

# ENERGY COUNCIL

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## SOUND ENERGY POLICY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Energy—the foundation of what makes Illinois’ economy work, what drives its growth and what dictates a major portion of our state’s quality of life. Without access to a cost-competitive supply of energy our economy has no chance to thrive.

The Illinois Chamber’s Energy Council confronts and addresses energy related issues critical to the state’s future. Our Energy Council members are the companies in Illinois that generate, transport and transmit energy, or are engaged in the energy portfolio (engineering, policy, legal and education). The members run the gamut of energy interests—everything including coal, nuclear, natural gas, crude oil, solar, wind, waste-to-energy and more.

The Chamber recognizes that these diverse perspectives, from time to time, may have conflicting views but generally share a common concern about the availability of energy in our state in a predictable business, legislative and regulatory environment. The Council brings together experts and people who live these issues every day and educates and advocates across the state to make Illinois the best state for energy of all kinds.

## VOICES ON THE ENERGY COUNCIL

- Energy generators of all kinds
- Transmission companies and utilities
- Pipeline and other energy transportation interests
- Law firms
- Engineering firms
- Consulting firms
- Universities
- Policy advocates

### PROVIDING VALUE

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*In 2013, Dynegy sought a variance from the Pollution Control Board (PCB) as part of its acquisition of Ameren Energy resources. The acquisition, which included five power plants in Illinois, required Dynegy's operations in the state to operate production capacity and employees.*

*The Energy Council testified at the hearings and also filed written testimony in support of the variance. Dynegy received the variance in November and closed on the deal in December, thanks in part to the efforts of the Energy Council. Bottom line: The Chamber was there to support Dynegy when we needed it.*

*Jeff Kohn  
Dynegy*

# ENERGY=JOBS

MORE THAN 50,000 PEOPLE IN ILLINOIS ARE DIRECTLY EMPLOYED IN THE ENERGY INDUSTRY AND EARN ON AVERAGE 50% HIGHER SALARIES THAN THE STATE AVERAGE



## ADVOCATE

Illinois needs policies that encourage the development and availability of all kinds of energy in an environmentally-responsible and cost-effective way. We meet with, as well as talk and write to regulators and legislators in support of or opposition to rules and bills that affect energy companies of all kinds. Throughout the process, the Council advocates for a fair playing field with a predictable business environment that encourages the development of energy resources and infrastructure to meet increasing demands, keep energy costs competitive and attract business to Illinois.

## EXPLORE

The Energy Council hosts tours of energy facilities in Illinois, from wind and solar facilities to coal and nuclear plants, and more. These tours give Council members a chance to meet legislators and policymakers who attend the events to learn more about how energy works.

## LEARN

The Energy Council meets regularly to learn from each other and from outside perspectives. These meetings include discussions with key individuals from the state legislature, Illinois Commerce Commission, state and federal EPA, Congressional offices and members of the media. It's the only table in the state that includes the wide variety of Illinois energy interests.

## EDUCATE

The Energy Council educates our leaders on the energy choices that lie ahead and the solutions that will help Illinois' energy industry grow and prosper. We also talk to reporters, radio shows, editorial boards and write letters in an effort to raise awareness and win the day for a sound energy policy in Illinois.



## KATIE STONEWATER

Katie Stonewater has been named the executive director of the Illinois Chamber's Energy Council. Stonewater's experience in the private sector, in Washington D.C. handling energy policy legislation for Cong. Jerry Costello, and working on energy and telecommunications issues for Gov. Pat Quinn will be invaluable.



## ILLINOIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### Energy Council Priorities:

- Energy legislation before the General Assembly
- U.S. EPA Clean Power Plan
- Future of energy in Illinois

The Energy Council has historically been an advocate for a predictable energy landscape that encourages investment in Illinois. With a diverse membership, the Council aims to be a forum for common ground and discussion on policies that shape a fair, predictable, and environmentally-conscious energy economy in Illinois.

Key issues thus far include the legislative stalemate in Illinois and federal regulatory activity at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

While the Illinois General Assembly works toward a budget in Springfield, multiple proposals have been introduced that would alter the energy landscape in Illinois. Three bills that have received the most attention are the Low Carbon Portfolio Standard (SN 1585/HB 3239), the Clean Jobs Bill (SB 1485/HB2607), and the Utility of the Future (SB 1879/HB 3328). None of the bills have moved due to the budget priorities. However, the Clean Jobs Coalition and the Utility of the Future proponents have been in discussion to develop a compromise proposal, but it remains to be seen if action will be taken on the legislation.

The Energy Council will continue to monitor the implementation of the U.S. EPA's Clean Power Plan (CPP) and analyze its effect on Illinois businesses and the reliability of electricity. At this time, the Energy Council has not taken a position on the CPP, but expects to be involved in shaping the state implementation plan to ensure it is fair to Illinois businesses. The Energy Council will be working with its members to determine that course of action.

The future of energy is a constant question. The Energy Council will continue to educate and provide information to its membership on what the energy economy looks like, bringing in experts from all sectors of energy to discuss its future domestically and internationally, implications of legislative and regulatory activity, and new technologies hitting the market. It will continue in that vein to advocate for an above all energy approach that is fair, predictable, and grows Illinois' economy.