**Vida Hotchkiss**

Director, Billing and Meter Reading Process, Nicor Gas

Midwest Regional Director, American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE)

An accountant by trade, Ms. Hotchkiss has an extensive range of leadership experience in accounting, budgeting and customer experience and has held a number of key positions during her 29-year tenure at Nicor Gas.

In her current role, she oversees a team of 60 employees and is responsible for the system and processes that maintains the accurate and timely billing for 2.2 million customers in northern Illinois.  As a leader in the Customer Experience area, Ms. Hotchkiss has played a vital role in several technology projects which include implementation of a new customer service portal, migration to a new residential customer billing system, redesign of commercial/industrial customer billing system and numerous process improvement projects.

A recognized leader in the energy field, Ms. Hotchkiss currently serves as Midwest Regional Director of AABE, Chair for the 2016 AABE National Conference in Chicago, and previously served as president of the organizations Chicago Chapter. Vida has leveraged her keen business acumen to serve as Commissioner for both the Park District and Zoning Board for the town of Broadview. She also served as Finance Chair for the Joliet Chapter for the National Hook-Up of Black Women, which focuses on women’s health issues and literacy in the Joliet area. An avid tennis fan, Vida is involved with the Maywood Tennis Association (MTA) and its decade-long efforts to teach leadership skills to youth in the community.