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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
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy Monthly Rule 45 Report: November 2023

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City of Chicago Rules and Order, the **Committee on Environmental and Energy Protection** submits the following monthly report for **November 6, 2023**.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On November 6, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy held a meeting in City Hall, Room 201A, in Chicago, Illinois.

Roll Call:

The following committee members were present: Hadden (49), Knudsen (43), LaSpata (1), Ramirez (12), Lopez (15), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Conway (34), Lawson (44), Martin (47), and Manaa-Hoppenworth (48)

Remote participation: Cruz (30)

Per rule 59, Chairwoman Hadden asked for a motion to approve Alderperson Cruz for remote participation by the same roll call that was applied to establish quorum. Alderman Conway so moved, and Alderperson Cruz was marked as present.

The following members were absent: Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Reilly (42), and Clay (46)

Non-members present: Dowel (3), Mitchell (7), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Cardona (31), Villegas (36), and Vasquez (40)

Reports SO2023-0001243 Received by Committee: ending Municipal Codes Titles 2, 8, and 11 regarding administration of private hauling complaints.

- 2) A table tracking the changes from the original ordinance and SO2023-0001243.
- 3) Transcript of a public forum the ICC held regarding Peoples Gas' rate increase request

Public Comment:

There were **6** public speakers and **2** written comments.

Written Public Comment Submission:

- The Peoples Response Network submitted a written public comment expressing concerns about Peoples Gas' rate hike request, high rates of gas shut-offs in low-income neighborhoods, and calling for Dave Graham's position in CDPH to be terminated.
- The Public Interest Research Group submitted a written public comment expressing concerns about Peoples Gas' rate hike request and the mismanagement of its Safety Modernization Program.

Public Comment Speakers:

George Blackmore
Ernest Lukasik
Mai-Anh Pham
Adele Sims
Richard Rutschman
Donna Carpenter

The Committee addressed the following items:

1. **O2023-0004939 amending Municipal Code Chapter 11-4 regarding radiation monitoring to remove the Carnotite Moratorium Area (4)**

Chairwoman Hadden asked for a motion to recommend approval of **(O2023-0004939)** by the same roll call that used to establish a quorum, Alderman Knudsen so moved; the item passed without objection, and Chairwoman Hadden stated that the do-pass recommendation would be reported out at the November 7, 2023, City Council meeting.

2. **SO2023-0001243 amending Municipal Code Titles 2, 8, and 11 regarding administration of private hauling complaints**

Chairwoman Hadden asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance **(SO3-0002926)** by the same roll call that was applied to establish quorum. Alderman Martin so moved, and the substitute ordinance was accepted for consideration without objection.

Chairwoman Hadden asked for a motion to recommend approval of **(O2023-0001243)** by the same roll call that used to establish a quorum, Alderman Martin so moved; the item passed without objection, and Chairwoman Hadden stated that the do-pass recommendation would be reported out at the November 7, 2023, City Council meeting.

3. **R2023-0004577 calling for hearing(s) on proposed rate hikes by Peoples Gas Company**

Chairwoman Hadden asked for a motion to recommend approval of **(R2023-0004577)** by the same roll call that used to establish a quorum, Alderman Knudsen so moved; the item passed

without objection, and Chairwoman Hadden stated that the do-pass recommendation would be reported out at the November 7, 2023, City Council meeting.

Following the passage of the resolution, several representatives joined the City Council to provide testimony on the Peoples Gas' rate hike request pending before the Illinois Commission Council. Those witnesses included:

- a. Torrence Hinton, Peoples Gas;
- b. Jason Carter, Local 18008;
- c. Kara Principe, Local 150;
- d. Jerry Lewis, JLL Construction;
- e. Elba Aranda-Suh, National Latino Education Institute;
- f. Ivonne Rychwa, Citizens Utility Board;
- g. Abraham Scarr, Public Interest Research Group;
- h. Christie Hicks, Environmental Defense Fund; and
- i. Reverend Veronica Johnson, Faith in Place

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. Aldermen Martin so moved; hearing no objections, Chairwoman Hadden adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Hadden", written in a cursive style.

Chairwoman Maria E. Hadden
Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy