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Illinois Chamber on Potential Power Plant Closures

"The Illinois Chamber was disappointed to learn that Exelon has once again threatened to close two of their nuclear facilities next year -- plants that it has acknowledged continue to be profitable -- unless they receive another bailout funded by ratepayers," said Illinois Chamber President and CEO Todd Maisch. "Exelon is demanding a bailout without completely opening its books to a truly independent third party. PJM's Independent Market Monitor should conduct a thorough audit.

"The Chamber does understand, however, that the closure of power plants can have a significant economic impact on employees and the communities where those facilities are located, and that's why we support Senate President Pro Tempore Bill Cunningham's Senate Bill 3837, which includes a number of tools to mitigate these impacts. For instance, SB 3837 would create the Community Impact Mitigation Fund to mitigate the impacts of lost property taxes and jobs, and decreased economic development as a result of closures.

"The Chamber will continue to work with policy makers and energy stakeholders to craft a balanced energy policy that ensures reliable and affordable electricity."