions. Will change the whole report.
- Annette Beitel – Would be helpful to change the report into more of a narrative. Two good working group chapters to look at as model forms would be WG 1 and WG 4 to show narrative and how various positions are reflected.
- Ken Costello - The next draft will include a table of different views expressed. In the last box of the table, it will not describe consensus, but general sentiments that there was a topic discussed and based on totality of discussion on the topic we can say the group is leaning towards a position.

Public Comments:

- Public comments are encouraged now or through written submissions at any time through the NextGrid website.
- Hearing no public comments, the meeting is closed.

Meeting Adjourned.

Agenda Item VII: Closing Remarks

- Chapter 5- the narrated version will be posted by Monday, will be open for additional comments.
- Chapter 7 - additional comments will be submitted by next Friday, September 26th.
- The draft report is being produced by university of Illinois.
- Date draft report will be issued is still up in the air. Anyone who is interested may submit written comments on any chapters and best way to submit is through NextGrid website. Comments will be forwarded to U of I.
- Thank you to everyone participating today and to everyone participating throughout the NextGrid process.

Meeting Adjourned.