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PJM chooses to hold the line

Electric grid operator agrees to capacity price cap extension

By Laura Legere
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The regional electric grid operator for Pennsylvania and 12 other states agreed Thursday to extend a price cap that has curtailed surging prices for power generation capacity and that had been set to expire.

Valley Forge-based PJM Interconnection's board of managers moved to continue the cap for its next two capacity auctions, which will determine the price that will be paid to generators for committing to be ready to provide power through mid-2030.

The proposal will be sent to federal energy regulators for approval.

Gov. Josh Shapiro had pushed repeatedly for an extension, writing to PJM's interim CEO as re-

cently as Tuesday that any increase in the current cap in the near term would be "futile and utterly wasteful of consumers' hard-earned dollars."

Continuing the cap also was a key part of a proposal agreed to by the Trump administration and the governors of the 13 PJM states last month to address electricity affordability and reliability in the region.

Capacity auctions are designed to safeguard reliability. They are one way the grid operator ensures there will be enough electricity supply ready to meet future peaks in demand.

Since 2024, as older power plants retired and projected electricity use — especially from data centers — grew, the buffer between supply and demand got tighter and capacity prices soared. Prices in the 2024 auction were

SEE GRID, PAGE A-2

DHS FUNDING

CONGRESS HEADS OUT WITHOUT A DEAL

Department's shutdown won't halt ICE operations

By Riley Beggin and Theodor Meyer
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Much of the Department of Homeland Security is set to run out of money Saturday morning after negotiations stalled between the White House and congressional Democrats over new restrictions on federal immigration agents, and lawmakers left town without funding the department.

The shutdown scheduled to begin at 12:01 a.m. will impact about 13% of the federal civilian workforce, although most of the affected DHS employees are required to keep working even if they are not being paid.

Democrats demanded new restrictions on federal immigration agents in exchange for voting to fund DHS after Alex Pretti was killed last month in Minneapolis. But the shutdown will not halt Immigration and Customs Enforcement or Customs and Border Protection operations because Republicans in Congress sent those agencies tens of millions of dollars in extra funding last year.

Instead, the brunt of the impact will fall on other agencies within DHS, a sprawling department that includes the Transportation Security Administration, which provides airport security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Coast Guard.

Unlike in the final hours before many previous funding deadlines, most

SEE DHS, PAGE A-5

MINNESOTA

Testimony triggers Fed probe

ICE officers involved in shooting draw scrutiny

By Michael Biesecker, Jim Mustian and Jack Brook
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Federal authorities have opened a criminal probe into whether two immigration officers lied under oath about a shooting in Minneapolis last month, as all charges were dropped against two Venezuelan men.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Todd Lyons said Friday that his agency opened a joint probe with the Justice Department after video evidence revealed "sworn testimony provided by two separate officers appears to have made untruthful statements" about the shooting of one of the Venezuelan men during the Trump administration's immigration crackdown across the Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

The officers, who were not named, are on administrative leave while the investigation is carried out, he said. Mr. Lyons said the two ICE officers could be fired and face criminal prosecution.

"Lying under oath is a serious federal offense," said Mr. Lyons, adding that the U.S. attorney's office is actively investigating.

The men and women of ICE are entrusted with upholding the rule of law and are held to the highest standards of

SEE PROBE, PAGE A-3



Justin Guido/Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh's new police chief, Jason Lando, is sworn in by his good friend, Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Jill Beck, at City Council chambers in the City-County Building on Friday. Chief Lando, a Pittsburgh native, got his start in policing in the city more than 20 years ago.

BADGE OF HONOR

New chief sworn in for 'once-in-a-lifetime opportunity'

By Megan Guza
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

As a kid, Jason Lando watched out the window of his childhood home as 1980s-style Pontiac and Oldsmobile police cars zipped to and from the station on Northumberland Street in Squirrel Hill.

"I was in awe. I was obsessed," he told a packed City Council chambers. "I would only watch police shows on television, and I'd dress up as a cop every Halloween."

A few feet away in a special seating area for family, the chief's mom nodded and beamed.

"My parents thought this police thing was a phase," he said. "Little did they know this phase would last my entire life."

Chief Lando, 48, was formally sworn in to his post Friday afternoon, something he called a dream come true to a kid who only ever dreamed of being a Pittsburgh police officer.

Mayor Corey O'Connor called it "a long time coming — but very well-deserved."

The chief got his start in policing in Pittsburgh more than 20 years ago and only left the bureau in 2021 for the opportunity to lead the Frederick, Md., police

SEE LANDO, PAGE A-2

Safeguards sought for alcohol home delivery

By Ford Turner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Six-packs and single-serving alcoholic drinks have joined pizza, furniture, and groceries on the ever-growing list of things people have delivered to their homes, and Pennsylvania lawmakers want to make sure it's done safely.

Passing an appropriate law will be complicated, if the multiple issues that came up during a legislative hearing on Wednesday are any indication. The House Liquor Control Committee took testimony on

a bill sponsored by Rep. Marci Mustello, a Butler County Republican. Among the topics it got into were using minors as law enforcement tools to see which alcohol businesses are selling to under-21s; competition between huge and small businesses; and the enticing prospect of new state revenue.

A common theme was that regulated deliveries are already happening in many other states and plenty of unregulated ones are

SEE DELIVERY, PAGE A-2

MORE WARMTH ON THE WAY



Justin Guido/Post-Gazette

A pedestrian enjoys the warmer weather along Cherry Way in Downtown on Friday. Temperatures will rise even more Saturday, with a high of 48 and low of 31. **Weather, Page B-12**



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Weather
Sunny to partly cloudy.
Daytime high, 48;
tonight's low, 31.
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