



# Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

## State of Illinois Energy Transition Workforce Commission January 5, 2024 10:30 am Minutes

### **Locations:**

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### **Purpose**

The Energy Transition Workforce Commission was created by the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act “CEJA” (Public Act 102-0662). The Commission is charged with producing an Energy Transition Workforce Report that anticipates the impact of the energy transition on Illinois’ workforce and provides recommendations to address changes to Illinois’ workforce between 2020 - 2050. The Commission consists of CEJA Regional Administrators, leadership from multiple state agencies, and community leaders from Illinois’ business, labor, and environmental justice communities.

### **Agenda:**

- I. Call to Order – Jason Keller, Chair, Energy Transition Workforce Commission
  - a. Roll Call of Membership – Tonda Reece, UIS were present via Zoom:
    - Angela Morrison
    - Sameer Doshi
    - Pat Devaney
    - Lisa Jones (not present)
    - Larry Dawson
    - Nate Keener
    - Shad Etchason
    - Michelle Cerruti
    - Jason Keller (Chair)
    - Director Kristin Richards
  - Chair Keller said present. Thank you very much.
- II. Approval of Minutes from the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Chair Keller said Can you give me a total count? Is that eight members present?
- Tonda (UIS) said yes that's eight.
- Chair Keller said okay, thank you very much. As has been the normal course of business we will be taking public comments at the end of this meeting. I don't know that we have any public members on. But if folks do join or are on if you can, please let Tonda know that you wish to speak at the end, and we will allow for public comments at the end. The first item on the -- or I should say the second item on the agenda. It's approval of the minutes from the December sixth meeting that we held, those were distributed by Tonda, I believe it was yesterday with revisions made by Commissioner Doshi. Are there any questions on the minutes or comments? I am not hearing any. Is there a motion to adopt?
- Commissioner Devaney motioned.
- Commissioner Keener second the motion.
- Chair Keller said all in favor please say aye.
- All voted aye, the motion passed to have the minutes from the December sixth meeting adopted and posted to the website.

### III. Approval of Phase II Report

- Chair Keller said the next item on the agenda is the approval of the Phase 2 report, the report with updates from Dr. Kriz. It was distributed yesterday. I'm open to -- as the email stated from Tonda yesterday, I'm open to technical revisions. You'll see that Dr. Kriz has not made himself available for this call. So, we can make very technical changes we can discuss. But at this point we're ready well there for final approval and needing a vote to approve it. Are there comments from commissioners?
- Commissioner Doshi said Chair Keller, first, I want to make a broad comment, and then I have couple small technical suggestions for the consideration.
- Chair Keller said please proceed.
- Commissioner Doshi said thank you, Chair Keller. I want to thank Dr. Kriz and his team, not sure if he has a team, or if it's just him. But either way, Dr. Kriz's efforts and this report was outstanding over 2022 and 2023. I really appreciate his effort to dig into multiple analytical tools which I imagine he may not have encountered before. But it wasn't -- that wasn't apparent from his excellent work on this report. I think the information he developed will be very informative for the people of Illinois and its policymakers and I just want to say, personally, I really appreciate it.
- Chair Keller said I appreciate those sentiments, and I share them as well. He worked very hard and was responsive to questions and comments, and so on the record. It's very much appreciated -- the work.
- Commissioner Doshi said I do have a small number of small technical suggestions for the Commission's consideration if I may? If the Commission agrees with any of my suggestions, I think we could pass it on to Dr. Kriz's, and I think he could make the change readily; it's not really any -- doesn't reflect any substantive disagreement with anything in the report.
- Chair Keller said I think it looks like Director Richards has her hand raised. If you want to proceed directly.
- Director Richards said thanks everyone. Commissioner Doshi, your comments make a ton of sense to me, what I would benefit from, and perhaps the other Commissioners, we feel the same is reaching out to some of our sister agencies and asking just how they pursue decommissioning monitoring of former plant assets. I don't have answers to those questions. It would be helpful for me to know before we proceed with putting it in the final report again. I don't see any of that as controversial, but I would like some added context... (audio went out, then came back with saying)... was the question is, if other Commission members would agree and I don't know Chairman Keller the extent to which that could

prolong final, final, final on this report. But perhaps if you just give me a little bit of time to do some due diligence with the agencies, and maybe we can even invite someone to present to the Commission and just share some information on what is the current practice by these sorts of authorities, as they were referenced in the report.

- Commissioner Devaney said Director, like, just so we're all on the same page, what section are you referring to specifically?
- Director Richards said and I apologize, Pat, I think I might have skipped to the recommendation section. I think I skipped ahead. Sorry I hopped out of order a little bit.
- Chair Keller asked do you mind if we come back to that?
- Director Richards said yes, put a pin in that and go back to the report, that's perfectly fine.
- Chair Keller said on the Phase 2 report, then, Commissioner Doshi, do you know, again, I want to make sure they're technical, and not going to change the report in any substantive manner.
- Commissioner Doshi said yes, I believe so.
- Commissioner Devaney said really quick again before we proceed. I just want to make sure we're all-- and I don't have any objections I don't believe to any of the changes that we received in this updated version. Could you tell me just so? It's I understand where these things are coming from? There's changes that are highlighted in yellow, and there's changes that are highlighted in green. What is the significance of those? And if and if you said that in a communication, I missed it.
- Chair Keller said as far as I know, they mean the same thing. Dr. Kriz did not indicate that the green indicates anything different than the yellow.
- Commissioner Devaney asked Commissioner Doshi are some of those yours and some of those Dr. Kriz's? That's what I assumed as I read it.
- Commissioner Doshi said yes, so in December I sent a couple of emails to Dr. Kriz with suggestions the green highlights he put represent text that was in the draft report that was circulated November 27, that he felt already addressed my points. That's why he highlighted certain text in green and yellows are the changes.
- Commissioner Devaney said yellow is changes subsequent to that.
- Commissioner Doshi said yes,
- Commissioner Devaney said got it. Alright. Thank you.
- Chair Keller said okay, so Commissioner Doshi if you -- and I don't, to my knowledge, know what changes you're going to propose here? So, I think we're all on the same page. We're hearing it for the first time. So, if you want to proceed to, how many do you have?
- Commissioner Doshi said two points about footnotes and 2 points about baseline years.
- Chair Keller said okay, if you can, please cite page numbers where you want to make changes, we can discuss them there quickly.
- Commissioner Doshi said yes. So in footnote one, on page 4, Dr. Kriz was responding to comments, I think that I made at the December sixth Commission meeting and information that I emailed to him subsequently about the wind and solar targets in State statute, namely, the Illinois Power Agency Act. Back at the December sixth meeting, I had said, would it be possible to compare the targets already in state law against what the ReEDS model says will be needed and I guess, after some consideration, Dr. Kriz's inserted this Footnote one. And my suggestion is the final sentence of footnote one feels to me like Dr. Kriz's opinion. I'll read it. He wrote, "we found no documentation for how the total generation referenced in the report was calculated, as such, comparing the results from a thoroughly documented model to what may well be unrealistic goals or targets seems like a step backward." So, it feels to me like that could be Dr. Kriz's opinion, which is certainly fine and understandable, but in my view, this commission does not have a record before us to call the targets already in state law unrealistic. So...

- Chair Keller said your proposal would be to remove that last sentence.
- Commissioner Doshi said yes, to delete the final sentence of footnote one.
- Chair Keller asked is there discussion from other commission members on that proposal? Any objections to removing it? Okay I will. I have the word document open. I will go ahead and strike that last sentence right now.
- Commissioner Doshi said thank you. And then my other comment on a footnote is on page 23, Dr. Kriz inserted the citation for the map of coal ash impoundment sites that was previously in the draft Phase 2 report. He wrote -- I guess this is not a footnote, but it's the citation immediately below the graph, "source Earth Justice Network 2023." And I would just suggest deleting the word network because that's not the proper citation. It should just say source Earth Justice 2023.
- Chair Keller asked any discussion on that proposed change? Any objections to with removal? And hearing none, I will go ahead and strike the word network on page 23, the footnote, I'm sorry, the source note. Okay, go ahead.
- Sameer Doshi said thank you. And then my other 2 comments are about stating baseline years for some of the analyses, so that readers can understand. In table one my understanding based on both reading the Phase one report that was published last year,
- Chair Keller said can you say?
- Commissioner Doshi said sorry page 11, table one, where he states estimated job losses from fossil fuel, electric generation, plants, and coal mines. But based on the Phase one report that was published in, I think February of '23 and some of my email colloquy with Dr. Kriz in recent weeks. My understanding is the job losses from fossil fuel plant closures and coal mines, and stated in table one would include the closure of some plants, power plants that were active as of the date of CEJA, in September 2021, but have now closed which includes Waukegan, Will County, Joppa, and Edwards and oh, and Joliet also. So, I would just suggest in the caption of table one, adding in parentheses something like 2021-2045.
- Chair Keller said after the word coal mines at the end.
- Commissioner Doshi said yes.
- Chair Keller asked any comment on that suggestion.
- Commissioner Devaney said describe again what you're suggesting to add please.
- Commissioner Doshi said yeah, so a reader might not understand whether this job loss estimate is from today going forward, or, as I believe, as is the actual intent and setup of the analysis it includes the losses from plants that already closed after 2021, namely, Joppa, Edwards, Waukegan, Will County and what's the other one, said before Joliet. So, for that reason at the end of the caption, where it says, table one estimated job losses from fossil fuel, electric generation, plants, and coal mines. I would just suggest parentheses 2021-2045.
- Commissioner Devaney asked do you think all of those facilities that were already scheduled to close, that you just described, that captures all of them. So, it's from 2021 on that, that's accurate?
- Commissioner Doshi said yes, because the setup of Dr. Kriz' similar table in the Phase one report included all of those power plants being closed. And in an email response to me within the past couple of days. Dr. Kriz confirmed that the new table one in the Phase 2 report also captures the losses from those power plants that closed post CEJA.
- Commissioner Devaney said got it. Thank you.
- Chair Keller asked any other discussion on that proposed change?
- Commissioner Keener said I'm sorry, I just want to raise, I don't know, I'm trying to think carefully of like what I'm really asking here. I know that we've been asked at the various events out in the field to be clear about plants that closed and plants that close because of CEJA. And I'm just trying to think through the implications of this change as to whether that makes it more confusing or less confusing on that

point? And so, I'm trying to think, 2021 being when CEJA was signed are we implying that they closed because of CEJA by doing that?

- Commissioner Devaney said I don't know that somebody would. I don't know. Somebody would imply that that was the case. I, as we negotiated CEJA, if my memory serves me correct, all but one privately held coal generation facility had closure announcements already, so I believe one was perhaps or not, the result of policy that was enacted in CEJA. So, I don't know that somebody would draw that conclusion. My personal opinion.
- Commissioner Keener said that's fine. I and I just wanted to throw it out there for discussion. So that's good.
- Commissioner Devaney said it's a good point.
- Commissioner Keener said I'm good. Appreciate it.
- Commissioner Doshi said and Commissioner Keener to that point. I asked Dr. Kriz to change a few references in the draft report, where it said that we are analyzing the effects of plant closures due to CEJA. I asked him to change it to "the energy transition, including CEJA" or including CEJA policy, and you'll find highlighted in yellow in a few places, including page one and page 10, and a few other places that he made that change.
- Commissioner Keener said thank you.
- Chair Keller asked any other discussion on that proposed change? Hearing none, I will ask. Are there any objections to that change? Hearing none, we'll go ahead, and I've already put those years into the slot there on page 11. So, Commissioner Doshi, your next one.
- Commissioner Doshi said thank you. Okay, now, turning to page 20, where the environmental effects analysis begins, where Dr. Kriz discusses his use of the COBRA tool to analyze changes in air quality. I would suggest that on the bottom of page 20, where it says, "the results of the analysis are shown graphically in figures 16 and 17 and table 3." I would suggest, after the word analysis insert in parentheses, using 2000x as a baseline year. I don't exactly know which baseline year Dr. Kriz was using? But if it's the same baseline as in the jobs table we just discussed, then it could be 2021 as a baseline year.
- Chair Keller said can you explain why that would be important to include?
- Commissioner Doshi said sure. So, energy transition in Illinois has been proceeding for a number of years. Other power plants like Crawford, Fisk, Wood River closed throughout the 2000-teens so the reader would be better informed to know what is the baseline for these air quality improvements.
- Chair Keller said okay. And do you believe that the paragraph above, where it's the last sentence says, "details on the model could be found in the model documentation EPA, 2021." Does that suffice?
- Commissioner Doshi said I don't think so, because the model itself -- the model alone is not aware of what inputs you put into it. And if, in fact, Dr Kriz, as I believe to be the case, entered the closure of Joliet, Waukegan, Will County, Joppa and Edwards as part of the inputs into the COBRA tool. Then that implies the baseline year is 2021. If that makes sense?
- Chair Keller said other thoughts or discussion from commission members? I don't, I know this is a small matter. This is something that you brought up with Dr. Kriz, and he... Did you bring this up with Dr. Kriz?
- Commissioner Doshi said well, I in my comments to Dr. Kriz, I stated. Sorry, finding my comments. Oh, yes, I did write in my comments to Dr. Kriz, every analysis and graph presented in the Phase 2 report should be clear about which baseline year is being used for comparison.
- Chair Keller said okay, and he did not respond to that then?
- Commissioner Doshi said yeah, per, perhaps that comment was too general, and I could have been more surgical and specific. It seems that in this COBRA section the baseline year is not clear.

- Chair Keller said so with the indulgence of the Commission, I can insert a comment and go back to Dr. Kriz and ask for the baseline year for that particular section and the figures that are referenced and insert that for the final report. Any objections to that hearing them? I will talk or speak with Dr. Kriz about the baseline being there.
  - Commissioner Doshi said thank you. That's all my comments on the Phase 2 report circulated yesterday.
  - Chair Keller asked are there other Commission members that wish to speak on the Phase 2 report?
  - Commissioner Devaney said no, I'm not going to make -- suggest the change here, because I think the practical reality will be the same. But I saw this when I read it the first time, and I think again, that's going to be the practical result, or at least the intent of the policy. But that same sentence is technically not correct. The policy, and CEJA was not 100% reduction in fossil fuel electric generation. It didn't specify, it was based on elimination of emissions like carbon and other types of like emissions. So, I just for the record, that wasn't exactly how the policy was created in CEJA. It was based on eliminating big carbon dioxide and emissions versus saying that all fossil had to cease operating by a date certain. Just so everybody's on the same page here.
  - Chair Keller asked other comments.
  - Commissioner Morrison said Chair Keller mine is more procedural. I saw that Dr. Kriz had inserted a line where there would be an executive summary entered into. Is that anticipated to be added at some point. And will we have a chance to review that before it becomes a public facing document?
  - Chair Keller said that is a great question. When he sent me the Phase 2 final report to me, he did indicate he will work on an executive summary; whether or not that goes before the full commission is not necessarily up to me. That will be at the discretion of DCEO as far as what the future of the Commission is. So, I will defer that question to a later discussion.
  - Commissioner Morrison said okay, thanks.
  - Commissioner Devaney said Chair Keller, what is the other document that was in the attachment? That is draft, confidential, pre-decisional? And then I was a little bit unclear as to what that was.
  - Chair Keller said that's the second requirement in the statute to form the commission. We're charged with coming up with a Phase 2 report and then we're also charged with coming up with recommendations. And so that's what those are.
  - Commissioner Devaney said these are the recommendations that resulted from the studies and the analysis of the report and the Commission's work?
  - Chair Keller said correct.
  - Commissioner Devaney said thanks.
  - Chair Keller said no problem. And we will get to that here shortly. Any further discussion on Phase 2 report? Hearing none and seeing people shake their heads. Is there a motion to adopt the Phase 2 report with the changes outlined by commission members?
  - Commissioner Morrison motioned to adopt the Phase 2 report with the changes outlined by commission members.
  - Chair Keller said Commissioner Morrison moves to adopt the Phase 2 report. Is there a second?
  - Commissioner Keener second the motion.
  - Chair Keller said all in favor, please say aye. Any opposed say no. The ayes have it. The Phase 2 report is adopted and we will get this finalized, we will get an executive summary from Dr. Kriz, and it will be posted on the website for public review.
- IV. Review of Recommendations document
- Chair Keller continued by saying to the next item on the agenda, I will move to the recommendations document is what I am calling it and I will, I think Director Richards wanted to speak to that.

- Director Richards said I did. I wanted to thank Commissioner Doshi for the addition he made. I believe it's under this section titled "A Just Transition." The change reflected on page 7, on item number 7, beginning with "authorities" in regard to decommissioning plans and mines. Also, really the spirit of this is encouraging reuse for... to aid in really developing the clean energy economy. I would like to take some time to better -- I really would like to better understand sort of what authorities currently do in this space, particularly with regard to the first sentence. That's unclear to me now perhaps other commission members would benefit from the same. I don't know, Mr. Chairman, what that means in terms of deferring action on the recommendations today as opposed to a later date. But if I would ask for my peers' consideration of just some time to reach out and understand, and perhaps invite others to come back to the Commission and explain just what happens. Currently, from a regulatory standpoint with former power plants. And...
- Commissioner Keener said I would just like to say that I think that recommendation is pretty in line with some of what we heard at the in person events. With regard to how is CEJA, how are the departments involved in CEJA? How are they working with the authorities that are responsible for plant closures and the regulations with that coal ash and all these other kinds of things. So yeah, I agree.
- Chair Keller said I probably didn't do the introduction of the recommendations document justice, but it is intended to be a somewhat separate document from the base report so that people will look through it. It is relatively short. There is obviously a summary of our work. But the intent was to keep the recommendations to somewhat of a minimum again, so people will digest it and hopefully try to implement some of them. As Commissioner Keener indicated, most of it is directly as a result of the field work that we did in Romeoville, East Peoria, and Marion. Which I think those events went very well. I appreciate everyone's attendance for those that can make it. And it was informative, if we can real quickly, I'll come back to that last recommendation from Commissioner Doshi because I know that there are probably others that want to make some comments. There was one comment on page 2 -- the third bullet point there -- where Commissioner Doshi had recommended that we flesh out the term minorities in the recommendations. I didn't want to make that change without full discussion before the Commission here. And I think Commissioner Doshi, if you want to speak to that change, I think you felt that perhaps those in the Asian population may not be accounted for there; do I accurately depict that?
- Commissioner Doshi said thanks, Chair Keller. Yes, I candidly viewed this as a technical type of correction in the Phase one report at page 24, it stated that African American and Hispanic/Latino workers have these percentages: 8% of fossil fuel employees, 18% of wind employees, 23% of solar employee, 13% of nuclear employees. And then I noticed in this draft recommendations document that you circulated 7 days ago. It states the same numbers, but it says minorities. And my understanding is usually minorities, is a somewhat broader umbrella. So, my suggestion was, if the desire is to state minorities, then the numbers could be adjusted to include the Asian and multiracial categories that were on page 24 of the Phase one report. Or here in the Recommendations document, it could use the language, African American and Hispanic/Latino, as the Phase one report did. I don't really have a strong opinion either way.
- Chair Keller asked are their thoughts from commission members on that?
- Director Richards said I'll just share my reaction. My reaction to my inclination is to stay away from use of minorities. I don't particularly care, this idea of less than; I think there's a connotation there that I'm very sensitive to. Commissioner Doshi I like your recommendation, your suggestion that we instead, remind ourselves of the reference to very specific populations using a previous report, and do that here -- integrate in the recommendation section as well. Certainly, open to feedback from others.
- Chair Keller asked is your proposal, then, to include a reference to those -- an Asian population? Or that to be specific about African American? And Latino ... (inaudible)

- Director Richards said in review of the recommendation, what would be most consistent with the statistics?
- Chair Keller said Commissioner Doshi, can you correct me if I'm wrong? The most consistent would be this listed specifically.
- Commissioner Doshi said well in the Phase one report, table 10. On page 24. It listed numbers for African American, then Hispanic/Latino, then Asian, then more than one race and the text in Phase one report next to that table, said African American and Hispanic/Latino workers combined, have these total numbers.
- Chair Keller said okay. If commissioners are open, then I can either work with Commissioner Doshi here just look those up and make sure I list them out specifically and the third bullet point, and maybe create a fourth bullet point there.
- Director Richards said we'd be happy to help you with that, Jason. I think my desire would be to be as inclusive as possible. Avoid use of phrase "minorities" to the extent that we can and ensure that we are consistent with the Phase one report that cited those statistics to the extent others agree.
- Commissioner Morrison said agree, inclusive and consistent are keywords.
- Chair Keller said okay. I have made a note, and we'll get that done. The next comment from Commissioner Doshi is on page 4 at the top do you want to speak to the data showing distributed solar sector will grow significantly over the next 2 to 3 years, but then level off, that you had concerns about the term level off.
- Commissioner Doshi said oh, yeah, thanks, Chair Keller. So back to the draft Phase 2 report in Figure 5 on page 7. As I look at the graph it appears that the growth doesn't level off much until 2035. If I'm reading the graph correctly. In fact, the slope of the graph appears to increase around 2026. So, I wasn't sure about the 2 to 3 years reference in the draft recommendations.
- Chair Keller said so the one comment that I made in response to your I don't know I'll call it question or recommendation. Is that I think the point that is trying to be made is that solar will -- I'll look at that again -- that solar is -- one of the things that keeps distributed solar from growing more quickly is that utility level solar is expected to see significant cost decreases. The relatively higher cost per kilowatt will hold back its development absent the deployment of significant incentives. I think that's the point it's trying to make, but without further action it will level off. Do you disagree? Or would you rather just get rid of that sentence? Maybe that sentence is not needed.
- Commissioner Doshi said well, if there's some disagreement about how to interpret the graph, then maybe the phrase 2 to 3 years could be changed to several years.
- Chair Keller said I will look at that. Any discussion, any response to that recommendation from Commissioner Doshi? Any objections to that? I'm hearing and seeing none. So, I'm going to go ahead and delete 2 to 3 years, and then put "several" -- "next several years" -- and that should take care of that. I'm going to delete that comment so that should be resolved. That leads us to the initial minute. Are there any questions on the recommendations? One through let's say, 6 or 8 or 9 there. We can get to number 7 here in a second. Again.
- Commissioner Morrison said I have a question that relates to page 5, under the promotion of Illinois communities in the areas of need as it's outlined there. Some of those things that are captured there are pretty specific. And then letter D is supportive services. Some of those things that are specific often fall under supportive services. I was just curious to know whether the commission members had discussed what was intended by saying supportive services, or could we be more expansive, or maybe suggest some ideas? I have some if that would be helpful. I think it could be confusing for organizations or folks that are external, facing on what we mean by supportive services. If we don't have some suggestions or more specific ideas.



- Director Richards said very good point, Angela, because I see other items here that are certainly barrier reduction strategies, right? I'd love to know your thoughts there, and what would fall under that umbrella, because that does seem pretty broad... (inaudible)
- Commissioner Morrison said I think some of us have often seen, like in programs or community-based organizations or organizations that operationalize these types of programs, things like transportation work, equipment things that might be needed to perform the job duties. Some of those things that fall under to your point. Director Richard's barrier reduction funds. Stipends, or things like that. I don't know if the Commission or Commission members maybe wanted to provide a list or connect to language that might be more readily available from other DCEO materials that give ideas about supportive services. Maybe that's something we could do.
- Director Richards said I know we're all trying to get this across the finish line. Also, though my standard reason, Angela, that is an item that we perhaps eliminate. If we feel like we're covering barrier reduction with us all the other items listed in interest of trying to say what we mean, instead of saying what's necessary perhaps, so...
- Commissioner Devaney said one thing. I have no objection to removing support services, because I agree with Angela that I think that all of those things could be considered support services. But she did bring up transportation is usually one of the big items in barrier reduction. And I -- and it's throughout CEJA, like in workforce development and the barrier reduction fund would be a great substitute, and then just in, unless there's other things as well?
- Chair Keller said I can certainly add that right now, and if the proposal is to get rid of support services that the will of the Commission and replace it with transportation?
- Director Richards said instead of sort of belaboring this question of what else we can come up with. I mean Pat's quite right. Angela would know better than the rest of us. So, I think making that change makes a lot of sense, and is something that's (inaudible).
- Chair Keller said it has been changed on the document that I'm tracking here. Any other questions or proposals on 1, 3, 6, and 8 through 9. I am not seeing any, so let's so we'll try to close out on number 7. I know there was discussion before. Is it the will of the Commission to table this suggestion. Or do we want to leave it in? I cannot hear you, Director Richards. I'm sorry.
- Director Richards said thank you, Jason. Totally noncontroversial and makes a lot of sense to include. I do think some context from our peer agencies around the first sentence in particular would be very helpful, because I don't know. I don't know what activity currently takes place. I would be fine, including it now, if the Commission members would agree in order to get us past this point. But perhaps, we give consideration to engaging other agencies. DCEO certainly can do that. Better understand what activity is happening. Who are the authorities that are involved?
- Chair Keller said is the commission. I'm sorry somebody was. Going to say something...
- Commissioner Doshi said Director Richards, thanks for those comments. I'll say that I deliberately phrased authorities somewhat vaguely. Because authorities that could exercise some control over these issues could include as you alluded to, state agencies, local government, as well as federal authorities, or federally regulated entities like regional transmission organizations like PJM and MISO. So, there's a lot contained in these sentences, not all of which the state has the power to control, including the federal side of it. But I thought the flexible phrasing could include all of those ideas.
- Commissioner Devaney said Chair Keller, is it imperative that we finalize and approve the recommendations today as well? Or can we defer this? Because we do have some wordsmithing to do, I think, to replace minorities as well. From what I understand, I don't know if we came up with final language there and then -- I whether or not we do some type of a -- I don't know when the next meeting is scheduled. But what's your thoughts on that?

- Chair Keller said I think, it is somewhat imperative that we do take some sort of action today, I think. DCEO is going to speak to the future of the Commission here shortly and, but I do think it's imperative that we take a vote on it today. Yes. I apologize for the current response, but
- Commissioner Devaney said so can we vote to approve the recommendations, and then like, and pending like, some changes, wordsmithing like that you need to do, and then electronically distribute it. There'll be no objection, and then it'll be done?
- Chair Keller said yes, I think that would be fair. Are there other comments? Questions on the recommendations? So, the motion to adopt these would be with the proposed changes that we've discussed. Which is replacing support services in the number 3 the third recommendation with transportation. We're going to obviously make a couple of changes on page 2 and replacing the term minorities and include statistics that are a little bit more drawn out and inclusive. And then we will leave number recommendation number 7, as is for right now. So, is there a motion to adopt those proposed changes?
- Director Richards said for clarity recommendation 7, incorporating Commissioner Doshi adjusted sentences, correct?
- Chair Keller asked what was his addition there? I apologize.
- Director Richards said the sentence "beginning authorities should"...
- Chair Keller said you went. Okay? So, what was the change? Their apologies?
- Director Richards said is the question put to the Commission are we comfortable with including those sentences? I am, I don't see anything controversial here. I will, however, do some due diligence with other agencies to sort of better understand implications. Commissioner Doshi's quite right, this authorities is fairly expansive.
- Chair Keller said, okay? So, the question would be, if the Commission's comfortable exploring, changing that terminology essentially after we vote?
- Director Richards said or adapting the recommended addition from Commissioner Doshi? I think that's the question before the Commission.
- Commissioner Doshi said Director Richards, do you mean the whole insertion of new paragraph 7.
- Director Richards said that's what I understand. Yes. Yeah. Recommendation on the table.
- Chair Keller said, okay? So, it would be including the entirety of the language of number 7 that Commissioner Doshi added?
- Director Richards said well Mr. Chairman, if the desire is to move this forward today, we could go through this process of engaging others to better understand context, I'd like to do that. I'm also sensitive to the extent to which this was raised in hearings that occurred across the State. So, if we're comfortable proceeding without, I suppose I'm comfortable either way.
- Chair Keller said Commissioner Doshi, would you I guess, be comfortable withdrawing that language and allowing you, DCEO, to do some further study on it and keep you engaged?
- Commissioner Doshi said I think so. What might be the ultimate result of that process?
- Chair Keller said I think DCEO would do their due diligence, and make sure, run that language by the necessary parties and then come back.
- Director Richards said I mean, I think more so than anything I want to understand here, we're putting a recommendation in the report. Do we have? Is it incumbent upon the Commission to then do what we can see recommendations through? I mean, do we? Either? These are recommendations. These are statements, that we're making. This is not inconsistent with what any of us, I hope I think all of us through this group, we hope is happening right? So, I find it very non-controversial. I also have to admit to all of you. I saw it for the first time this morning. So, it's just what we're iterating here during a commission hearing. Okay?

- Chair Keller said so I guess here's the proposal I would ask to kind of push this forward. If we can Commissioner Doshi, remove the language from this, for right now let DCEO work on it, work with you and before posting it publicly. Then they will get some language out to folks.
  - Commissioner Doshi asked “folks” meaning this commission?
  - Chair Keller said yes.
  - Commissioner Doshi said okay.
  - Chair Keller asked any discussion on that further?
  - Commissioner Etchason said Chairman. Maybe you could, just for me, anyway, kind of restate what we're going to approve here. Just so I'm on the same page. I'm taking notes but I'm not sure I'm up to speed. So go ahead, please.
  - Chair Keller said okay. So on page 2, the third bullet there. We're going to delete the word minorities. And we're going to add specifics about different percentages and groups being more inclusive. There then on page 4 third line we're going to delete 2 to 3 years and add several years. Then on page 7 we're now deleting number 7 that was proposed by Commissioner Doshi and we will communicate in the future about that. So basically, we are asking for a little bit of good faith. But these are the recommendations that we would like to adopt with an allowing DCEO to have a little bit of time on number 7, and the statistics for minorities.
  - Commissioner Etchason asked did you mention page 6, number 3 as well? Supportive services being removed.
  - Chair Keller said no, I did not. Thank you. I have many different colors on my sheet. So, I skipped that I apologize. I would entertain a motion at this time.
  - Commissioner Etchason motioned.
  - Chair Keller said okay, Commissioner Etchason moves to adopt the recommendations with changes outlined in this meeting. Is there a second?
  - Commissioner Keener second
  - Chair Keller said all in favor, please say aye. And the recommendations are adopted with the changes outlined. The next item on our agenda is kind of the future of the Commission, and I believe Jason Horwitz is on from DCEO, and I'm going to kick it to him.
- V. Update from DCEO
- Jason Horwitz said thank you, Chairman Keller. Appreciate the invitation to join the Commission meeting today and frankly enjoy being able to sit in on that conversation about the report. My colleague, Hillary Scott-Ogunrinde, who's the deputy director for energy here at DCEO was not available today, so I'm doing this on her behalf. I'm Jason Horwitz. I'm the Senior Economic Advisor at the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, speaking today on behalf of DCEO as the administrator of this commission. So, when you look at the statute about what's required of this commission it is to produce this report and a set of recommendations based on the report. This meeting is intended to be the finalization of that I understand, based on the conversation, we'll still be circulating some final edits. But assuming all that goes well the Commission has essentially done its work under CEJA. Right now, there are no meetings on the calendar for this commission going forward, and so just wanted to discuss a couple of items. I think number one you know. Thank you for all the hard work that commissioners have put in over the past couple of years. It involved quite a bit of travel involved digging into a lot of really difficult topics and analysis. So really appreciate folks' input on that. Second of all I know that all of you will continue to be important partners here in Illinois as we implement CEJA. It's clear we're still working on it, and really excited about the opportunities as we stand it up, going forward and making sure that they're successful. And we certainly would appreciate your ongoing partnership in any capacity going

forward as we work to make this as successful an energy transition as possible for all residents of Illinois. And to that end just wanted to discuss another body that's created by CEJA, but hasn't actually met yet, is called the Energy Workforce Advisory Council and there are still some vacancies on that council for appointments. So, if you're if you personally would want to participate in that council or know of someone who could fit the bill for some of the appointments for that Council please reach out to Hillary, cause she's working closely with the Governor's office to fill those vacancies. And Jason back to you unless I missed something.

- Chair Keller said thank you very much. Any questions for Jason?
- Commissioner Morrison said Jason (Horwitz), thank you for being here, and thank you for those sentiments. Really appreciate that. Is there a listing of open seats on the council that might be available? I know we were, or myself. We have been trying to gently nudge folks to apply for some of those open vacancies. So, if those seats are still open, maybe we can do those outreaches again.
- Jason Horwitz said yeah. So, there is a web, let me find the web page, and I'll go ahead and post it. It may not be completely up to date. There might be some in process that haven't yet been posted that are currently labeled Vacant. But it should be up to date for the most part, so I'll go ahead and share that in the chat.
- Commissioner Morrison said thanks.
- Chair Keller asked any other questions. not hearing any. I think as far as I can tell, this will be the last meeting of the Energy Transition Workforce Commission. Unless DCEO asked for another meeting, and perhaps we'll kind of some of us will transition into the Commission that Jason outlined there. One more time if there's any questions or comments there?
- Commissioner Doshi said Chair Keller. Earlier this week I circulated to Chair Keller an updated version of the document that I've been maintaining over time that catalogs all the energy transition programs at Illinois and Federal levels. And I'm not sure if that's under review by DCEO, or something of that nature? But if that's approved for posting I'd ask that, that could be circulated to commission members in addition to posting on the Commission website just for their review?
- Chair Keller said yeah, you might just so. I don't know if Jason and Hillary are your points of contact, but I would send it to someone at DCEO. I think my role is largely I'm going to be taking a step back as Chair. So, since the Commission is not going to be meeting, you'll need to communicate that directly to that.
- Commissioner Doshi said thank you.
- Jason Horwitz said I'm happy to take a look.
- Chair Keller asked any other questions on that?

#### VI. Public Comment

- Chair Keller said let me move to public comment real quick time. Is there anyone seeking? I don't know if there's any members in the public here or not.
- Tonda (UIS) said no, there's no one seeking public comment.
- Chair Keller said okay, very good. I'll just quickly close and say, thank you to everyone for your service on the Commission. Thank you for traveling around the state to the different locations. Thank you for your patience with me as I get tongue twisted sometimes and fumble over things and try to learn how to run a commission. I really appreciated the work that was done and the input that everyone provided. Hopefully you all have my contact information if there are questions in the future. But as I said, I think DCEO will be your point of contact going forward on the other matters. Any other thoughts or questions before we adjourn?

#### VII. Adjournment

- Chair Keller said okay is there a motion to adjourn?

- Commissioner Devaney motioned to adjourn.
- Chair Keller asked is there a second?
- Commissioner Keener seconded the motion.
- Chair Keller said all in favor please say aye.
- All voted aye, the motion passed.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am.

Minutes submitted by: Tonda Reece, UIS on 1/16/2024

Materials:

1. 12/6 meeting audio [Energy Transition Workforce Commission meeting 1/5/2024 - Zoom](#)