



PRESS RELEASE

North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium

Deerfield • Glencoe • Highland Park • Lake Bluff • Lake Forest • Northbrook • Skokie

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Consortium to Transition to New Supply Agreements

Deerfield, Illinois – On March 29, 2015, the Cities of Highland Park and Lake Forest and the Villages of Deerfield, Glencoe, Lake Bluff, Northbrook and Skokie (the “North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium” or “Consortium”) entered into agreements with Integrys Energy Services (soon to be consolidated into Constellation Energy Services) to provide electricity supply and services to the communities’ municipal electricity aggregation programs. With the agreements in place, the Consortium communities will monitor electricity pricing with the goal of locking in rates that will be lower than the new ComEd default rates that are expected to be announced in early April.

The transition to the new agreement and pricing will require residential and small commercial accounts that are currently enrolled in the Consortium communities’ aggregation programs to return to ComEd default service rates starting in May. The return to ComEd default rate service will allow the Consortium communities the opportunity to lock in rates after the new ComEd default service rates have been announced, however a price lock with Integrys may not occur unless rates lower than ComEd are achievable.

The transition process to the new supply contract will include the following stages:

1. ComEd will send letters to all accounts currently enrolled in the Consortium communities’ municipal aggregation programs notifying them that their current supply contract is expiring and that their account will revert to the ComEd default rate starting in May, 2015;
2. If a new electricity supply price is set with Integrys, the Consortium communities will send opt-out letters to all residential and small commercial accounts to provide account owners the opportunity to either participate or opt-out of the new municipal aggregation supply contract. Accounts that are enrolled in the new municipal aggregation supply contract will then receive a final letter from ComEd

verifying that the account has been enrolled into the municipal aggregation supply contract.

3. If a new rate cannot be set with Integrys that is less than ComEd's default rate, customers will remain with ComEd.

Electricity supply and billing schedules will not be interrupted due to the transition. Residents should be aware that no representatives from Integrys Energy Services will be calling or visiting their homes as part of the transition process, and should exercise caution if they are asked for their ComEd account numbers by any party.

The new twenty-four (24) month agreements with Integrys Energy Services resulted from an extensive, competitive due diligence process that started in November 2014. Responses to a Request for Proposals (RFP) process from suppliers were evaluated by the Consortium's members, legal counsel, and energy consultant. The Consortium negotiated with the suppliers to gain meaningful consumer safeguards and supply standards that include affordable renewable energy options. The goal of this has always been to seek opportunities to save electricity customers money on their electric bill. The intent of the Consortium is to seek the lowest price available to residents.

The Consortium communities have all approved intergovernmental agreements that allow the Consortium to collaborate on areas other than electricity supply to gain economies of scale. The Consortium has begun evaluating the potential for future projects and new ways to use their scale to provide innovative services to our residents and businesses.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE VILLAGE OF DEERFIELD REGARDING CHANGES TO
THE VILLAGE'S ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

4-8-2015

Attention Village of Deerfield Residents and Small Business Owners:

In 2012, Village of Deerfield (*Village*) voters approved a referendum authorizing the Village to engage in electricity aggregation services. In order to acquire competitive electricity supply pricing for residents and small businesses, the North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium (*Consortium*) was formed. After a competitive bidding process, each Consortium community entered into a three year contract with MC Squared Energy Services, which began June 2012. The contract with MC Squared Energy Services is set to expire following the May 2015 meter reading. The three year contract with MC Squared is anticipated to have saved the Village's participating customers a grand total of \$3.2 million, with total anticipated aggregate savings across all Consortium communities of \$36.5 million over the ComEd default tariff service rate.

In anticipation of the expiration of the MC Squared contract, the Consortium held a competitive bidding process in November 2014 to obtain a successor electricity aggregation contract. Constellation/Integrus Energy submitted the most competitive bid. As a result, the Cities of Highland Park and Lake Forest, and the Villages of Deerfield, Glencoe, Lake Bluff, Northbrook, and Skokie entered into a two year electricity supply contract with Constellation/Integrus Energy through May 2017.

The Consortium communities will begin obtaining market pricing for electricity in mid-April. **Residential and small business electricity supply accounts currently participating in the electricity aggregation program will be transitioned from MC Squared to ComEd beginning with the June 2015 meter reading until the Consortium communities lock in a new price for electricity.** The lock in process relies on favorable electricity commodity market conditions. If pricing is unfavorable versus the ComEd default tariff service rate, the Consortium communities will not lock in a price, residents will stay with ComEd as their electricity supplier and the Consortium communities will obtain pricing at a later date should market conditions become favorable.

In the coming weeks, electricity aggregation participants will be receiving a letter from ComEd stating that their supply account with MC Squared is being dropped and transitioned to ComEd. This transition will occur automatically and requires no action by residents or small business owners. If the Village locks in a price under the new contract with Constellation/Integrus Energy, you will receive an opt-out letter giving you the opportunity to opt-out of the electricity aggregation program and remain with ComEd prior to the effective date of the locked-in rate.

Please note that the Consortium's electricity aggregation program allows residents and small businesses to choose any Illinois Commerce Commission certified electricity supplier at any time. Please be aware that the Village only provides support and assistance with the Consortium's electricity aggregation program through Constellation/Integrus Energy.

Should you have any questions regarding the electricity aggregation program, the upcoming transition from MC Squared to ComEd or about the new electricity aggregation contract with Constellation/Integrus Energy, please contact the Village at 847-719-7400 or Constellation/Integrus Energy directly at 844-271-9255.