

Planning for a Carbon-Free Future

EE as a Key Part of Clean Energy Goals



Don't tell Dave I used this photo

A Consumer Perspective

Sarah Moskowitz

Deputy Director

Citizens Utility Board of Illinois



CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD (CUB)



Represents utility ratepayers:

- Illinois Commerce Commission, IL General Assembly, Courts

Helps individuals:

- 1-800-669-5556 (hotline)
- citizensutilityboard.org

Conducts Consumer Education

- Outreach events (~500/yr)
- Media & publications

Advocates for affordable and sustainable energy policies in IL



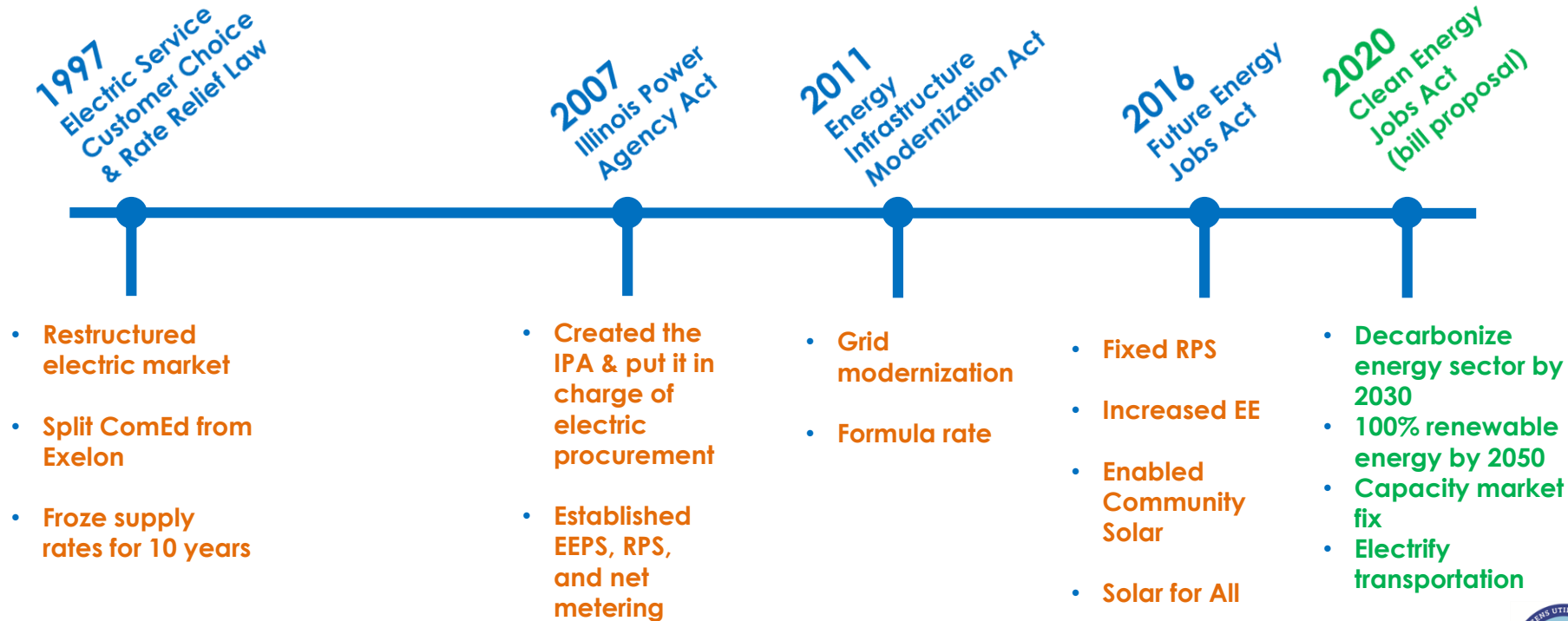
CUB Illinois Activities

Each year, we:

- Reach approximately 20,000 consumers at over 500 grassroots events;
- Field around 3000 calls;
- Send paper newsletters to 35,000 Illinoisans quarterly;
- Inform hundreds of thousands more thru email and our website.



Illinois Energy Policy



FUTURE Energy Jobs Act (FEJA)

...of 2016

Among other things, FEJA...

- **Expanded energy efficiency**
 - Increased efficiency targets, so that by 2030,
 - ComEd must attain **21.5%** cumulative savings,
 - Ameren must attain **16 %**
 - Alignment of incentives: granted ComEd and Ameren a return on EE investment-- with bonuses for exceeding targets and penalties for falling short.
- **Increased Illinois' renewable energy targets**
 - Set up new incentives for rooftop solar
 - Created a community solar program
- **Launched programs to provide training for new energy jobs**
- **Contained strong low-income components**



CLEAN Energy Jobs Act (CEJA)

Proposed in Springfield now

Among other things, CEJA:

- Improves energy efficiency programs and expands targets to include natural gas
 - Creates shareholder incentive for gas EE
 - Annual savings target for gas: 13.5% by 2035
 - Scraps FEJA's exemption for large C & I
- Develops programs to help cut peak electricity demand
- Quadruples current renewable energy targets
- Creates incentives for electrifying transportation (electric vehicles, for example)
- Fixes how our state procures electric “capacity” so fossil fueled generators are no longer at an unfair advantage



Why consumer advocates **like** (or should like) ee

- EE = the cheapest resource
- Accessibility
- Price effects
- Individual bill effects
- Comfort
- Safety
- Decarbonization is on the agenda in the Midwest. Only way to do it affordably is with a heavy dose of EE & DR

The Least Popular CUB Voice Article We Ever Wrote

2007

A good movie—and it's about a slide show!

An Inconvenient Truth is undoubtedly the best movie ever made about a slide show. Recent news that the movie's narrator, Al Gore, shared in the Nobel Prize inspired me to rent the Oscar-winning film.

The Nobel Committee praised Gore for being “probably the single individual who has done most to create greater worldwide understanding” of what needs to be done to prevent costly environmental problems in the future.

Love Gore or hate him, his movie has us talking, and that's a good thing. But Gore—surprisingly loose and engaging now that he's free from stiff, partisan, campaign-trail sound bites—didn't just win for An Inconvenient Truth. He won for giving his slide show on climate change over a thousand times all over the world.

Sure Gore talks about his growth as an environmentalist, and the movie takes us to exotic locations to see the

MOVIE Review

effects of global warming. But without the slide show, there would be no movie.

And it's an amazing slide show—for the experienced environmentalist as well as someone who knows nothing about climate change.

I keep up with these issues and assumed that I wouldn't learn anything. I was wrong. Gore's presentation gives plain answers to the common global warming questions.

He also gives us some scary facts. For example, severe hurricanes have nearly doubled in number in the past 30 years. Despite such ominous developments documented throughout the film, Gore gives us hope that we can prevent the worst.

Still, at the end of the movie, I was

disappointed because it didn't list enough actions people can take for a better future. That's where CUB can help. On this page, we list several concrete steps.

So see this documentary, pick up CUB's list and start with No. 1: replace incandescent light bulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescents.

Remember, the energy-efficiency steps CUB has been promoting for years to save money on energy bills also happen to be some of the easiest ways to prevent global warming.

An Inconvenient Truth was reviewed by CUB Senior Policy Analyst Anne McKibbin. If you have suggestions on utility-related movies you would like CUB to review, call J.J. Babb, CUB's communication coordinator, at 312-263-4282.



An Inconvenient Truth
Rated PG for mild thematic elements
1 hour 36 min

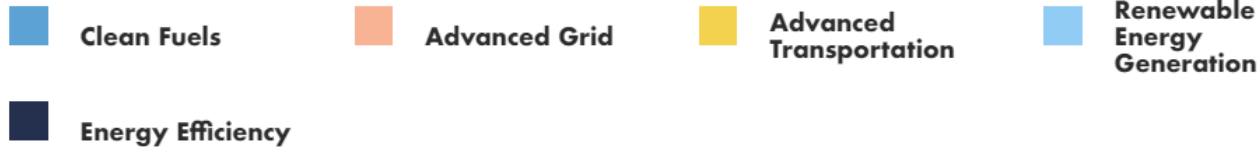
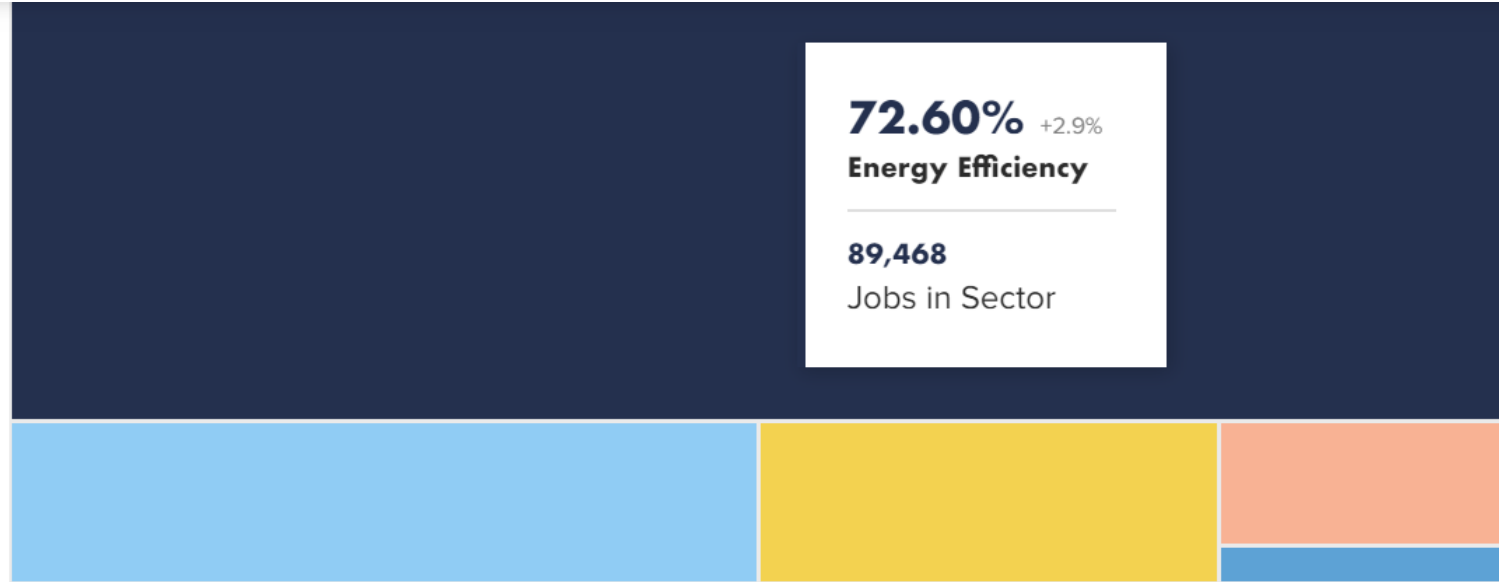
The CUB Voice



EE is good, **politically**

- **Message can center on bills/affordability, not decarbonization/climate change**
- **Jobs**
- **Safety**
- **Equity**

CleanJobsMidwest.com/state/Illinois





Equity & Justice

Energy Cost Burdens for Low-Income and Minority Households Evidence from Energy Benchmarking and Audit Data in Five U.S. Cities

Constantine E. Kontokosta, Vincent J. Reina & Bartosz Bonczak
Journal of the American Planning Association September 2019

“Our results show the **average low-income household has an [energy cost burden] of 7%, whereas higher income households have an average burden of 2%.** Notably, even within defined income bands, **minority households experience higher ECBs than non-Hispanic White households.** For lower income households, low-cost energy improvements could reduce energy costs by as much as \$1,500 per year.”



Programs need to be **good**, mind you...

- **There should be options, including ones with no upfront cost to consumer**
- **Trusted community partners need to play a role in:**
 - Design
 - Delivery & marketing



Program example

Home Energy Assessment

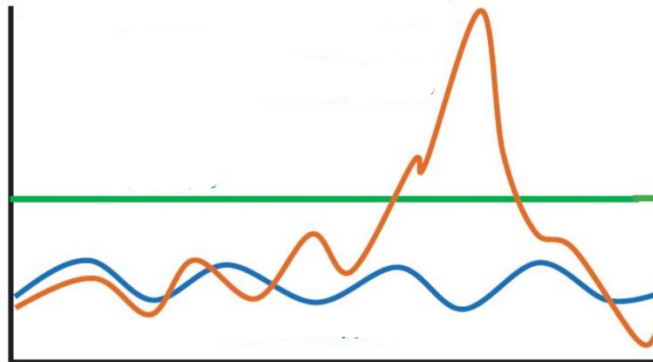
If you have ComEd & Peoples or Nicor Gas at your house, you're entitled to a FREE personalized energy assessment with FREE installation of energy-saving products:

- **programmable thermostats**
- **LED light bulbs**
- **low-flow/high-pressure showerheads**
- **faucet aerators**
- **hot water pipe insulation**



Other current programs

- Appliance recycling
- A variety of rebates, including:
 - Insulation
 - Central A/C
 - Heat Pumps
- OBF
- RRTP (available nearly statewide)
- PTR



Consumers like EE

"We have already saved money on our first month on hourly pricing with ComEd, 14%--but the best was having the energy assessment done to our home. We learned a lot from the representative... when he started in the basement and changed out every light bulb all the way to the attic light, we were dumbfounded."

- Pat G, CUB event attendee



Consumers like EE

“I’m always looking for ways to be more energy efficient, and this home energy assessment should tell me what I’ve been missing. That’s money back in my pocket.”

-Chuck



Citizens Utility Board

THANKS!



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