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IDOL - CHICAGO OFFICE

**STATE OF ILLINOIS - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
115 S. LASALLE STREET, 37th Floor
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601**

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER OF	)	
THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL	)	
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (NEIL-NECA),	)	
MCWILLIAMS ELECTRIC CO., ELECTRIC,	)	
INC., REMCO ELECTRICAL CORP. INC.,	)	
and HOMESTEAD ELECTRICAL	)	
CONSTRUCTION LLC	)	
	)	
Objector(s),	)	State File No.: 2027-H-CC08-2366
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
JANE FLANAGAN, DIRECTOR of the	)	
THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, and	)	
THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	

PETITION TO INTERVENE

Petitioners Donald Finn, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No. 134, AFL-CIO, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No. 134, AFL-CIO ("IBEW Local 134"), by and through their attorneys, submit this petition to intervene in all proceedings conducted in the above-captioned matter, and in support of state as follows:

1. Donald Finn ("Finn") is a member and Business Manager/Financial Secretary of IBEW Local 134 and negotiates and enforces collective bargaining agreements on behalf of IBEW Local 134.
2. IBEW Local 134 is a labor organization and affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers representing individuals performing work as Electricians on prevailing

wage projects throughout Cook County, Illinois, and its principal place of business is located at 2722 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Chicago, IL 60616.

3. Pursuant to Section 3 of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (the “Act”), 820 ILCS 130/3, the general prevailing rate of hourly wages for work of a similar character shall be paid to all laborers, workers and mechanics engaged in the construction or demolition of public works.

4. Sometime prior to August 20, 2026, Objectors Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association, McWilliams Electric Co., Inc., and Homestead Electrical Construction, LLC (Collectively, the “Association”), submitted their Written Objections and Requests for Hearing Under Sections 4 and 9 (“Objections”) with the Illinois Department of Labor (“IDOL”) to the July 15, 2026 prevailing wage determinations pursuant to Sections 4 and 9 of the Act (820 ILCS 130/4 and 130/9).

5. IBEW Local 134 cannot tell on the face of the Association’s Objections or the Administrative Law Judge’s orders on or about what date the Department received the Association’s Objections.

6. In its Objections, the Association seeks “to require certification and publication of the apprentice rates established by the various Inside and Video-Data-Voice Agreements negotiated by and between the Association and Local Unions No. 701, 117,150, and 461 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (the “Union”) and the Association or, in the alternative, to establish separate apprentice classifications in each county covered by the same collective bargaining agreements for the Electrician and Communication Technician Trade Titles. (Objections Pages 1-2, 2-8; *see also* ¶¶12-14, 25-27).

7. In its Objections, the Association states “[T]he Department’s failure to certify and publish the apprentice wage and relevant fringe benefit rates contained in the Prevailing CBA

results in the publication of an incomplete and inaccurate prevailing wage determination for Electrician and Communication Technician in the Affected Counties” and therefore “object[s] 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.” (Objections ¶ 12-13).

8. The Department has scheduled the hearing in this matter for September 25, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

9. Section 120.320(a)(1) of Title 56 of the Illinois Administrative Code states that a party may intervene in a Section 9 hearing in the following circumstances: “(A) The party is so situated that he or she may be adversely affected by a final order arising from the hearing; (B) The party requesting intervention is a necessary party to the hearing proceeding; or (C) A party’s claim or defense and the main action have a question of law or fact in common.”

10. Petitions to Intervene in this matter shall be filed by September 2, 2026.

11. Pursuant to Section 9 of the Act, “any interested objectors may . . . introduce such evidence as is material to the issue.” 820 ILCS 130/9.

12. Section 2 of the Act defines the terms “general prevailing rate of hourly wages”, “general prevailing rate of wages” or “prevailing rate of wages” as,

the hourly cash wages plus *full journeyman* annualized fringe benefits for training and apprenticeship programs registered with the Office of Apprenticeship within the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration with *full journeymen annualized fringe benefits for health and welfare, insurance, vacations and pensions* paid generally, in the locality in which the work is being performed, to employees engaged in work of a similar character on public works. 820 ILCS 130/2 (emphasis added).

13. IBEW Local 134 has long-standing collective bargaining agreements with contractors in Cook County where its members perform work that could conflict with the scope of

work of an apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician and is already covered under the existing Electrician classification.

14. IBEW Local 134 has long-standing collective bargaining agreements with contractors in Cook County where the petition seeks to establish “apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician” rate classifications. IBEW Local 134 members and their employer signatory contractors currently perform work on public projects in these counties pursuant to collective bargaining agreements. This work is performed under existing prevailing wage classification for Electrician established by the IDOL based on these collective bargaining agreements.

15. It is unclear on the face of the Association’s Objections how the proposed classifications for “apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician” being performed in Cook County encompass scope(s) of work that differ from the Electrician classification which already exists in that county.

16. If the Association’s petition is successful, some of this work performed IBEW Local 134’s members may be encompassed by the Association’s request for the “apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician” rate classification.

17. The Objectors are requesting that the Department establish a new prevailing wage classification for “apprentice Electrician and apprentice Communication Technician” where an existing prevailing wage classification covers the same scope of work and type of worker.

18. The relief sought could adversely affect IBEW Local 134, its members, and its signatory contractors. Establishing a lower apprentice rate for work presently covered by existing Electrician classifications could require corresponding apprentice rates to be addressed throughout

the IBEW Local 134 jurisdiction and could place signatory contractors at a competitive disadvantage relative to non-signatory contractors able to utilize the lower rate. Reduced competitiveness of signatory contractors directly affects the work opportunities of the IBEW Local 134's members. For these reasons, IBEW Local 134 is a necessary party to the hearing proceeding.

19. The objections also present a common question of law concerning whether the Department has authority under the Prevailing Wage Act, as amended by Public Act 104-0017 and Public Act 104-0434, to establish the classification and rate sought by the Objectors. IBEW Local 134 contends that the Objectors are asking the Department to take action that is not authorized under the Act as amended.

20. Accordingly, IBEW Local 134 satisfies Section 120.320(a)(1)(C) because they may be adversely affected by a final order arising from the hearing, they are a necessary party to the hearing proceeding, and claims and defenses and the main action share a common question of law and fact concerning whether the Department has statutory authority to grant the relief requested.

21. Permitting IBEW Local 134 to intervene will not cause undue delay or prejudice and will result in a full and fair resolution of the issues.

WHEREFORE, IBEW Local 134 respectfully requests the Administrative Law Judge to enter an Order granting this Petition to Intervene.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD FINN, as a Member and Business Manager/Financial Secretary of IBEW Local 134, and the INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION NO. 134, AFL-CIO,

By: Matthew J. Cleveland
One of Their Attorneys

Matthew J. Cleveland
General Counsel
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JANE FLANAGAN, DIRECTOR of the)
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THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.)
)
Respondents.)

APPEARANCE

Matthew J. Cleveland will appear on behalf of Donald Finn and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No. 134. Matthew J. Cleveland is a member in good standing of the Illinois State Bar, ARDC No. 6255758. Please send all future correspondence to Mr. Cleveland at the following business location:

Matthew J. Cleveland
General Counsel
IBEW, Local No. 134
2722 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60616
Phone: (312) 823-3569
mcleveland@local134.org

We agree to accept service in this matter by electronic mail at the e-mail addresses set forth above. I further affirm and certify that all information provided and the statements made herein are true, correct, and complete.



Matthew J. Cleveland
Attorney for Intervenors

Date: September 2, 2026

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Honorable John A. O'Meara
Administrative Law Judge
Illinois Department of Labor
115 S. LaSalle Street, 37th FL
Chicago, IL 60601
DOL.Hearings@illinois.gov

Jane Flanagan, Director
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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on this 2nd day of September, 2026, the undersigned provided the above-listed parties copies of the attached *Petition to Intervene* and Appearances electronically where noted.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Matt J. Cleveland", is written over a horizontal line.

One of Their Attorneys

Matthew J. Cleveland
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