

Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Environment and Sustainability Committee

11:10 AM

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 Issued on: 04/03/2005 Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

NOTICE AND AGENDA

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered to speak, with the Secretary, 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor Conference Room F, Chicago, IL. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

25-2230

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 10/23/2025.

25-1767

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE FEASIBILITY STUDY OF THE UTILIZATION OF RENEWABLE HYDROKINETIC CLEAN WATERPOWER AND HYDROPOWER ENERGY

WHEREAS, Cook County acknowledges the need for renewable energy to combat climate change, improve energy security, and promote economic sustainability; and

WHEREAS, hydrokinetic power and hydropower is a reliable renewable energy source, accounting for 27% of U.S. renewable electricity generation and offering scalable solutions from large dams to smaller run-of-river systems; and

WHEREAS, hydropower provides energy storage and grid reliability benefits, with over 24 GW of firm capacity, surpassing current U.S. energy storage capacity; and

WHEREAS, hydropower is used in 48 states, with states like Washington sourcing up to 60% of their electricity from hydropower; and

WHEREAS, Cook County, the City of Chicago, and the State of Illinois have opportunities to expand hydropower generation using existing infrastructure, such as dams and water treatment facilities; and

WHEREAS, investing in hydropower creates jobs, boosts economic growth, and reduces reliance on fossil fuels, while modern technologies minimize environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is committed to advancing policies for renewable energy, reducing emissions, and ensuring energy resilience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners supports the expansion and implementation of hydropower in Illinois and urges state and federal agencies to prioritize funding and regulatory support; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Cook County will explore opportunities for small-scale hydropower generation through feasibility studies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Cook County encourages collaboration among local governments, businesses, and energy providers to facilitate the growth of hydropower for a sustainable energy future.

Legislative History: 3/13/25 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Environment and Sustainability C

Secretary

Lynne M. Surrer

Chair: Degnen Vice-Chair: Morita

Members: Britton, Miller, K. Morrison, Trevor