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CUB STATEMENT ON GOV. PRITZKER RESTARTING CLEAN ENERGY DISCUSSIONS

"CUB is pleased that Gov. Pritzker has restarted the working groups to pass strong equitable, clean energy legislation that answers the urgency of climate change while protecting consumers. The governor has made it clear that he supports consumer priorities, including holding utilities accountable, ending automatic rate hikes, emphasizing energy efficiency and promoting transportation electrification. We also are pleased that the governor supports removing the unnecessary and expensive infrastructure surcharge from natural gas utility bills. This is our best opportunity in decades to pass strong clean energy legislation without raising power bills, increasing taxes or giving Exelon or fossil fuel companies a bailout. We can't afford to wait to become a national leader on climate and consumer protections. We look forward to discussing all the alternatives so Illinois can find the cheapest, fastest way to achieve 100 percent clean energy in the state."

CUB is Illinois' leading nonprofit utility watchdog. Created by the Illinois Legislature, CUB opened its doors in 1984 to represent the interests of residential and small-business utility customers. Since then, it has saved consumers more than \$20 billion by helping block rate hikes, secure refunds, and fight for clean, low-cost energy. For more information, call CUB's Consumer Hotline, **1-800-669-5556**, or visit its website, <u>www.CitizensUtilityBoard.org</u>.

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