

CITY HALL, ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

WARD OFFICE, 1447 WEST MORSE AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60626

PHONE: 773-338-5796
WEB: 49THWARD.ORG
EMAIL: OFFICE@49THWARD.ORG



MARIA E. HADDEN
ALDERWOMAN, 49TH WARD

CHAIRWOMAN, COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & ENERGY

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

COMMITTEES AND RULES
ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT
BUDGET & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & ENERGY
HEALTH AND HUMAN RELATIONS
HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE
IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE RIGHTS
PUBLIC SAFETY

Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy Monthly Rule 45 Report: May 2026

Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On May 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy held a meeting in Council Chambers in City Hall, Chicago, Illinois.

Roll Call:

The following committee members were present: Hadden (49) Knudsen (43), LaSpata (1), Ramirez (12), Lopez (15), Tabares (23), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Conway (34), Reilly (42), Lawson (44), Martin (47), Manaa-Hoppenworth (48) & Cruz (30)

Remote Participation: Sigcho-Lopez (25) & Clay (46)

The following members were absent:

Non-members present: Hopkins (2)

Public Comment:

There were **5** public speakers

There were **1** written comments:

- Written Comment from Sustainable Englewood Initiative, which included the following attachments shared with committee members ahead of committee meeting
 - Exelon Transmission East Garfield.pdf
 - Was your home built before 1986? Your drinking water could be lead-exposed. (3).pdf
 - Grand Prairie Water Commission | Illinois [Link](#)

Materials received by the committee

- Bio of David Perez- ComEd's Chief Operating Officer.
- Compilation of ComEd-related Q&A from previous years' committee meetings, submitted through the Chair.
- ComEd's press release for their recent reconciliation filing
- Article by the Chicago Tribune about ComEd's filing to recover \$234 million in added costs

- Report by Institute for the Public Good: **Reforming Illinois Municipal Electricity Use Tax: A Case for Ending Residential & Small Business Subsidies for Industrial Energy Users**, [Here](#).

The Committee addressed the following items:

1. Rule 59 approval for virtual participation:

Chair Hadden called for a roll call to establish a quorum. After establishing a quorum, the Chair called for a vote to allow remote participation for members of the Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy, Ald. Sigcho- Lopez (25). Ald. Lawson so moved to allow remote participation, which was approved by voice vote.

Later in the meeting, the Chair called for a vote to allow remote participation for Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy member Ald. Clay (46). Ald. Lopez so moved to approve remote participation, which passed by voice vote.

2. March 2025 Rule 45 Report approval:

Chairwoman Hadden requested a motion to approve Rule 45 for March 2026. Alderman LaSpata so moved, and the approval of the March 2026 Rule 45 was accepted without objection.

3. O2026-0022796- Amendment of Municipal Code Section 10-32-055 to limit height of non-tree plants in native and pollinator gardens to 36 inches.

Chair Hadden invited Chief Sponsor Ald Hopkins to speak on his ordinance. Alderman Hopkins and Deputy Commissioner Gloria Pitman from the Department of Streets and Sanitation discussed the resolution and addressed council members' questions.

Chair Hadden asked for a motion to recommend approval of **O2026-0022796**. Alderwoman Ramirez so moved; the item passed without objection. Chair Hadden stated that the do-pass recommendation would be reported out at the May 20, 2026, City Council meeting.

4. Subject matter hearing: Annual Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) Summer Preparedness hearing

Several representatives joined the City Council to provide testimony and answer questions on Annual Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) Summer Preparedness hearing

- David Perez, EVP and COO
- Ajit Apte, SVP of Customer Operations and Strategy
- Mark Baranek, SVP of Technical Services
- Melissa Washington, SVP of Governmental, Regulatory, WFD, and EA
- Jeremy Smith, VP of Distribution Operations
- Andy Plenge, VP of Energy Policy and Acquisition
- Carla Friehe, VP of Transmission & Substations

- Dale Player, VP of Engineering & Smart Grid
- Brian Runowski, VP of Projects & Contracts
- Jim Ortega, Director of Grid Analytics
- Max Leichtman, Director of Economic & Workforce Development

Representatives responded to all questions, and the question-and-answer period concluded.

Having no further business before the committee, Chairwoman Hadden requested a motion to adjourn. Alderman Rodriguez Sanchez so moved; hearing no objections, Chairwoman Hadden adjourned the meeting at 11:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Hadden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maria E. Hadden, Chairwoman
Committee on Environmental Protection & Energy