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Illinois Chamber: Passage of the Clean Energy Jobs Act Would Result in Significant Increases in Power Bills for Illinois Residents and Businesses

It's disingenuous for Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA) advocates to claim with any certainty that the decision from federal energy regulators on the operation of a regional electricity market that impacts northern Illinois will significantly raise electricity rates on consumers. That true impact is still unknown and the figures being used today have been refuted. CEJA advocates should stop trying to panic the Legislature and Governor into action. We should not risk electric reliability and unnecessarily increase costs on Illinois consumers before this process plays out and we fully understand the impact on electricity prices and the competitive market.

What we do know is the passage of CEJA would result in significant increases in electricity bills for Illinois residents and businesses. CEJA's 600-plus pages include a host of unfunded initiatives that lack budgets or cost caps. Not to mention, the bill's solution to modify how Illinois acquires "capacity" – the issue at the center of calls to pass CEJA – could spike northern Illinois electricity prices by \$414 million annually. This is not a choice between seeking lower emissions and keeping costs down. Both are necessary, achievable, and proven through innovation and competition.

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