

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER	)	
OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL	)	STATE FILE NO. 2027-H-CC08-2366
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (NEIL-	)	
NECA), MCWILLIAMS ELECTRIC CO.,	)	DATE OF NOTICE: AUGUST 21, 2026
ELECTRIC, INC., REMCO ELECTRICAL CORP.,	)	
INC., AND HOMESTEAD ELECTRICAL	)	
CONSTRUCTION, LLC	)	
	)	
OBJECTORS,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
JANE R. FLANAGAN, DIRECTOR of the	)	
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, and	)	
THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,	)	
	)	
RESPONDENTS.	)	

NOTICE OF WEBEX HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Jane R. Flanagan, Director of the Illinois Department of Labor, and the Illinois Department of Labor ("Respondents") have received from **NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (NEIL-NECA), MCWILLIAMS ELECTRIC CO., INC., and HOMESTEAD ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION, LLC** ("Objectors") written objections to the prevailing wage determinations published by the Department on its website, and a request for hearing on those objections pursuant to Sections 4 and 9 of the Prevailing Wage Act [hereinafter, "PWA" or "Act"], 820 ILCS 130/0.01 et seq.

Pursuant to the PWA, Article 10 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, 5 ILCS 100/10-5 et seq., and 56 Ill. Admin. Code 120.100 et seq., Respondents will convene a hearing via Webex on:

DATE:	September 25, 2026
TIME:	9:30 a.m.
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:	John A. O'Meara Administrative Law Judge Illinois Department of Labor
WEBEX INFORMATION:	https://illinois.webex.com/meet/john.omeara Meeting Number: 1333 63 2591 Phone Number: +1-312-535-8110 Toll +1-415-655-0002 Toll

Access code: 1333 63 2591

OBJECTORS' ATTORNEY:

**Christina K. Wernick, Esq.
Laner Muchin, Ltd.**

RESPONDENTS' ATTORNEY:

**Stephanie Barton, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel
Illinois Department of Labor**

**Sean Imburgia, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel
Illinois Department of Labor**

If you are unable to access Webex via the video link, you may join by calling the Webex phone numbers listed above.

The hearing involves the written objections and hearing request filed by Objector(s), attached hereto and made a part hereof (Exhibit A).

The parties and their respective representatives must be prepared to proceed at the hearing. The parties must present all information, documents, records or witnesses necessary to substantiate their position(s) at the hearing.

Pursuant to 56 Illinois Administrative Code 120.640, the Administrative Law Judge shall issue a Decision and Order. In the event no timely or proper exceptions are filed, the findings, conclusions, recommendations and order of the Administrative Law Judge shall automatically become the decision and order of the Director of Labor.

The proceedings are subject to judicial review in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Review Law, 735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq. The Director of Labor's determination on the objections is final and binding unless a party to this proceeding applies for and obtains judicial review of the final administrative decision in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Review Law.



Jane R. Flanagan
Director of Labor

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss
COUNTY OF COOK)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Under penalties as provided by law, including pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, I, Davis Merced, a non-attorney, affirm, certify or on oath state, that I served notice of the attached Notice of Webex Hearing and Order upon all parties to this case, or their agents appointed to receive service of process, by enclosing a copy of the Notice of Webex Hearing and Order in Case No. **2027-H-CC08-2366** in an envelope addressed to each party or party's agent at their respective address(es) having caused each envelope to be served by

☒ U.S. **regular** mail with postage prepaid being deposited in the U.S. mailbox at 555 W Monroe, Chicago, Illinois,

☐ **certified mail** return receipt requested and **regular mail** with postage prepaid at 555 W Monroe, Chicago, Illinois,

☒ via **email** addressed to each party or party's agent at the respective email address shown on the Certificate of Service,

on August 21, 2026, prior to 4:30 p.m.

Via Email:

OBJECTORS

Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NEIL-NECA), McWilliams Electric Co., Inc., and Homestead Electrical Construction, LLC
c/o Christina K. Wernick, Esq.
Laner Muchin, Ltd.
515 North State Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, Illinois 60654
Email: cwernick@lanerlaw.com

RESPONDENTS

Illinois Department of Labor and Jane Flanagan, Director
c/o Stephanie Barton, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel
524 S 2nd Street Ste 400
Springfield, IL 62701
Stephanie.Barton@Illinois.gov

/s/Davis Merced

Davis Merced, Office Specialist
Illinois Department of Labor

STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER	)	
OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL	)	STATE FILE NO. 2027-H-CC08-2366
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (NEIL-	)	
NECA), MCWILLIAMS ELECTRIC CO.,	)	DATE OF NOTICE: AUGUST 21, 2026
INC., AND HOMESTEAD ELECTRICAL	)	
CONSTRUCTION, LLC	)	
	)	
OBJECTORS,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
JANE R. FLANAGAN, DIRECTOR of the	)	
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,	)	
THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF	)	
LABOR,	)	
	)	
RESPONDENTS.	)	

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Pursuant to 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.400, a **Webex** pre-hearing conference shall be convened on **September 8, 2026** at **9:30 a.m.** The parties shall join via Webex using the following video link or dial-in phone number:

<https://illinois.webex.com/meet/john.omeara>
Meeting Number: 1333 63 2591

Phone Number:
312-535-8110 Toll
415-655-0002 Toll
Access code: 1333 63 2591

2. The pre-hearing conference shall be held to consider: simplification of the issues; necessity or desirability of amending documents for purposes of clarification, simplification, or limitation; stipulations and admissions of fact and of contents and authenticity of documents; limiting the number of witnesses; propriety of prior mutual exchange between and among the parties who have prepared testimony or exhibits; and addressing such other matters as may tend to expedite the disposition of the proceedings and to assure a just conclusion.

3. Attorneys shall, pursuant to 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.220, file their appearances as soon as practicable.
4. Any Petitions to Intervene shall be filed by **September 3, 2026**.

DATE: August 21, 2026

By: /s/ John A. O'Meara

John A. O'Meara

Administrative Law Judge

Illinois Department of Labor

115 South LaSalle Street, 37th Floor

Chicago, IL 60603

V: 312-793-1805

Dol.hearings@illinois.gov

COUNT I - OBJECTION
IDOL FAILED TO CERTIFY AND PUBLISH THE APPRENTICE RATES REQUIRED BY
SECTIONS 4 AND 9 OF THE ACT

1. The Petitioner Association is a multi-employer bargaining association representing contractor members who perform construction work on public works projects throughout the geographic jurisdiction covered by its collective bargaining agreements with IBEW Local Union Nos. 701, 117, 150, and 461 (the “IBEW Agreements”).

2. Petitioner McWilliams Electric Co., Inc. (“McWilliams”) is an Illinois corporation and a member of the Association.

3. McWilliams is signatory to the various labor agreements by and between the Association and the Union, including: the Inside/Commercial Agreement by and between the DuPage County Division, Northeastern Illinois Chapter, NECA And Local Union 701, IBEW (“Local 701 Inside Agreement”); the Voice-Data-Video Agreement by and between the DuPage County Division, Northeastern Illinois Chapter, NECA and Local Union 701, IBEW (“Local 701 VDV Agreement”); the Inside Labor Agreement, Elgin Division, Northeastern Illinois Chapter, NECA and IBEW Local Union 117 (“Local 117 Inside Agreement”); the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 150 Inside Agreement (“Local 150 Inside Agreement”); the Inside Agreement made and entered into by and between the Aurora Division, Northeastern Illinois Chapter National Electrical Contractors Association, Inc. and Local Union No. 461, IBEW (“Local 461 Inside Agreement”); and the Voice-Data-Video Agreement made and entered into by and between the Aurora Division, Northeastern Illinois Chapter National Electrical Contractors Association, Inc. and Local Union No. 461, IBEW (“Local 461 VDV Agreement”). McWilliams is further bound to the terms of these labor agreements by virtue of its membership in the Association. True and accurate copies of the Local 701 Inside Agreement, Local 701 VDV Agreement, Local 117 Inside Agreement, Local 150 Inside Agreement, Local 461 Inside Agreement, and Local 461 VDV Agreement are attached as Group Exhibit A.

4. McWilliams is engaged in construction work and employs workers under the established classification of Electrician and Communication Technician on prevailing wage jobsites in Illinois. These workers are covered by the terms of the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A, and McWilliams is contractually obligated to pay its employees who are performing work covered by those agreements the wages and fringe benefits described in each respective agreement.

5. The IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A cover work performed by workers in the electrical and telecommunications industry in DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Cook, and DeKalb Counties (“Affected Counties”). These workers are identified by the Trade Titles “Electrician” and/or “Communication Technician” in the prevailing wage and benefit rates posted by the Department in the Affected Counties.

6. The IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A identify not only journeyman Electrician and Communication Technician wage and benefit rates, but also include progressive apprentice Electrician and Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates.

7. On or about July 15, 2026, the Department published annual prevailing wage schedules for the Affected Counties covered by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A. Those schedules include rates directly ascertainable from the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and the corresponding 2026 wage and fringe benefit rate sheets (“Rate Sheets”) for the Trade Title Electrician and Communication Technician. A true and accurate copy of the Rate Sheets for the IBEW Agreements is attached as Group Exhibit B.

8. By publishing the CBA-derived Electrician and Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates on or about July 15, 2026, IDOL necessarily determined that contractor members of the Association, which includes McWilliams, employ at least 30% of workers in the Electrician and Communication Technician Trade Title in the Affected Counties, and therefore, in accordance with Sections 4 and 9 of the Act, the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A contain the

prevailing rate of wages and benefits for Trade Title Electrician and Communication Technician in the Affected Counties (“Prevailing CBAs”).

9. Despite that determination, IDOL failed to certify and publish all of the rates established by the same Prevailing CBAs. In particular, while IDOL published journeyman rates, IDOL failed to certify or publish the graduated apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician wage rates and fringe benefit contributions expressly provided for in the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and the Rate Sheets.

10. Apprentice Electricians and apprentice Communication Technicians covered by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A participate in a Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship and training programs. Those programs incorporate, and are administered consistent with, the graduated apprentice wage rates and fringe benefit contributions established by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and the Rate Sheets.

11. The rates established pursuant to the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and Rate Sheets include the following progressive apprentice wage benchmarks and related fringe contributions effective June 1, 2026:

Local 701

28600 Bella Vista Parkway, Ste. 1500 Phone (630) 365-1701 Fax (630) 365-3473 Waukegan, IL 60059-1800

Sponsored by the
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS • NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC.

APPRENTICE WAGE RATES

The following are the new wage rates for the Inside/Commercial Agreement between Local 701, IBEW, and DuPage Division, NECA, effective June 1, 2026 through May 30, 2027.

	JW	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%
Wage Rate	\$2.45	47.24	41.99	36.74	31.49	26.25
Vacation	15.24%	8.00	7.20	6.40	5.60	4.80

Gross Wages	60.49	54.44	48.39	42.34	36.29	30.25
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SUPERVISORY RATES

Foreman - \$5.75 above JW hourly Rate 558.24
General Foreman - \$8.75 above JW hourly rate 561.24
Area Gen. Foreman - \$11.50 above JW rate 563.99

DEDUCTIONS

Working Dues - 3.00% of Wage Rate
(Effective June 4, 2018)
Political Action Committee (P.A.C.) - \$0.05
(five cents) per hour worked

APPRENTICE RATES

Pay Rate	Year	Hours	Elapsed Time
50%	1st	0	0
60%	2nd	2000	1st year complete
70%	3rd	3500	2nd year complete
80%	4th	5000	3rd year complete
90%	5th	6500	4th year complete

	JW	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%
Wage Rate	\$2.45	47.24	41.99	36.74	31.49	26.25
Vacation	15.24%	8.00	7.20	6.40	5.60	4.80
Health	17.10/hr	17.10	15.39	13.68	11.97	10.26
Pension	32.86%	17.25	15.52	13.80	12.07	10.35
Annuity	19.11%	10.03	9.03	8.02	7.02	6.02
Apprenticeship	2.48%	1.30	1.17	1.04	0.91	0.78
N.E.B.F.	3.00%	1.57	1.42	1.26	1.10	0.94
LMCC	27/hr.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27
MaintFund	0.40%	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.15	0.13
SubFund	.00/hr.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NLMCC	.01/hr.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total Package	108.23	97.44	86.64	75.84	65.05	54.28

The following are the new wage rates for the Telecommunication Agreement between Local 701, IBEW, and DuPage Division, NECA, effective September 1, 2025 through August 30, 2026.

	JT	90%	80%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%
Wage Rate	40.90	36.81	32.72	28.63	26.59	24.54	22.50	20.45	18.41
Vacation	7.82%	3.20	2.88	2.56	2.24	1.92	1.76	1.60	1.44

Gross Wages	44.10	39.69	35.28	30.87	28.67	26.46	24.26	22.05	19.85
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SUPERVISORY RATES

Foreman - \$2.80 per hour over JT rate (\$43.70)

DEDUCTIONS

Working Dues - 3.00% of gross wages
Political Action Committee (P.A.C.) - \$0.05
(five cents) per hour worked

TECHNICIAN RATES

Pay Rate	Year	Hours	Elapsed Time
45%	1st	0	0
50%		800	December 1st
55%	2nd	1600	1 year
60%		2400	1.5 years
65%	3rd	3200	2 years
70%		4000	2.5 years
80%	4th	4800	3 years
90%		5600	3.5 years

	JT	90%	80%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%
Wage Rate	40.90	36.81	32.72	28.63	26.59	24.54	22.50	20.45	18.41
Vacation	7.82%	3.20	2.88	2.56	2.24	1.92	1.76	1.60	1.44
Health	37.65%	15.40	13.86	12.32	10.78	10.01	9.24	8.47	7.70
Pension	40.34%	16.50	14.85	13.20	11.55	10.73	9.90	9.08	8.25
Annuity	17.51%	7.16	6.45	5.73	5.01	4.66	4.30	3.94	3.58
Apprenticeship	2.03%	0.83	0.75	0.66	0.58	0.54	0.50	0.46	0.42
N.E.B.F.	3.00%	1.23	1.10	0.98	0.86	0.80	0.74	0.68	0.61
LMCC	.22/hr.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
AMF	0.40%	0.16	0.15	0.13	0.11	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.07
SubFund	.00/hr.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NLMCC	.01/hr.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total Package	1.09	85.61	77.08	68.53	59.99	55.75	51.47	47.21	42.92

Local 117

ment 06.01.26 - 05.31.27.pdf
CAL UNION 117, JATC
Phone 847-854-7200
FAX 847-854-7266
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014
Sponsored by the
NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC. • INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

INSIDE APPRENTICE RATES

Effective 6/1/2026 - 5/30/2027

Period	% of Journeyman Scale	Hours
1	40%	Thru 1000 Satisfactory progress
2	45%	Thru 1001-2000 Satisfactory progress
3	55%	Thru 2001-3500 + 1st year of school complete
4	65%	Thru 3501-5000 + 2nd year of school complete
5	75%	Thru 5001-6500 + 3rd year of school complete
6	85%	Thru 6501-8000 + 4th year of school complete
	100%	8001 + 5th year of school complete

AMF of 0.4% of gross wages is applicable as is the 0.6% NECA Service Charge for NECA members.

Deductions:

Personal Fund 10% of gross wages
Working Dues 4.25% of gross wages

		40%	45%	55%
Hourly Wage		\$ 24.89	\$ 28.00	\$ 34.22
H&W		\$ 4.35	\$ 4.35	\$ 4.35
Pension	36.339%	\$ 9.04	\$ 10.17	\$ 12.44
NEBF	3.00%	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.84	\$ 1.03
NEIB	\$1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00
JATC	3.00%	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.84	\$ 1.03
LMCC	\$0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21
AMF	0.40%	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.14
*NECA	0.60%	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.21
Total Package		\$ 41.24	\$ 45.89	\$ 54.03

		65%	75%	85%
Hourly Wage		\$ 40.44	\$ 46.67	\$ 52.89
H&W		\$ 4.35	\$ 4.75	\$ 5.14
Pension	36.339%	\$ 14.70	\$ 16.96	\$ 19.22
NEBF	3.00%	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.59
NEIB	\$1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00
JATC	3.00%	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.59
LMCC	\$0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21
AMF	0.40%	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.21
*NECA	0.60%	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.32
Total Package		\$ 63.52	\$ 72.86	\$ 81.78

Local 150

Lake County Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee IBEW Local #150
Apprentice Wage and Benefit Schedule
Effective 6/1/2026 thru 6/01/2027

Journeyman Wireman Hourly Rate

\$56.15

Period	Minimum Hours Worked	School Year Completed	Percent Of JW Rate	Rate
1	0	40%		\$22.46
2	1000	40%		\$22.46
3	1801	50%		\$28.08
4	3500	60%		\$33.69
5	5000	75%		\$42.11
6	6500	85%		\$47.73

LOCAL UNION BENEFIT PACKAGES

*APPRENTICES WHO ARE IN THEIR 1ST YEAR, RECEIVE NO DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION UNTIL DECEMBER 1 IF STARTING IN JUNE, THEY MUST ALSO HAVE 1000 HOURS. THEY ALSO RECEIVE NO ANNUITY FOR THE 12 MONTHS WHICH IS JUNE 1 THE FOLLOWING YEAR AND MUST HAVE 2000 HOURS.

APPRENTICES BENEFITS ARE PAID ON PERCENTAGE OF THEIR GROSS PAY EXCEPT FOR H&W

APPRENTICES CONTRIBUTE TO ALL FUND INCLUDING 3.75% WORKING ASSESSMENT

	Percent	Amount
Health & Welfare for apprentices paid per hour	23.10%	\$12.97 Paid per hour worked
*Pension	28.60%	\$16.06
*Annuity	20.78%	\$11.67
Vacation	11.67%	\$6.55
Apprentice Fund	1.53%	\$0.86
NEBF	3%	\$1.68
LMCC @ .21	\$0.21	\$0.21
Admin fund	.40 of 1%	0.19

Local 461

NECA-IBEW Local Union #461 JATC
591 Sullivan Road, Suite 200
Aurora, IL 60506
Phone 630-897-0461

Apprentice Wage Package Inside

Health & Welfare flat contribution rate \$13.64 effective 1/1/2026

NECA-IBEW Local Union #461 JATC
591 Sullivan Road, Suite 200
Aurora, IL 60506
Phone 630-897-0461

Apprentice Wage Package Inside

Health & Welfare flat contribution rate \$13.64 effective 1/1/2026

Journeyman Wireman Scale effective 6/1/2026

\$64.16

Year	Period	Wage Rate % of Scale	Hourly Wage	H & W	Pension 25%	VPP 10.91%	NEBF 3%	Apprentice 3.50%	LMCC	NLMCC	AMF .40 of 1%	Total Package *
1 year	1	40%	\$25.66	\$13.64	\$6.42	\$2.80	\$0.77	\$0.90	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.10	\$50.50
	2	45%	\$28.67	\$13.64	\$7.22	\$3.15	\$0.87	\$1.01	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.12	\$55.08
2 year	3	55%	\$35.29	\$13.64	\$8.82	\$3.85	\$1.06	\$1.24	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.14	\$64.24
3 year	4	65%	\$41.70	\$13.64	\$10.43	\$4.55	\$1.25	\$1.46	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.17	\$73.41
4 year	5	75%	\$48.12	\$13.64	\$12.03	\$5.25	\$1.44	\$1.68	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.19	\$82.57
5 year	6	85%	\$54.54	\$13.64	\$13.63	\$5.95	\$1.64	\$1.91	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.22	\$91.73

* Excludes NECA Service Charge of .60 of 1% of Gross Wages

Journeyman Wireman Scale effective 6/1/2026

\$64.16

Year	Period	Wage Rate % of Scale	Hourly Wage	H & W	Pension 25%	VPP 10.91%	NEBF 3%	Apprentice 3.50%	LMCC	NLMCC	AMF .40 of 1%	Total Package *
1 year	1	40%	\$25.66	\$13.64	\$6.42	\$2.80	\$0.77	\$0.90	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.10	\$50.50
	2	45%	\$28.67	\$13.64	\$7.22	\$3.15	\$0.87	\$1.01	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.12	\$55.08
2 year	3	55%	\$35.29	\$13.64	\$8.82	\$3.85	\$1.06	\$1.24	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.14	\$64.24
3 year	4	65%	\$41.70	\$13.64	\$10.43	\$4.55	\$1.25	\$1.46	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.17	\$73.41
4 year	5	75%	\$48.12	\$13.64	\$12.03	\$5.25	\$1.44	\$1.68	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.19	\$82.57
5 year	6	85%	\$54.54	\$13.64	\$13.63	\$5.95	\$1.64	\$1.91	\$0.20	\$0.01	\$0.22	\$91.73

* Excludes NECA Service Charge of .60 of 1% of Gross Wages

12. The Department's failure to certify and publish the apprentice wage and relevant fringe benefit rates contained in the Prevailing CBAs results in the publication of an incomplete and inaccurate prevailing wage determination for Electrician and Communication Technician in the Affected Counties. The Department cannot accept the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A for purposes of setting the journeyman Electrician and journeyman Communication Technician rates while disregarding the apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician rates expressly contained in the same Prevailing CBAs.

13. The Petitioners therefore object to IDOL's July 15, 2026, prevailing wage schedules to the extent they omit the apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician rates established by the Prevailing CBAs.

14. The Department should amend the applicable prevailing wage schedules to include the relevant CBA's apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates in the Affected Counties.

COUNT II - OBJECTION

IDOL FAILED TO CERTIFY AND PUBLISH THE APPRENTICE RATES REQUIRED BY SECTIONS 4 AND 9 OF THE ACT

15. Petitioner Homestead Electrical Construction, LLC ("Homestead") is an Illinois corporation and a member of the Association.

16. Homestead is signatory to the Voice, Data, Video Agreement, Elgin Division, Northeastern Illinois Chapter, NECA and IBEW Local Union 117 ("Local 117 VDV Agreement") and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 150 Voice-Data-Video Agreement ("Local 150 VDV Agreement"), and is further bound to the terms of these Agreements by virtue of its membership in the Association. True and accurate copies of the Local 117 VDV Agreement and Local 150 VDV Agreements are attached as Group Exhibit C.

17. Homestead is engaged in construction work and employs workers under the established classification of Electrician and Communication Technician on prevailing wage jobsites in Illinois. These workers are covered by the terms of the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C, and Homestead is contractually obligated to pay its employees who are performing work covered by those Agreements the wages and fringe benefits described in each respective Agreement.

18. The IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C cover work performed by workers in the electrical and telecommunications industry in McHenry, Cook, and Lake Counties. These workers are identified by the Trade Title Communication Technician in the prevailing wage and benefit rates posted by the Department in the relevant Affected Counties.

19. The IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C identify not only journeyman Communication Technician wage and benefit rates, but also include progressive apprentice Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates.

20. On or about July 15, 2026, the Department published annual prevailing wage schedules for the Affected Counties covered by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C. Those schedules include rates directly ascertainable from the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C and the corresponding Rate Sheets for the Trade Communication Technician.

21. By publishing the CBA-derived Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates on or about July 15, 2026, IDOL necessarily determined that contractor members of the Association, which include Homestead, employ at least 30% of workers in the Communication Technician Trade Title in the Affected Counties, and therefore, in accordance with Sections 4 and 9 of the Act, the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C contain the prevailing rate of wages and benefits for Trade Title Communication Technician in the Affected Counties (“Prevailing CBAs”).

22. Despite that determination, IDOL failed to certify and publish all of the rates established by the same Prevailing CBAs. In particular, while IDOL published journeyman rates,

IDOL failed to certify or publish the graduated apprentice Communication Technician wage rates and fringe benefit contributions expressly provided for in the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C and the Rate Sheets.

23. Apprentice Communication Technicians covered by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C participate in a Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship and training program. That program incorporates, and is administered consistent with, the graduated apprentice wage rates and fringe benefit contributions established by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C and the Rate Sheets

24. The rates established pursuant to the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C and the Rate Sheets include the following progressive apprentice wage benchmarks and related fringe contributions effective June 1, 2026:

Local 117

		I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION 117, JATC			
765 Munshaw Lane		Phone 847-854-7200 FAX 847-854-7296		Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014	
Sponsored by the		INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS			
VDV Apprentice		Effective		11/3/2025 - 11/29/2026	
Period	% of Journeyman Tech Scale	Hours			
1	45%	Thru 1000 Satisfactory Progress			
2	50%	Thru 1001-2000 Satisfactory Progress			
3	55%	Thru 2001-3000 + 1st year of school complete			
4	60%	Thru 3001-4000 + Satisfactory Progress			
5	70%	Thru 4001-5000 + 2nd year of school complete			
6	80%	Thru 5001 - 6000 + Satisfactory Progress			
	100%	6001 + 3rd year of school complete			
		45%	50%	55%	
Hourly Wage		\$21.92	\$24.36	\$26.79	
H&W		\$4.29	\$4.29	\$4.29	
Pension	37.672%	\$8.26	\$9.18	\$10.09	
NEBF	3.00%	\$0.66	\$0.73	\$0.80	
NEIB	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	
JATC	2.25%	\$0.49	\$0.55	\$0.60	
LMCCs	\$0.21	\$0.21	\$0.21	\$0.21	
AMF	0.40%	\$0.09	\$0.10	\$0.11	
*NECA	0.60%	\$0.13	\$0.15	\$0.16	
TOTAL PACKAGE		\$36.55	\$40.07	\$43.55	
		60%	70%	80%	90% Non 117
Hourly Wage		\$29.23	\$34.10	\$38.97	\$43.84
H&W		\$4.29	\$4.29	\$4.29	\$14.46
Pension	37.672%	\$11.01	\$12.85	\$14.68	\$16.52
NEBF	3.00%	\$0.88	\$1.02	\$1.17	\$1.32
NEIB	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50
JATC	2.25%	\$0.66	\$0.77	\$0.88	\$0.99
LMCCs	\$0.21	\$0.21	\$0.21	\$0.21	\$0.21
AMF	0.40%	\$0.12	\$0.14	\$0.16	\$0.18
*NECA	0.60%	\$0.18	\$0.20	\$0.23	\$0.26
TOTAL PACKAGE		\$47.08	\$54.08	\$61.09	\$78.28

Local 150

Lake County Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee									
Communication Technician Apprentice Wage and Benefit Schedule									
Effective 12/01/2025-11/29/2026									
Journeyman Technician Hourly Rate: 48.00									
CT APPRENTICES									
Period	Minimum Hours Worked	Percent of JW Rate	Rate						
1	0	45%	21.60						
2	800	50%	24.00						
3	1600	55%	26.40						
4	2400	60%	28.80						
5	3200	65%	31.20						
6	4000	70%	33.60						
7	4800	80%	38.40						
8	5600	90%	43.20						
LOCAL UNION BENEFIT PACKAGE									
*APPRENTICES WHO ARE IN THEIR 1ST YEAR, RECEIVE NO DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION FOR THE FIRST 8 MONTHS OR 1000 HOURS WHICHEVER IS THE LESSER OF THE TWO. THEY ALSO RECEIVE NO ANNUITY FOR THE FIRST 12 MONTHS OR 2000 HOURS WHICHEVER IS THE LESSER OF THE TWO. APPRENTICES BENEFITS ARE PAID ON PERCENTAGE OF THEIR GROSS PAY EXCEPT FOR H&W									
	%	Amount							
Health & Welfare Inc. WRA (per hour worked)		14.57							
Pension (Based on Gross Wages)	26.080%	12.52							
Annuity (Based on Gross Wages)	17.50%	8.40							
Vacation Pay (Based on Gross Wages)	4.15%	1.99							
NEBF (Based on Gross Wages)	3.00%	1.44							
Apprentice fund (Based on Gross Wages)	1.94%	0.93							
LMCC @ .21 (Based per hour worked)		0.21							
Admin Fund (Based on Gross Wages)	.40 of 1%	0.19							

25. The Department's failure to certify and publish the apprentice wage and relevant fringe benefit rates contained in the Prevailing CBAs results in the publication of an incomplete and inaccurate prevailing wage determination for Communication Technician in the applicable Affected Counties. The Department cannot accept the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit C for purposes of setting the journeyman Communication Technician rates while disregarding the apprentice Communication Technician rates expressly contained in that same prevailing CBA.

26. The Petitioners therefore object to IDOL's July 15, 2026, prevailing wage schedules to the extent they omit the apprentice Communication Technician rates established by the Prevailing CBAs.

27. The Department should amend the applicable prevailing wage schedules to include the apprentice Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates in the relevant Affected Counties.

COUNT III

REQUEST TO ESTABLISH NEW "ELECTRICIAN APPRENTICE" AND "COMMUNICATION TECHNICIAN APPRENTICE" TRADE TITLES

28. In the alternative, if IDOL contends that apprentice electricians and communication technicians are not presently encompassed within the existing Electrician and Communication

Technician Trade Title, the Association, McWilliams, and Homestead request that IDOL establish separate prevailing wage classifications for “Electrician Apprentice” and “Communication Technician Apprentice” in each Affected County.

29. The appropriate apprentice classifications should track the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A, Group Exhibit C, and the Rate Sheet benchmarks, including those detailed in Paragraph 11 and 24 above.

30. The IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and C provide specific wage and fringe benefit benchmarks for each apprentice progression level. Those benchmarks should be used to establish the prevailing wage rates for the Apprentice Electrician and Apprentice Communication Technician Trade Titles.

31. The creation of separate apprentice classifications is consistent with the Department’s practice of recognizing distinct classification titles and progression levels where such distinctions are established by a Prevailing CBA.

32. Because the Association and its member contractors, including McWilliams and Homestead, satisfy the thirty percent (30%) standard under Section 4, the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and C’s apprentice rates should be deemed prevailing for the Apprentice Electrician and Apprentice Communication Technician Trade Title in the Affected Counties.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF & REQUEST FOR HEARING

33. The Association, McWilliams, and Homestead request that the Department order and convene a hearing pursuant to Sections 4 and 9 of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act.

34. At hearing, the Petitioners will present evidence establishing that the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and Group Exhibit C are the Prevailing CBA for the Electrician and Communication Technician Trade Titles in the Affected Counties, that the Association and its member employers satisfy Section 4’s thirty percent (30%) standard, and that the IBEW Agreements attached

as Group Exhibit A and Group Exhibit C contain binding apprentice wage and fringe benefit rates that should be certified and published by IDOL.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Petitioners respectfully request that the Department:

- A. Accept these written objections as timely filed under Sections 4 and 9 of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act;
- B. Grant the Petitioners' request for hearing;
- C. Determine that the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and Group Exhibit C are the applicable prevailing collective bargaining agreement for the Electrician and Communication Technician Trade Titles in the applicable Affected Counties;
- D. Determine that the apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician wage rates and fringe benefit contributions established by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A and Group Exhibit C are prevailing rates under Section 4 of the Act;
- E. Amend the July 15, 2026 prevailing wage schedules to include the apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician wage and fringe benefit rates established by the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A, Group Exhibit C, and the Rate Sheets in the Affected Counties; and/or
- F. Alternatively, establish and publish separate "Electrician Apprentice" and "Communication Technician Apprentice" Trade Titles using the graduated wage and fringe benefit structure set forth in the IBEW Agreements attached as Group Exhibit A, Group Exhibit C, and the Rate Sheets; and
- G. Grant such other and further relief as the Department deems just and proper.

Dated: August 14, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the National Electrical
Contractors Association (the "Association"),
McWilliams Electric Co., Inc., and Homestead
Electrical Construction, LLC

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina K. Wernick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'C' and a distinct 'W'.

One of Their Attorneys
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Chicago, Illinois 60654
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that she caused the foregoing Written Objections and Request for Hearing Under Sections 4 and 9 of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act to be served on this 14th day of August 2026 via U.S. mail and electronic mail upon the following:

Jane R. Flanagan
Director of Labor
Illinois Department of Labor
115 S. LaSalle Street, 37th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Jane.Flanagan@illinois.gov

Illinois Department of Labor
115 S. LaSalle Street, 37th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60601

cc:

IDOL Hearings Department
Illinois Department of Labor
DOL.Hearings@illinois.gov

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Christina K. Wernick