

ICC plans hearings on complaints of Peoples Gas overcharges

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CHICAGO The Illinois Commerce Commission plans hearings this week into allegations that Peoples Gas overcharged about one (M) million gas customers during the winter of 2000-2001.

The city of Chicago contends the overcharges total more than 325 (M) million dollars.

But Peoples Energy spokesman Rod Sierra says the company acted in the best interests of customers when it bought and stored gas for use that winter. The prices customers paid were based on those purchases.

An I-C-C administrative law judge will hear the case starting today. Participants are expected to include the Illinois attorney general, the Citizens Utility Board and the I-C-C staff.

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