



Looking into a Crystal Ball: What is the Future of Gas?

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Timeline of IL FOG Process

- **2023 Rate Cases**

- “if the decarbonization goals of CEJA are to be met, the gas distribution system as currently operated will need to change”- Illinois Commerce Commission Docket 23-0067(2023)

- **March 2024- February 2026**

- **Phase 1: Neutral Fact Finding**

- All relevant topics relating to the future of gas and decarbonizing the State’s gas distribution systems.

- **Phase 2: Positions Identified**

- 2A: Explore Decarbonization Pathways
- 2B:Decarbonization Pathway Working Groups
- 2C: Legislative and Regulatory Solution

- Potential for decarbonization of the existing gas system, including possible technical constraints, hard to decarbonize end-uses, and methodologies for achieving decarbonization;
- If decarbonization requires a shift to electric distribution, the timing of such a shift;
- Workforce development/job impact considerations;
- The role and scope of energy efficiency retrofits;
- Cost considerations;
- Stranded assets of the gas distribution system and planning methods to mitigate the issue;
- Strategies for identifying and managing infrastructure that is nearing the end of its useful life;
- The need for future integrated systems planning between gas and electric systems;
- The need for line extensions on the gas distribution system and the need for rulemaking to modify existing codified line extension allowances;
- The ability, costs, and timing of ramping up the electric distribution system to meet expanding load;
- Additional electric distribution infrastructure needed,
- Interaction with utilities’ existing electric multi-year rate and spending plans;
- Potential uses for any existing gas infrastructure which may not be needed after the transition;
- The effects of federal and state public policy that supports electrification of the gas system;
- Legislative and regulatory changes needed to effectuate any needed transition;
- Issues unique to propane and other liquid fuel customers; and
- Other issues determined by ICC staff as necessary for the most thorough discussion possible.

Strategies That NRDC Is Prioritizing in FOG

- **Pathways That Contribute Most Significantly to GHG Reduction**
 - High electrification scenarios of heating and water heating systems.
 - Increased investment in energy efficiency especially investment to the building envelope.
 - Pilot Proposals
 - Targeted Electrification
 - Whole Home Decarbonization
- **Right Sizing Gas System Investments with Climate Goals**
 - NPA Framework
- **Affordability**
 - Strategies to help support low-income households to pursue home electrification, energy efficiency, weatherization and health and safety improvements
 - Protections for “late movers”

Thank you.

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