



City of Chicago Heights Green Aggregation Program

Following the passage of a 2012 voter Referendum, the City of Chicago Heights contracted to procure electric supply in a municipal electric aggregation program for residents and small businesses.

The City recently received competitive bids and selected Eligo Energy, a Chicago-based electricity supplier, to provide eligible residents and small businesses with an electricity supply price equal to the ComEd published tariff rate for a 36-month term beginning with the May 2021 meter read cycles.

The added benefit of this program is 100% Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) for the City to enable the Renewable /Green Energy Program. The City will be designated an EPA Green Power Community while ratepayers will never pay more than the ComEd published tariff rate each month. The ComEd rate has trended lower in recent years, and is currently at an annualized base rate of 6.869¢ per kWh.

Background: The cost of serving each electric account varies greatly, depending on usage patterns. Some ratepayer accounts will be switched to ComEd supply service because the cost of generation for the usage profile exceeds the ComEd rate. Others will be switched to the new supplier, Eligo, but the net effect is identical: *all* will pay the same ComEd rate. Eligo will purchase RECs for all power consumption across the Chicago Heights Aggregation Community, whether the resident remains with ComEd supply, or served by Eligo.

Every resident in the Chicago Heights Aggregation Community, whether receiving service from ComEd or from Eligo, will be participants of the Chicago Heights Renewable Aggregation. Residents will receive different notices, mailed to their ComEd billing address on March 12, 2021.

1. **Green Aggregation Notice** states you **will be enrolled with Eligo Energy** at your May meter read date; no other changes. The way you pay your ComEd bill will not change.
2. **Opt In Notice** states you will remain with your current supplier in your private contract, but you may take action to enroll. No supplier may charge any termination fee to leave a contract at any time.
3. **Informative Notices** state you **will remain at your current status (ComEd, or hourly or other supplier contract)**; it is simply informative; no need to opt out. Nothing will change.

Whether at Eligo Energy or ComEd, you never pay more than the ComEd rate and continue to receive your same ComEd bill. 100% of power consumption is offset by Renewable (Green) Energy sources.

There is never an enrollment fee, an early termination fee, nor any additional monthly fees.

PROGRAM FAQs

1. What is the ComEd rate?

The current annualized ComEd rate is 6.896¢ per kWh. This is comprised of electricity supply and transmission services. In addition, the ComEd effective rate includes a Purchased Electricity Adjustment (PEA) that varies monthly. The same identical ComEd rate, including the PEA charge or credit, will be charged to all participants in the Chicago Heights Community Aggregation, whether enrolled with Eligo or whether receiving supply service via ComEd. To learn more about

electric rates, visit pluginillinois.org, a site created by the Illinois Commerce Commission to inform ratepayers.

2. Where does green energy come from?

Renewable energy is derived from wind generators, industrial heat recovery facilities, solar, hydro, and methane gas from landfills. Nuclear and natural gas are not considered renewable /green resources for power generation. To learn how RECs work, view this 3+ minute [video](#) prepared by the EPA.

3. If we consume Renewable energy, will our homes be powered by the actual electricity that is generated by windmills, industrial heat recovery, etc.?

The power grid maintained by ComEd that serves your community cannot route specific power directly to your home. Those who purchase green power typically pay a premium to support green energy through the purchase of RECs. RECs subsidize the cost of those renewable generation facilities. However, through this program, you will never pay more than the ComEd rate for your power.

4. How can we be certain we are buying green / renewable power?

When a power supplier sells a green energy product in the marketplace, that supplier is required to purchase and retire RECs to support their green products. The supplier must document and report those transactions. The EPA states by owning RECs, that enables you to claim that the electricity you use came from a renewable resource with low or zero emissions. Once the RECs are purchased and retired through the tracking system, a report will be provided to the City.

5. How can I enroll in the program?

During the initial three-week opt out period, you need do nothing if you received a notice at your ComEd billing address; you will automatically be enrolled unless you opt out, or your account may have been selected to remain with ComEd service. The notice will detail whether your account will be switched to ComEd or to Eligo. You need do nothing, and your power consumption will be offset by RECs.

6. What is an eligible resident or small commercial account?

Any resident or small business ratepayer who is currently with ComEd and has not switched to an Alternative Supplier in a private contract, who is not enrolled in ComEd's hourly rate (RRTP) program, or who does not have solar panels registered in a net metering program is automatically eligible. If you are currently under your own private contract with another supplier, you may take action to join to support the City's Green Aggregation Program. Effective January 1, 2020, no supplier may ever charge the ratepayer an early termination fee to vacate a supplier contract.

7. What if I don't want to participate?

You may opt out before the program begins. You may also leave the program at any time during the 36-month term, and you will never incur a fee.

8. Why is the City doing this?

A Municipal Electric Aggregation Program was approved by a simple majority in a 2012 voter Referendum allowing the City to seek pricing from an alternative supplier for residents and small commercial accounts. The City is committed to environmental sustainability, and in this instance, there is zero additional cost to procure green energy for the City's residents—a win-win.

9. Will I get two bills, one from ComEd and another from the new supplier?

No. ComEd will continue to bill you for electric supply, delivery and taxes.

10. Whom do I call if I have service problems?

Always call ComEd with reports of outages or downed power lines at 800-334-7661. For questions about your supply service, you may call Eligo at 708-218-9815, Mon-Fri, 8a to 5p.

11. If I am automatically enrolled in the program now, can I leave the program at any time?

Yes, you can later leave the program and move your account back to ComEd or another Supplier. There is never an early termination fee to leave.

12. I am enrolled in low-income assistance program. Will that be affected?

No. If you currently are eligible to receive assistance via PIPP or LIHEAP, that status will not be affected by this program and you can continue to receive these benefits for your ComEd bill.

13. I'm on ComEd's budget billing plan. Will that change? Can I still have my payment automatically deducted from my checking account as I do now?

Your participation in the budget billing plan won't change. The way you pay your ComEd bill will not change.

14. Will someone come to my home or call to sign me up?

No. You need do nothing to automatically be enrolled in the program. If someone calls or visits your home claiming to be the City's power supplier you may file a complaint with the ICC at <http://www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint>.

For more information about energy supply choices, visit the ICC site at pluginillinois.org.

For questions about your electric account, rather than call City Hall, please call Chicago Heights's aggregation program supplier, Eligo, at 708-218-9815. If you require additional assistance, call NIMEC at 800-727-3820 to leave your question and callback number. You will be contacted within 24 hours regarding the issue.

To report an electrical outage, or for questions pertaining to your ComEd bill, always call ComEd at 800-334-7661.