# **COMED RESIDENTIAL REAL-TIME PRICING PROGRAM UPDATE**

**MARCH 2014** 

# **COMED RRTP RESULTS FOR 2013**

The 2013 ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) billing results are in. Over the course of the year, participants saved an average of 28 percent on electricity supply compared with what they would have paid on the ComEd fixed-price rate. The graph below shows the average savings for all participants during 2013.

As these results show, savings vary depending on the season, weather, and market conditions. This is why it is best to look at the results for a full year to determine program benefits.

The enclosed letter provides more information about your individual 2013 results. The ComEd RRTP program provides these savings updates to give you the information that can help you understand how well the program is working for you.

Historically hourly electricity prices have been low during the spring, but market prices cannot be guaranteed. As always, you can make the most of hourly pricing by shifting some of your electricity use to times when prices are lower, such as nights and weekends.

For daily price information, call 888-202-RRTP (7787) or visit ComEd.com/RRTP.



#### **AVERAGE 2013 MONTHLY RESULTS FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS**



#### **REFER A FRIEND AND RECEIVE \$20**

As a ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) program participant, you can be awarded for helping your friends and neighbors cut electricity costs with hourly electricity pricing. Here's how it works.

- 1. Tell friends about your experience with the ComEd RRTP program.
- 2. If your friends decide to enroll, ask them to put your name on the enrollment form in response to the question about how they heard about the program. (For online enrollment, they should check the box labeled "referral" and type your name in the field that appears.)
- 3. For each person you refer who becomes a ComEd RRTP participant, you will receive a \$20 check as a thank you for spreading the word.

Tell your friends to call 888-202-RRTP (7787) or visit ComEd.com/RRTP to find out whether hourly electricity pricing is right for them.



#### **COMED RRTP UPDATE, MARCH 2014**

## EXTREME WEATHER BRINGS UNUSUAL PRICE PATTERNS

This year started out with extreme winter weather, and for real-time electricity pricing customers, this resulted in unusual winter electricity prices. Extreme cold caused unprecedented winter electricity demand, unplanned generation outages, and a spike in the price of natural gas. All of these factors had an impact on the regional electricity market, leading to unusually high winter prices.

For ComEd RRTP customers, this meant that realtime electricity prices were higher and more variable than the typical winter. While this could result in some customers receiving higher bills for the early months of 2014, keep in mind that with market-based pricing it is important to consider savings over the long term.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO

As a ComEd RRTP participant, there are several things you can do to manage the variation in real-time prices. One strategy is to shift some of your electricity use to times when the price of electricity is lower. For example, avoid using major appliances when prices are higher than usual, and shift these activities to lower priced times.

In addition, for more predictable monthly bills, you can participate in Budget Billing along with the ComEd RRTP program. Budget Billing is an option from ComEd that allows you to spread your electric service costs evenly throughout the year. You pay a fixed amount each month based on your energy use during the prior 12-month budget cycle. Your monthly Budget Bill payment will be adjusted every six months to keep the payment in line with your actual energy usage. To enroll, log into your account at ComEd.com or call 800-Edison-1 (800-334-7661).



### HOURLY PRICES AND THE REGIONAL ELECTRICITY MARKET

ComEd RRTP customers pay the hourly market price of electricity. Those prices are set through PJM, the regional organization that operates the wholesale electricity market in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Several factors can impact real-time electricity prices in the PJM market. These include weather, generation capacity, transmission congestion, and the costs of fuels used to generate electricity.

This winter, the PJM region experienced recordbreaking conditions as extreme cold drove up demand for energy. Winter electricity demand reached a new record high on January 7, and eight of the 10 highest winter electricity demand levels ever recorded in the PJM system occurred in January.

In addition, the cold drove up the cost of natural gas and other fuels used to generate electricity. Finally, the weather created challenges for power plants, resulting in some unplanned outages. These circumstances added up to real-time electricity prices that were higher and more variable than usual.

To learn more about PJM and the regional electricity market, visit www.pjm.com.



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