



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Hydrogen Economy Task Force

January 13, 2026

8:30 am to 10:00 am

Minutes

Location: Virtual WebEx Video Conference

Meeting link: <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m7aa5b0318c6a360be5175a1b3d3a74df>

Meeting number: 2862 332 0888

Password: KUyAHwZh676

Join by video system:

Dial 28623320888@illinois.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone:

+312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)

+1-415-655-0002 US Toll

Access code: 2862 332 0888

Minutes:

I. Call to Order at 8:33 am.

II. Roll Call of Membership

Patrick Devaney: No

Sen. Laura Ellman: Yes

Kyle Freeman: Yes

Jim Hoyt: Yes

Dan LeFevers: No

Carly McCrory-McKay: No

Carrie Schoenberger: Yes

Sen. Sue Rezin: No

Doug Scott: Yes

Catherine Stashak: Yes

Dana Wynn: Yes

Sarah Duffy: Yes

Patrick Evans: Yes

Rep. Bradley Fritts: No

Elizabeth Irvin: Yes

Dan McManus: Yes

Dulce Ortiz: Yes

Chad Parker: Yes

Laura Roche: Yes

Dr. Petros Sofronis: Yes

Dr. Michael Wang: Yes

III. Approval of November 18, 2025, Minutes

Doug Scott motioned to accept the minutes from November 18, 2025. Michael Wang second.
The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Chair Report

Chair Ellman reported that the Annual report was issued and posted by the deadline. One of was acknowledging the shift in federal priorities in looking at hydrogen and looking at the remit of the task force and looking at it from a state force lens. Illinois has many assets related to generation, existing markets that could be good off takers. We have the workforce, research, knowledge and resources in expanding and leading the hydrogen economy. Looking forward to using, highlighting, and growing jobs in the state.

V. Old Business

- CY25 Annual Report (submitted and posted)
There were no comments or remarks on the Annual Report from Task Force members.
- CY26 Meeting Dates (Approved)
Aaron McEvoy mentioned the link at the bottom of the agenda that has everything related to the Hydrogen Economy Task Force along with the meeting schedule for 2026. Dates for upcoming meetings can be found below.

VI. Task Force Administrative Business

- Annual Trainings
Aaron mentioned the Annual Trainings that need to be completed and any communication that comes from Gina Arterberry should be noted as she is from DCEO.
- Open Meetings act Reminder (Legal/Exo)
Kate Exo covered the importance of not violating OMA by what constitutes a meeting amongst task force members, not replying all to emails, and reporting information to the group.
- Member Openings
Aaron McEvoy mentioned the three positions that need to be filled. Which is an industry position, a Representative, and a position from the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

VII. Hydrogen Summit (Chair)

- Discussion (All)
 - Objective/Goals
 - Audience
 - Logistics

Discussion started with what the objectives and goals should be for a State Hydrogen summit, topics brought up were:

- What are the barriers to development for investments for different industries?
- To hear from other governments about what they are doing and what their plans are. As well as possibly building a regional alignment and getting ideas from them.
- Find out how the Feds have made other states change and how they are dealing with that?
- Have the industry leaders identify the new constraints and barriers to what they are looking for from the state and how the state can help them incentivize the industry leadership.

- Talk about affordability of hydrogen.
- Look at the venue and timing to determine who should come and speak.
- Look at the overall goals and objectives of the task force.
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Dr. Petros Sofronis motioned for a formal planning committee for the summit. Second by Sarah Duffy. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Catherine Stashak motioned for creation of a committee to review the mission, responsibilities, and expectations of the task force. Second by Dr. Petros Sofronis. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VIII. Task Force Members information share

No information was shared by Task Force members at this time.

IX. Audience Comment Period

There were no audience comments at this time.

X. Adjournment

The adjournment of the meeting was motioned by Jim Hoyt. Second by Catherine Stashak at 9:20 am. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Upcoming meetings:

- March 10, 2026, at 8:30 am
- May 12, 2026, at 8:30 am
- July 14, 2026, at 8:30 am
- September 8, 2026, at 8:30 am
- October 6, 2026, at 8:30 am
- November 10, 2026, at 8:30 am