

Village of Orland Park Electric Aggregation Program

Following the passage of a voter referendum the Village contracted to procure lower-cost electric supply for residents and small businesses via an opt-out program. The Village has now renewed the program and contracted with FirstEnergy Solutions at the fixed rate of 6.46¢ per kWh for a three-year term ending May 2017.

For questions or to enroll, call FirstEnergy Solutions at 888-651-5200. There is no enrollment fee and no early termination fee to vacate the program.

Orland Park Program vs. ComEd rate in cents per kilowatt hour

	<i>Supply + transmission</i>	<i>PEA fee¹</i>	<i>Effective rate</i>
Orland Park rate	6.46¢	none	6.46¢
Com Ed rate ²	6.7 to 7.1¢ (Est, June 1, 2014)	0.500 ¢	7.2 to 7.6¢
Your savings off the ComEd supply rate (Estimated):			10% to 15%

All residents and small commercial retail accounts will automatically be enrolled unless they:

- 1. Chose to opt out as directed in the opt out notice sent to their ComEd billing address; or**
- 2. Have already switched to another Supplier; or**
- 3. Participate in the Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) hourly-rate program**

Residents will continue to receive one bill from ComEd to include the electric supply charges from FirstEnergy Solutions. ComEd will continue to charge for delivery. The way you pay your bill, such as budget billing or automatic payment will not be affected by enrolling.

1. How can I enroll in the program?

During the initial opt out period in April 2014, you need do nothing if you have an eligible resident or small commercial electric account; you will automatically be enrolled unless you opt out.

¹ The Purchased Electricity Adjustment (PEA) is variable and ranges as high as 0.5 cents per kilowatt-hour. There is no PEA charge from the program's Supplier.

² The ComEd Price to Compare changes; the current rate can be found at www.pluginillinois.org by adding the Electric Supply Charge and the Transmission Services Charge.

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

Any resident who is currently with ComEd and has not already switched to an Alternate Retail Electric Supplier (ARES) or who is not enrolled in a special Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) program is eligible, and small commercial accounts are eligible. You must also have a residence or business located in the Village of Orland Park.

3. What is a “small commercial account?”

A small commercial account is defined by the ICC as a commercial account using under 15,000 kWh per year.

4. What if I don’t want to be in the program?

You may opt out before the program begins, at no cost. You may leave the program after it begins, also at no cost. Eligible resident and small commercial accounts will receive an opt out letter which they must sign and return within 14 days if they do not want to be in the program. Otherwise, they will automatically be enrolled. If you want to leave the program after having been enrolled, simply call FirstEnergy Solutions and to be moved back to ComEd or another supplier at any time. There is no early termination fee.

5. I am located in Orland Park’s village limit, have already switched to another ARES, but would like to join the program. Can I do this?

Yes. Contact FirstEnergy Solutions directly at 888-651-5200 for information about how to enroll. We suggest you check your contract to review any early termination fees you may be liable for; you may wish to wait for your current contract to expire before enrolling in the aggregation program. You may join the program at any time during the three-year contract, for no fee.

6. Why is the Village doing this?

A Municipal Electric Aggregation Program was approved by voters in a March 20, 2012 referendum allowing the Village to seek pricing from an ARES for residents and small commercial accounts.

7. Are other municipalities doing this?

Yes. Over 600 Illinois municipalities undertook an aggregation program, residents have enjoyed savings versus the ComEd rate for the past year. Millions of Illinois residents are enrolled in similar programs across the State.

8. How can Orland Park get lower rates than ComEd?

The State of Illinois deregulated energy markets. Exelon is no longer the sole electric supplier as many new suppliers now offer electricity to residents. Deregulation and new technologies in electricity procurement have driven prices lower over the last decade.

9. What is the current ComEd rate?

The effective ComEd rate for June 1 2014 through May 31 2015 will be announced in May 2014 and may be later adjusted in the fall of 2014. It will include two fixed charges ([supply and transmission services](#)) plus a variable charge, the Purchase Electricity Adjustment (PEA). To find the current rate (which can vary from month to month) visit <http://www.pluginillinois.org/FixedRateBreakdownComEd.aspx>. The ComEd rate can fluctuate month-to-month, depending upon the variance of the PEA charge.

10. How will the new supplier’s rate compare with the ComEd [rate](#) under “Electric Supply Services”

on my bill?

You will have one fixed rate [that covers](#) both [electric supply and transmission services](#), and no other charge for that portion of your electric bill. [You will not be charged a Purchase Electricity Adjustment](#) by FirstEnergy Solutions.

11. 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. ComEd delivers electricity, and will continue to bill you for that, but they no longer supply it. They will pass along the fees you pay for the supply of your energy to the new supplier. ComEd will retain the fees you pay them for delivery.

12. Will that affect my ComEd electric service?

No. ComEd has not generated electricity since 2007. A government agency, the Illinois Power Agency (IPA) has contracted your electric supply for you. Now you can choose a new supplier.

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

Call ComEd with reports of outages or downed power lines at 800-334-7661. For questions about your supply, you can call the customer service number for FirstEnergy Solutions. This will be listed under “Electric Supply Services” on your ComEd bill.

14. Will the new FirstEnergy Solutions rate change?

The rate is fixed for three years. The Village can go back to bid for new rates when this term expires. You will automatically be included in the program again, or you can choose to opt out.

15. I was on ComEd’s special space heating rate. How do I benefit?

The Residential Electric Space Heat rate ceased to exist in 2013, so your savings and benefits would now equate to that of ratepayers in the non-space heat rate class.

16. 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 ARES. There is no early termination fee to leave the program.

The First Energy Solutions rate contracted for residents of the Village is fixed at \$0.0646 (or 6.46 cents) per kWh for a term of three years.

17. What is ComEd’s 12-month “stay” or “bundled hold” requirement?

Please note State Regulations that prohibit customers from switching accounts frequently. If your account was with an ARES and you moved back to ComEd more than two billing cycles (about two months), your account is placed in a “bundled hold” status, and may not switch to a new supplier for another ten months (total one full year).

If you are automatically enrolled in the Village’s aggregation program, and later switch back to ComEd, you must switch to a new supplier within two months or you will be subject to that 12-month bundled hold.

If you have never chosen a supplier and choose to opt out of the aggregation program, you are not under a 12-month bundled hold and may switch to another supplier at any time.

18. Who is the new supplier?

FirstEnergy Solutions is a wholly owned subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp, an Akron, Ohio based, NYSE listed company. FirstEnergy Solutions is certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission as an Alternate Retail Electric Supplier in the State of Illinois. FirstEnergy has significant experience in municipal aggregations for electricity, serving over 1.5 million residential accounts across several states.

19. I already have electric service with this supplier at a different rate. How can I join the aggregation program to get this new, lower rate?

Call FirstEnergy Solutions at 888-651-5200 for information about how to switch to the more favorable rate negotiated on your behalf by the Village of Orland Park.

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

No. If you currently receive assistance via PIPP or LIHEAP, that status will not change and you can continue to get these benefits for your ComEd bill.

21. I'm on ComEd's budget billing plan. Will that change?

No, you can stay on the budget billing plan.

22. Can I still have my payment automatically deducted from my checking account as I do now?

Yes. The way you pay your ComEd bill will not change.

23. What is the downside of the program?

Residents of municipalities that enrolled in aggregation programs over the last three years in the State of Illinois are reporting no negative issues and are generally very pleased with the reduced rates on their electric bills. Deregulation of energy in Illinois has put downward pressure on prices across the State.

24. 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 Village's power supplier, please report such activity to Village Hall or file a complaint with the ICC at <http://www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint>.

25. Will ComEd's viability be threatened by the loss of all these accounts?

No. Since 2007, ComEd no longer generates electricity but is responsible for delivery. ComEd rates are delivery rates only. Your new supplier rates are for the supply only.

26. Will ComEd raise its rates?

ComEd must request a rate hike from State of Illinois regulators. No matter whom you select as supplier, it won't affect whether or not ComEd increases its delivery rates.

27. What happens if I move?

If you stay within the Village limits, you can remain in the aggregation program. If you move outside of the area, you will not be subject to an early termination fee. Check your new community to find out if they have a municipal electric aggregation program for which you can sign up. New residents moving into the community after the program begins will not be automatically enrolled in the program, but may contact FirstEnergy Solutions to enroll, at no fee.

28. How is the Village able to get competitive rates compared to the ComEd rate?

By combining the purchasing power of all residents and small commercial accounts, the Village of

Orland Park was able to negotiate rates lower than residents can typically achieve when switching individually to a new supplier. Orland Park combined the purchasing power of resident accounts to negotiate a very favorable rate.

29. Is my electric supply at greater risk now that deregulation has opened markets to many new suppliers?

No. By law, ComEd remains the Provider of Last Resort (POLR), so if there is an issue with securing electric supply, ComEd will be required to deliver it, regardless.

30. Will my utility tax decrease?

The aggregation program will not impact your utility tax due. You are taxed on energy usage in kilowatt-hours, not the dollar cost of supply.

31. Does the energy supply include any renewable “green” energy sources?

Yes. Your energy supply meets, at minimum, the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard, which is nine percent for the “Energy Year” 2014-2015 (June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015). Thus a portion of your electric supply is sourced from renewable resources such as solar and wind and may be represented through the purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

The Illinois Commerce Commission offers more information about energy deregulation in Illinois and energy supply choices at www.pluginillinois.org.

For specific questions about your own electric account, do not call Village Hall; call the new Orland Park aggregation program supplier: FirstEnergy Solutions at 888-651-5200, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Central time.

If you require additional assistance, call NIMEC at 800-856-3404 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, call ComEd at 800-334-7661.

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