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CONTACT: Jim Chilsen (0) 312-263-4282, (c) 312-513-1784

STATEMENT ON PJM COMMITTEE VOTE: A STRONG STEP TOWARD CLEAN, AFFORDABLE ENERGY FUTURE

There's a lot of work to do, but today's vote by PJM's Markets & Reliability Committee is a strong step forward for cleaner, affordable and reliable power. This vote opens the door for a stakeholder process to consider how to evaluate cost-effective alternatives to "reliability must run," or RMR, agreements. With such agreements, PJM keeps outdated, polluting power plants running well past their planned deactivation dates—and that potentially costs customers hundreds of millions of dollars in higher electric bills. RMRs are bad for the planet and our bottom lines, and it's time we start considering alternatives, such as grid-enhancing technologies and energy storage, that can keep the lights on and combat climate change while saving electric customers money. We look forward to discussing alternatives to expensive RMRs in a stakeholder process with our PJM colleagues. This discussion could have a profound impact on our energy costs, allowing us to maintain reliability with less cost and less pollution.

-Clara Summers, manager, Consumers for a Better Grid, a project of the Citizens Utility Board (CUB)

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The Citizens Utility Board (CUB) is celebrating its 40th anniversary as Illinois' leading nonprofit utility watchdog group. Created by the Illinois Legislature, CUB opened its doors in 1984 to represent the interests of residential and small-business utility customers. Since then, CUB has saved consumers more than \$20 billion by helping to block rate hikes and secure refunds. For more information, call CUB's Consumer Hotline at 1-800-669-5556 or visit CUB's award-winning website, www.CitizensUtilityBoard.org.