

Checklist: Before signing up, make sure to find out:

- 1. **Does the company charge an exit fee?** Read the fine print to see if you'll be penalized for canceling your contract.
- 2. **Does the company charge a monthly fee** that will inflate the advertised price?
- 3. **Is there anything in the contract** that allows the company to get out of the rate it has promised you?
- 4. **Does the company charge a security deposit?**
- 5. **Can I still get energy assistance?** Some companies don't participate in the LIHEAP program and may also be incompatible with ComEd CARE programs. Some companies also reject customers with past due balances or deferred payment arrangements.
- 6. **How does the company's rate compare to ComEd's?** From October 2013 through May 2014, ComEd's price-to-compare is 5.505 cents per kWh. Electricity prices beyond June of 2014 are unknown.

What is CUB?

The Citizens Utility Board (CUB) is Illinois' top consumer watchdog organization. Established by the Illinois legislature, CUB opened its doors in 1984 and since then has helped save consumers more than \$10 billion by fighting utility rate hikes and delivering money-saving tips and information. Call CUB at 1-800-669-5556, or visit www.CitizensUtilityBoard.org.



The facts on alternative electricity suppliers

Have you been asked to switch electric suppliers?

Has a door-to-door or over-the-phone salesperson promised you a better deal on electricity? By state law, Illinois consumers can buy electricity from a company other than ComEd.

But even if you choose an alternative company to supply your power, ComEd will still be responsible for **delivering** the electricity to your home, and billing you for it. So, you'll still be a ComEd customer.



Will I save money?

Some alternative suppliers offer prices lower than ComEd's, but what seems like a good deal right now may not be down the road, so be sure to read the fine print before signing up. Some communities, like Chicago, have negotiated lower electricity rates for residents through a process called "municipal aggregation."

ComEd's price to compare:

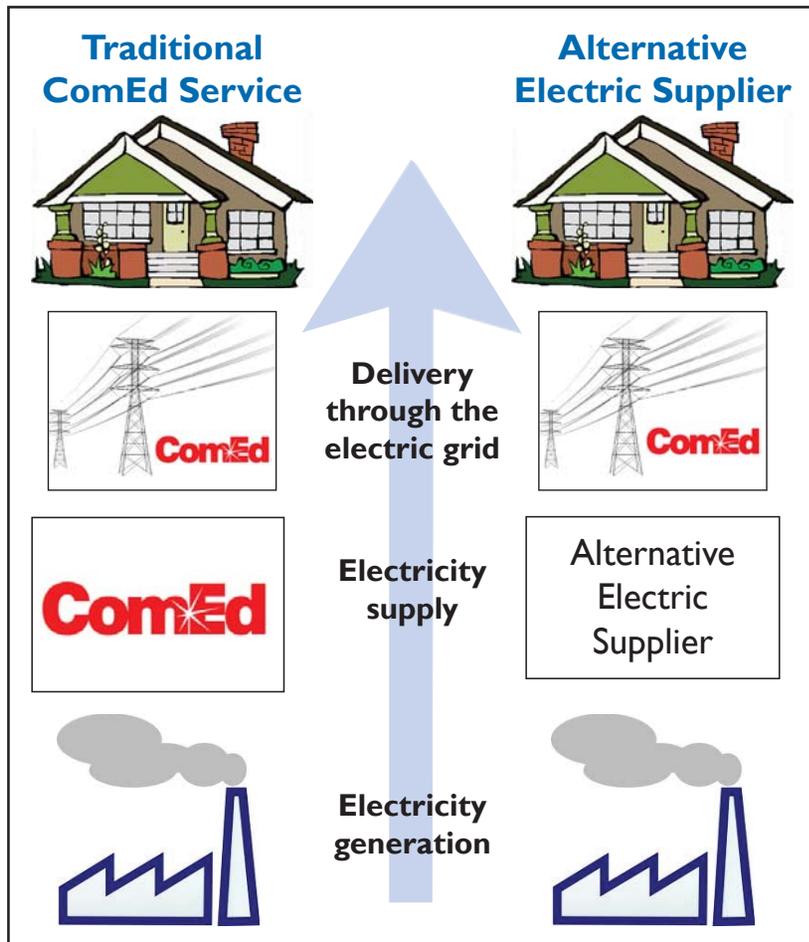
October 2013 - May 2014:
5.505 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh)

Note: "Price to compare" does not include Purchased Electricity Adjustment charge, which changes monthly and can be a credit or debit.

Bottom line: Long-term savings are NOT guaranteed.

How does it work?

No matter who supplies your electricity, ComEd will still deliver the power over its network of poles and wires. And, in the case of a power outage, you'd still call ComEd to repair the problem. See the illustration below:



Would I get a single bill?

Most of the suppliers simply include their charges on your ComEd bill, but it's a good detail to check. Also, ask if your bill will be paper or online.

ComEd				Bill Summary		
Page 1 of 2				Previous Balance	\$98.21	
Account Number 12345-67890				Total Payments	\$98.21	
Name JOHN Q SMITH				Amount Due	\$68.23	
Service Location 22 N MAIN ST CHICAGO, IL						
Meter Information						
Read Date	Meter Number	Load Type	Reading Type	Meter Reading		Usage
11/6	123456789	General Service	Total kWh	70982 Estimate	71492 Actual	510
Service from 6/7/13 to 7/6/13 - 30 Days				Residential - Single		
Electricity Supply Services				\$30.65		
Electricity Supply Charge	510 kWh	x .04597		23.44		
Transmission Services Charge	510 kWh	x .00914		4.66		
Purchased Electricity Adjustment				2.55		
Delivery Services - IL Electric				\$27.04		
Customer Charge				1.26		
Standard Metering Charge				.66		
Distribution Facilities Charge	510 kWh			2.12		
Taxes and Other						
Environmental Cost Recovery Adj	510 kWh			.44		
Energy Efficiency Programs	510 kWh	x .00147		0.75		
Franchise Cost				2.55		
State Tax				1.70		
Municipal Tax				3.06		
Total Current Charges				\$68.23		

An alternative supplier's charges would appear in the "supply" section of your power bill.

*This is a sample bill. Prices and charges may differ.

What else can I do to cut my electric bill and make my home more efficient?

CUB Energy Saver (www.CUBenergysaver.com), suggests hundreds of customized actions to cut energy costs, tracks real savings on ComEd bills, and rewards consumers who reduce their energy usage with shopping discounts at local businesses and national retailers. Since its launch, CUB Energy Saver has helped consumers reduce their energy usage by an average of 5.5 percent, or \$104 per year.

