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MARIA E. HADDEN
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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: September 2026

Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On September 1, 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), LaSpata (1), Lopez (15), Tabares (23), Cruz (30) Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Conway (34), Reilly (42), Lawson (44), Angela Clay (46), Martin (47), Manaa-Hoppenworth (48).

Remote Participation: Sigcho-Lopez (25)

The following members were absent: Knudsen (43), Ramirez (12)

Non-members present: None

Public Comment:

There were 5 public speakers

There were 6 written comments as follows:

- T'Keyah
- The Flooding and Sewage Coalition
- Cheryl A. Watson
- Tessa Murray from the Friends of the Chicago River
- Center for Neighborhood Technology
- John Paul Jones- Sustainable Englewood Initiative

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 Ald. Sigcho-Lopez (25). Ald. Clay so moved to allow remote participation, which was approved by voice vote with Ald. Lopez being the only "nay."

2. July 2026 Rule 45 Report approval:

Chairwoman Hadden requested a motion to approve the Rule 45 report for July 2026. Alderwoman Manaa-Hoppenworth so moved, and the approval of the July 2026 Rule 45 report was accepted without objection.

- 3. SO2026-0027165-** Amendment of Municipal Code Sections 18-14-101.3 and 18-14-101.4 regarding covered buildings and related public availability of water usage data now with mandatory reporting of such data, Section 18-14-102.3 removing "data center" exception of reporting, now requiring public release of data center benchmarks and performance ratings by Chief Sustainability Officer.

Chair Hadden asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance. Alderman LaSpata so moved, and the substitute ordinance was accepted for consideration without objection.

The Alderman presented the substitute ordinance and responded to questions from members of the Committee.

Alderman Lopez moved to amend Section 18-14-101.4, "Solicitation of Compliance Information and Water Usage Data," subsection (b), by striking the word "may" and replacing it with "shall." Following discussion and deliberation by the Committee, the motion to amend was adopted. The substitute ordinance was accordingly amended to replace "may" with "shall" in Section 18-14-101.4(b).

Chair Hadden asked for a motion to recommend approval of **SO2026-0027165**. Alder Rodriguez-Sanchez moved; the item passed without objection. Chair Hadden stated that the do-pass recommendation would be reported out at the September 23, 2026, City Council meeting.

4. Subject matter hearing on urban flooding events in Chicago

Several representatives joined the City Council to provide testimony and answer questions on urban flooding events and mitigation efforts in the city

- Brendan Schreiber - Deputy Commissioner to the Chicago Department of Water Management
- Kari Steele - President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
- Dr. Catherine O'Connor - Engineer with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
- Kevin Fitzpatrick - Engineer with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
- Sean Weidel - Deputy Commissioner with the Chicago Department of Transportation
- Matthew Crocker - Civil Engineer with the Chicago Department of Transportation
- Matthew Doughtie - Manager of Emergency Management with the Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications
- Matthew Schmitz - Managing Deputy Budget Director with the Chicago Office of Budget and Management
- Belina Wordlaw - Assistant Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Environment
- Jackie Rigley - Project Manager with the Chicago Department of Environment

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. Alderwoman Cruz so moved; hearing no objections, Chairwoman Hadden adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Hadden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the first name being a large, stylized "M".

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