

The Village of Round Lake Beach Electric Aggregation Program

	<i>Supply + transmission</i>	<i>PEA fee¹</i>	<i>Effective rate</i>
Round Lake Beach aggregation program rate	5.4768¢	none	5.4768¢
ComEd rate	5.511¢	variable	up to 6.011¢

Following the passage of a voter referendum by majority vote in March 2012, the Village of Round Lake Beach in 2012 contracted with FirstEnergy Solutions Corp to procure lower-cost electricity supply for resident and small commercial retail accounts. The Village again this year sought competitive bids for the aggregation program and selected Verde Energy USA as the winning supplier.

If residents have already switched their account from ComEd to an alternate supplier or participate in an hourly pricing (RRTP) program, their account will not automatically be enrolled in the electric aggregation program. However they may contact Verde directly to enroll. Those residents are advised to first check with their existing supplier to determine whether they are subject to an early termination fee before enrolling in the Village's program. Residents may join the program at any time during the 12-month term; there is no fee to join the savings program.

Round Lake Beach's electric aggregation program offers a fixed rate of 5.4768 ¢ per kWh for a term of one year.

Residents will continue to receive one bill from ComEd to include the electric supply charge from Verde. ComEd will continue to charge for *delivering* electricity.

Electric Aggregation Program FAQs

1. How can I enroll in the program?

You need do nothing if you have an eligible resident or small commercial electric account; you will automatically be enrolled unless you opt out.

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. Your residence or business must be located in the Village of Round Lake Beach.

¹ The Price Electricity Adjustment (PEA) is variable and rises as high as 0.5 ¢ per kWh. There is no PEA charge from Verde Energy.

3. What is a “small commercial account?”

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

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

You are free to opt out before the program begins. Eligible ratepayers will receive an opt out notice at their ComEd billing address. You must follow the instructions as directed within the 14-day opt out period if you do not want to be in the program. Otherwise, you will automatically be enrolled.

5. I am located in Round Lake Beach’s Village limit, have already switched to another ARES, but would like to join the program. Can I do this?

Yes, simply call Verde Energy USA at 800-241-0295 and using marketing code **7227** or log on to www.ilmunipower.com/Round Lake Beach/opt-in. You are advised to check your current contract to review any early termination fees for which you may be liable. You may join the program at any time 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 ICC-licensed alternative electric supplier. Goal: to help residents save money on ComEd bills.

7. Are other municipalities doing this?

Yes. 500+ Illinois municipalities have undertaken an aggregation program. Millions of families are enjoying lower-cost electricity that continues to be delivered by ComEd.

8. What is the current ComEd rate?

The current ComEd rate floats monthly, ranging up to 6.011 cents per kWh. This includes a fixed charge of 4.597 cents (in summer; is 4.559 cents for non-summer months) plus a fixed transmission charge of .914 cents, plus a variable Purchased Electricity Adjustment (PEA) debit or credit, of up to 0.5 cents.

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. They will pass the monies you pay for the energy supply to Verde.

10. 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. You are free to select a lower-cost supplier.

11. 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 supply, call the customer service number for Verde listed under “Electric Supply Services” on your ComEd bill.

12. How will I know if I am saving money?

The Verde rate will be clearly stated on your ComEd bill along with the customer service number. You may visit www.MyComEdBill.com.

13. Will the new Verde rate change?

No. The rate is fixed for one year. The Village may go back to bid for new rates when this term expires. You will automatically be included in the program again unless you choose to opt out.

14. I am on ComEd's special residential space heating rate. How do I benefit?

As of June 1, 2013, the special space-heat rate has been phased out. Electric space heat ratepayers receive the same rate as non-electric space heat ratepayers.

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

Yes, you may leave the program and move your account back to ComEd or another ARES. You will be charged no early termination fee if you leave the program.

16. When can I expect to begin saving money?

Your account should be enrolled in the aggregation program late summer 2013 with the savings reflected on your bill received September or early October, depending on your meter read schedule.

17. What is ComEd's 12-month "stay" requirement?

Please note the Illinois regulation prohibiting customers from switching accounts frequently. If your account was with an ARES and you moved back to ComEd more than two months ago, you are under a 12-month "stay" and may not switch away from ComEd to a new supplier for that period.

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 billing cycles or you will be subject to that 12-month stay. You will receive a notice from ComEd stating such.

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

18. Who is the new supplier?

Verde Energy USA is a privately held company headquartered in Norfolk, Connecticut. Verde serves over 300,000 electric consumers in Connecticut, Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Verde is certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission as an Alternate Retail Electric Supplier in the State of Illinois.

19. 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 be affected by your joining the program; you may continue to receive these benefits for your ComEd bill.

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

No, you will remain on the budget-billing plan. Any automatic payment plan you have established will also be unaffected, as billing continues seamlessly via ComEd.

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

No. You need do nothing to automatically be enrolled in the program. You will not be asked for your ComEd account number by anyone from the Village or the Supplier. If anyone contacts you, requesting your ComEd account number and claiming to be representing the Village's program, please report such activity to Village Hall or file a complaint with the ICC at <http://www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint>.

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

No. Since 2007, ComEd no longer *generates* electricity but continues to earn fees for *delivery* of electricity. ComEd and its Chairman and CEO publicly support price competition and consumer choice for power supply.

23. Will ComEd raise its delivery rates?

ComEd must request a rate increase from Illinois State regulators. The supplier you select has no impact on ComEd's delivery rates.

24. What happens if I move?

If you stay within the Village limits, you may choose to remain in the aggregation program, but you must call Verde to actively enroll at your new location. Residents moving to the community after the program begins will not be automatically enrolled, but must contact Verde to receive the Round Lake Beach rate. There is no fee to enroll.

25. Will my utility tax decrease?

The aggregation program has no impact on your utility tax due. You are taxed on energy usage in kilowatt-hours, not the dollar cost of supply.

26. Does the energy supply include any renewable "green" energy sources?

Yes. Your energy supply meets, at minimum, the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard as required by law, which is eight percent for the "Energy Year" 2013-2014. Thus a portion of your electric supply is sourced from renewable resources such as hydro power, which is 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.

Although the Village of Round Lake Beach is offering this program, please direct questions to Verde at 800-241-0295. For more information, see www.ilmunipower.com/roundlakebeach

If you need help in addition to Verde's customer service, please call the Village's consultant: NIMEC, at 800-727-3820 and leave your question and callback number on the voice message system. You will be contacted within 24 hours.

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

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