

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	23-LMS-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Load Management Standards Implementation
<b>TN #:</b>	252248
<b>Document Title:</b>	Karen Herter Comments - RTP pilot data
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	Karen Herter
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Other Interested Person
<b>Submission Date:</b>	9/14/2023 12:11:09 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	9/14/2023

*Comment Received From: Karen Herter  
Submitted On: 9/14/2023  
Docket Number: 23-LMS-01*

## **RTP pilot data**

In response to Boris Prokop's comment, the RTP program results shown in the graphic were from Commonwealth Edison's Residential RTP Program. I've attached a 2010 Guide created by ComEd for their customers. I believe the 0.15 kW value was derived by averaging results of the first 2 years of the study, which showed roughly 0.2 and 0.1 kW savings during peak periods. See e.g. <https://www.elevatenp.org/wp-content/uploads/Real-TimePricingIsTheRealDeal-AnAnalysisOfTheEnergyImpactsofResidentialReal-TimePricing.pdf>

Note that customers in this program had only one option for automation - central AC cycling. Today's programs could make better use of more advanced automation technologies and a wider variety of flexible end-uses including EVs and batteries. Once RTP becomes available to California's residential customers (next year?) I expect utilities and the state will have a tool to not only provide better peak response, but also make use of plentiful energy when and where the sun shines.

Karen Herter

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

The ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing Program

# Guide to Real-Time Pricing

2010



# ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing Program

# Guide to Real-Time Pricing

## Contents

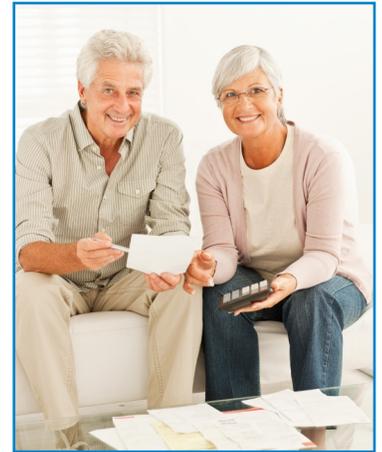
- ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing.....1**
  - ComEd RRTP Program Benefits.....1
  
- Comparing Your Rate Options.....2**
  - Standard Fixed-Price Rate.....2
  - RRTP.....2
  
- Managing Your Costs with Real-Time Pricing.....3**
  - Seasonal Price Patterns.....3
  - Other Factors that Impact Real-Time Pricing.....3
  
- Tools to Help You Save.....4**
  - ComEd’s Central AC Cycling and Load Guard.....4
  - High Price Alerts.....5
  - Access to Price Information.....5
  - Online Tools.....6
  
- Understanding Your Bill.....7**
  - The Components of Your ComEd Bill.....8
  - How Your RRTP Bill Differs from a Fixed-Price Rate Bill.....9
  
- Answers to Your Questions about Specific Line Items.....10**
  - Transmission Services Charge.....10
  - Purchased Electricity Adjustment.....10
  - Standard Metering Charge.....11
  - Capacity Charge.....11-12
  - Miscellaneous Procurement Component Charge.....13
  - Customer Charge.....13
  - Energy Efficiency Programs Charge.....13
  - Smart Meter Program Charge.....13

# ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing

The ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) program is an hourly pricing program for residential customers. This program allows you to pay the hourly, wholesale market price for electricity.

As a residential customer participating in RRTP, you will also receive customer support and services to help you manage your costs with hourly pricing. These services include predicted day-ahead high price notifications and real-time day-of high price alerts, an online bill comparison tool, and information to help guide your energy decisions.

This guide provides an overview of the RRTP program, tips on managing costs with hourly pricing, and a detailed explanation of the line items that appear on customers' electricity bills.



## ComEd RRTP Program Benefits

### Hourly Market Prices

The ComEd RRTP program gives you access to hourly electricity prices that are based on wholesale market prices. These prices vary from hour to hour and day to day according to the actual market price of power. Higher prices are most likely to occur on weekday afternoons during the summer. You can manage your costs with real-time pricing by taking advantage of lower priced hours and conserving electricity during hours when prices are higher.

### Customer Support

The RRTP program gives you personalized information, tools and services to help you take control of your electricity costs. As a participant, you'll receive:

- Information and tips to help you reduce your electricity costs;
- Access to electricity price updates online and by phone so you can decide how and when to use electricity;
- Predicted day-ahead price notifications and real-time day-of alerts so you'll know when prices will be high;
- Online analysis tools to help you manage your electricity usage;
- The opportunity to sign-up for Load Guard and ComEd's Central AC Cycling, which are optional services that automatically cycle your air conditioner to help manage your summer cooling costs.

### Healthier Environment

By choosing ComEd RRTP, you are helping the environment. By controlling and shifting your use of electricity to lower-priced hours, you'll help reduce electricity demand during peak times that can require greater use of older, less efficient generation facilities than needed during off-peak times. In this way, you'll reduce the release of emissions that contribute to global warming.

# Comparing Your Rate Options

The main difference between RRTP and ComEd's standard fixed-price rate is how you pay for your electricity supply.

## Standard Fixed-Price Rate

With ComEd's standard fixed-price rate, you pay a set price for your electricity supply. This price varies by season, and is adjusted periodically, but it does not change from hour to hour or from day to day. You pay the same price for electricity no matter what time of day or which day you use it.

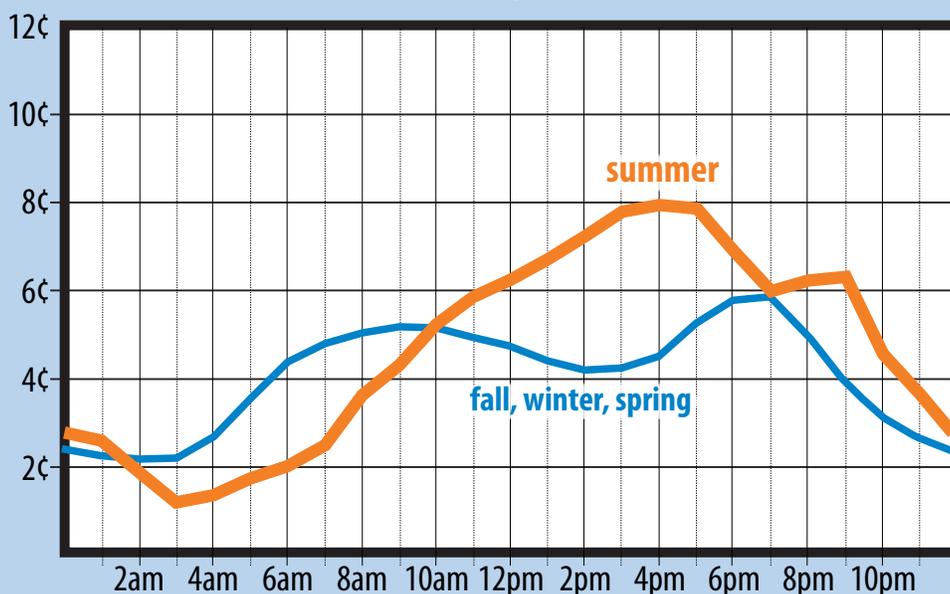
## RRTP

With RRTP, the price of the electricity varies from hour to hour based on wholesale market prices. Your bill will show the total cost for the electricity used, calculated using these hourly prices and your corresponding hourly usage. ComEd does not mark up or profit from the price of power; you simply pay the market price.

Regardless of your electric supply choice (RRTP, or the fixed-price rate), all residential customers are required to pay the same Delivery Service charges. These charges finance the maintenance of the poles, wires, and services required to deliver electricity to your home, and are shown separately on your electric bill.

Some other line items on your RRTP bill will differ from a standard fixed-price rate bill. See "Understanding Your Bill," starting on page 12, for more information.

**Average Real-Time Pricing Patterns\***  
(in cents per kWh)



Average summer prices are for June through Sept. during 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Depending on market conditions, prices can vary significantly from this typical pattern. Savings cannot be guaranteed.

# Managing Your Costs with Real-Time Pricing

## Seasonal Price Patterns

Hourly, market-based electricity prices typically change as the demand for electricity changes; higher demand usually means higher hourly prices. Average prices tend to be higher on weekdays and lower at night and on weekends and holidays. The demand and price patterns also vary by season, as described below. By keeping these patterns in mind, you could wisely manage your electricity usage and manage your costs.

### Summer Price Patterns

Electricity prices typically fluctuate most during the summer. This is because electricity demand also fluctuates considerably as businesses and households turn air conditioners on and off. When temperatures soar, the hourly price can rise significantly. The RRTP program is about customers making smart choices about how they use energy during these high price periods to manage their household energy budget. Normally, the highest prices in the summer will be in the late afternoon and early evening. Depending on weather and other conditions, some days will have higher overall prices than others.

### Fall, Winter and Spring Price Patterns

Compared with summer prices, average fall, winter and spring prices are generally lower. This is because overall demand is not driven by air conditioning like it is during the summer months. During the cooler months, there tends to be a small price spike in the morning and another slightly larger spike in the evening. Nevertheless, the highest prices of the day in the cooler months are generally lower than the highest prices during the summer months.

## Other Factors that Impact Real-Time Prices

The weather can have a big impact on the wholesale real-time price of electricity, particularly during the summer when air conditioner usage drives up demand for electricity. This is why summer electricity prices tend to be highest during the afternoon. This is also why hot days tend to have higher overall prices than cooler days.

During the winter, electricity prices can also spike when there is a sudden and significant temperature drop, or when extended cold snaps push up natural gas prices, increasing the cost of operating gas-burning power plants. Prices can sometimes increase in the spring or fall if a heat wave occurs during a time when some power plants are shut down for maintenance.

There also can be unexpected and brief price spikes if multiple power plants have technical or mechanical problems at the same time, or if there are problems in parts of the regional transmission network that is used to transport electricity from the power plant to ComEd's distribution system.

Natural gas and coal prices also impact the market price of electricity, so when the costs of other fuels increase, those changes can be reflected in the real-time electricity prices.



# Tools to Help You Save

Being able to manage your energy bill depends on making smart choices about how much energy to use and when to use it. Customers on ComEd's fixed-price rate don't have information about how much electricity costs at different times of the day. RRTP customers do have this information and it can be used to make some important home energy management decisions. Here are some tools that can help.

## ComEd's Central AC Cycling and Load Guard

### ComEd's Central AC Cycling

If you have central air conditioning, you can sign up for ComEd's Central AC Cycling. AC Cycling allows ComEd to cycle your air conditioner compressor off and on during summer days when demand for electricity is highest. Your fan stays on to circulate air, so your home stays comfortable.

When you sign up for ComEd's Central AC Cycling, you will receive a credit of \$5 or \$10 (depending on which cycling option you select) on your June through September ComEd bills. Based on past experience, you can typically expect cycling to be activated once or twice during the summer. The maximum number of days cycling could occur is 20 days (a total of 120 hours) over the entire summer.



### Load Guard Automatic Price Response Service

Once enrolled in ComEd's Central AC Cycling, RRTP participants can also sign up for the Load Guard Automatic Price Response Service by visiting the RRTP program's Web site at [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com). Load Guard is an automatic air conditioner cycling option designed especially for RRTP participants.

It allows you to identify a price at which you want your air conditioner to cycle off and on every 15-minutes over a 2-hour period. For less frequent cycling and a cooler environment, select the Blue (14 cents) level. For greater energy conservation, select the Green (10 cents) level.

**To enroll or learn more about ComEd's Central AC Cycling and Load Guard, go to [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com) or call 1-877-WATTSPOT.**

## High Price Alerts

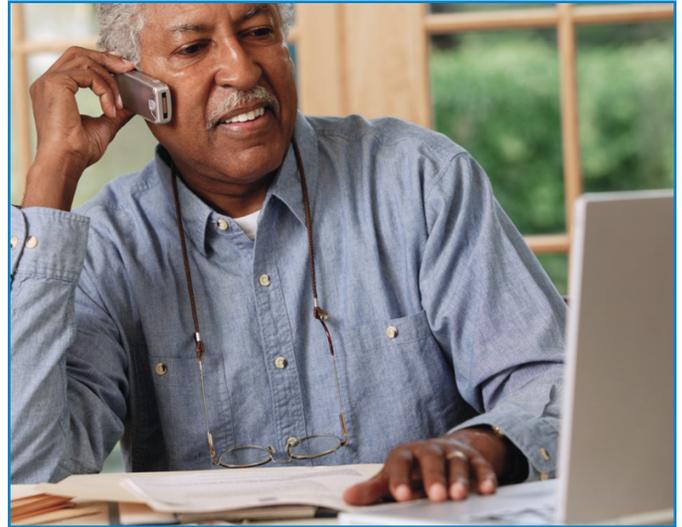
You will receive predicted day-ahead price notifications and real-time day-of alerts to help you manage your electricity use and costs when prices rise. You can sign-in to your Account Information page at [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com) to choose from the following alert options.

### Predicted Day-Ahead Price Notifications

You will receive a notification the evening in advance when predicted day-ahead prices are expected to be at least 14 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for any number of hours during the following day. You can choose to receive these notifications by e-mail, text (SMS) message, or automated phone call.

### Real-Time Day-Of Price Alerts

You will receive an alert when real-time day-of prices reach or exceed 14 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) during the day. You can select e-mail or text (SMS) message for these alerts, and you have the option of changing your real-time alert price threshold to 10 cents per kWh. You also can elect to turn off your real-time day-of high price alerts.

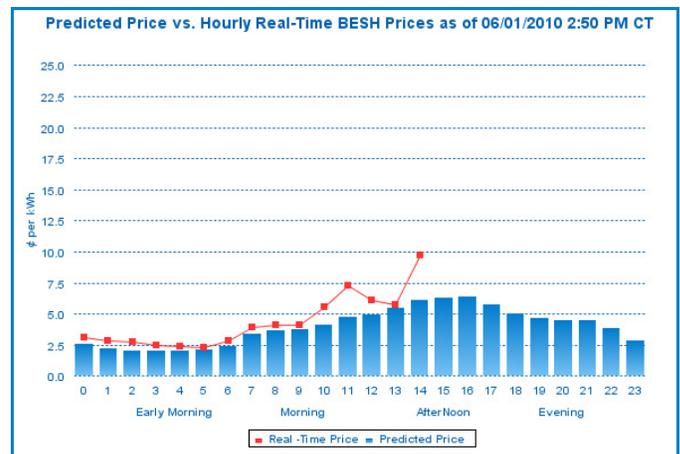


You can learn more or change your notification options at [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com).

## Access to Price Information

The RRTP Program uses hourly, market-based electricity prices, also known as real-time prices. These prices vary based on the actual price of electricity in the market. Each evening, day-ahead prices for the following day will be available online and by phone at 1-877-WATTSPOT.

This day-ahead price information can be used to predict the following day's real-time electricity prices. Typically, the day-ahead prices offer an accurate picture of the price pattern for the following day. You can use these day-ahead prices to help you plan how and when you use energy. You also can go to [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com) to view the current real-time electricity prices throughout the day.



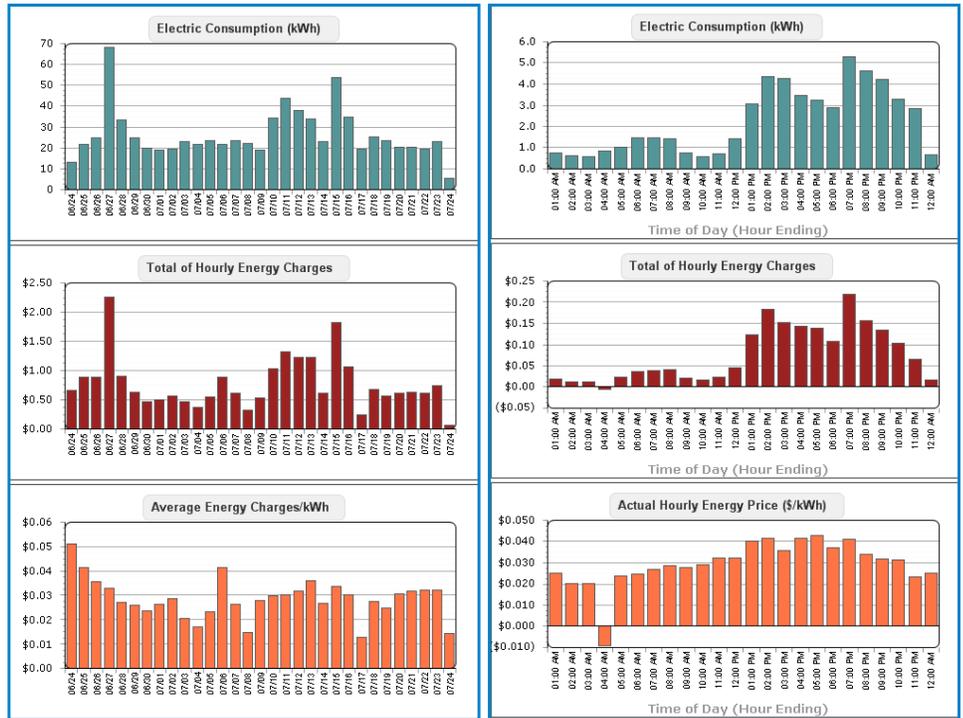
Day-ahead and real-time electricity prices are available online at [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com). To check prices by phone, call 1-877-WATTSPOT.

# Online Tools

Each month after your bill is calculated, you will be able to log into your account to access a breakdown of your hourly energy usage and costs online.

You'll also see a bill comparison tool that automatically compares your costs with RRTP to what you would have paid on ComEd's standard fixed-price rate.

To access the online tools, log in at [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com).



<span>Tools</span> <span><b>My Savings</b></span> <span>My Usage</span> <span>View Graphs</span> <span>Download Data</span> <span>Help</span> <span>Logout</span>								
<b>Account No:</b> <input type="text"/>								
Period Start Date	Period End Date	Days In Period	Usage (kWh)	Bill-Type	Total Cost with BESH**	Total Cost with Standard ComEd Rate**	Savings with BESH	Billing Details
02/02/10	03/03/10	29	633	R	\$71.50	\$76.00	\$4.50	<a href="#">View</a>
01/04/10	02/02/10	29	625	R	\$70.53	\$74.24	\$3.71	<a href="#">View</a>
12/01/09	01/04/10	34	778	R	\$81.48	\$88.37	\$6.89	<a href="#">View</a>
10/29/09	12/01/09	33	593	R	\$63.55	\$72.43	\$8.88	<a href="#">View</a>
09/30/09	10/29/09	29	535	R	\$56.38	\$63.15	\$6.77	<a href="#">View</a>
08/31/09	09/30/09	30	750	R	\$75.97	\$90.10	\$14.13	<a href="#">View</a>
07/31/09	08/31/09	31	1,238	R	\$104.33	\$136.43	\$32.10	<a href="#">View</a>
06/30/09	07/31/09	31	805	R	\$72.75	\$92.71	\$19.96	<a href="#">View</a>
06/02/09	06/30/09	28	901	R	\$79.18	\$101.37	\$22.19	<a href="#">View</a>
04/30/09	06/02/09	33	533	R	\$57.07	\$68.02	\$10.95	<a href="#">View</a>
04/01/09	04/30/09	29	537	R	\$62.79	\$69.32	\$6.53	<a href="#">View</a>
03/03/09	04/01/09	29	616	R	\$64.92	\$77.86	\$12.94	<a href="#">View</a>
02/03/09	03/03/09	28	694	R	\$73.66	\$87.78	\$14.12	<a href="#">View</a>
<b>Totals:</b>			<b>10,071</b>		<b>\$1,036.31</b>	<b>\$1,206.51</b>	<b>\$170.20</b>	

# Understanding Your Bill

Some of the line items and charges will be the same for both customers enrolled in the ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) program and for customers on ComEd's fixed-price rate. Some line items will be different, or will be calculated based on different rates. Below, you will find more information about the line items on your bill, and how the charges for RRTP customers differ from the charges for customers on ComEd's fixed-price rate.

All charges on ComEd bills are based on tariffs and riders approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

ComEd's full rate book is available online and should be considered the official record for these items. (Go to [www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/pages/rateinformation.aspx](http://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/pages/rateinformation.aspx) for details.)

**www.comed.com**

**Customer Service / Power Outage**

**English**  
1-800-EDISON1 (1-800-334-7661)

**Español**  
1-800-95-LUCES (1-800-955-8237)

**Hearing/Speech Impaired**  
1-800-572-5789 (TTY)

**Your Usage Profile**  
13-Month Usage (Total kWh)

**Electric Usage**

Month	kWh
Jun-09	469
Jul-09	816
Aug-09	1182
Sep-09	564
Oct-09	469
Nov-09	439
Dec-09	592
Jan-10	546
Feb-10	461
Mar-10	415
Apr-10	541
May-10	556
<b>Jun-10</b>	<b>845</b>

**Average Daily**

Month Billed	kWh	Temp
Last Year	16.2	65
Last Month	17.9	57
<b>Current Month</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>71</b>

Page 1 of 2

**Account Number 1234567890**

Name ANN EXAMPLE  
Service Location 123 BUTTERFIELD OAK BROOK  
Phone Number 708-321-7654

Issue Date June 24, 2010

**Meter Information**

Read Date	Meter Number	Load Type	Reading Type	Meter Reading		Difference	Multiplier X	Usage
				Previous	Present			
6/23	12345 6789	General Service	Total kWh	Actual	Actual			845

**Service from 5/24/2010 to 6/23/2010 - 30 Days**

**Residential - Hourly Single**

**Electricity Supply Services \$59.55**

Electricity Supply Charge	845 kWh			36.12
Transmission Services Charge	845 kWh	X	0.00471	3.98
Capacity Charge	3.24 kW	X	5.69001	18.44
Purchased Electricity Adjustment				-1.84
Misc Procurement Component Chg	845 kWh	X	0.00337	2.85

**Delivery Services - ComEd \$33.84**

Customer Charge				8.49
Standard Metering Charge				2.29
Distribution Facilities Charge	845 kWh	X	0.02463	20.81
Meter Lease				2.25

**Taxes and Other \$10.05**

Smart Meter Program				0.09
Environmental Cost Recovery Adj	845 kWh	X	0.00020	0.17
Energy Efficiency Programs	845 kWh	X	0.00147	1.24
Franchise Cost	\$33.17	X	2.57300%	0.85
State Tax				2.79
Municipal Tax				4.91

**Bill Summary**

Previous Balance	\$64.93
Total Payments	\$64.93
<b>Amount Due on July 19, 2010</b>	<b>\$103.44</b>

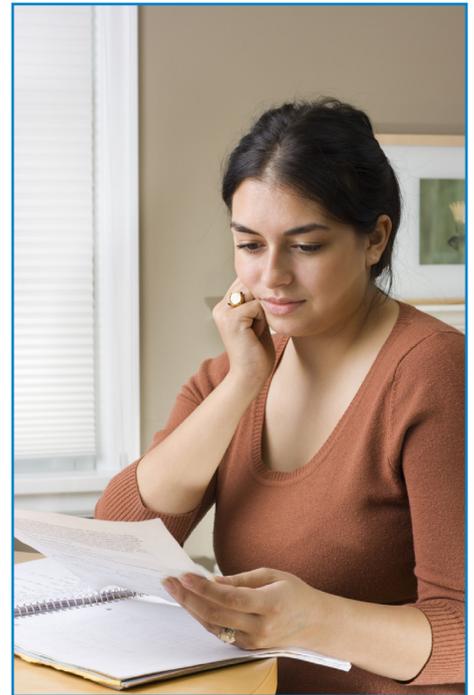
(continued on next page)

# The Components of Your ComEd Bill

The core components of all bills are still the same. They include Delivery Service Charges, Electricity Supply Charges, and Taxes and other charges. These components are broken into the following line items on customers' bills. Most line items appear on both RRTP bills and fixed-price rate bills. Those that appear only on RRTP bills or are calculated differently for RRTP customers are indicated below.

**A. Electricity Supply Services** cover the actual supply of electricity (either ComEd's fixed-price rate BES Electricity Supply Charges or the special combined hourly rate of Rate BESH and Rider RRTP Electricity Supply Charges).

- Electricity Supply Charge (Calculated differently for RRTP)
- Transmission Services Charge (Calculated differently for RRTP)
- Capacity Charge (Separate RRTP line item; Costs included in Fixed-Price Rate Electricity Supply Charge)
- Purchased Electricity Adjustment (Calculated differently for RRTP)
- Misc Procurement Component Chg (Separate RRTP line item; Costs included in Fixed-Price Rate Electricity Supply Charge)



**B. Delivery Services - ComEd** cover billing and delivering the electricity supply to your home via distribution lines.

- Customer Charge (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Standard Metering Charge (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Distribution Facilities Charge (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Meter Lease (RRTP only)

**C. Taxes and Other**

- Smart Meter Program (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Environmental Cost Recovery Adjustment (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Energy Efficiency Programs (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Franchise Costs (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)
- Taxes (Same for Fixed-Price Rate and RRTP)

# How Your RRTP Bill Differs from a Fixed-Price Rate Bill

**Most line items are the same for all residential customers and most are charged at the same rate:**

- All standard delivery service related charges are the same.
- Taxes and other charges will use the same rates for both RRTP and fixed-price rate customers.

**Some line items and charges on your RRTP bill will differ from the standard fixed-price rate:**

- Under supply related charges, all customers will have an Electricity Supply Charge, a Transmission Services Charge and a Purchased Electricity Adjustment. However, the rates for these line items are different for RRTP and fixed-price rate customers.
- RRTP bills include separate line items for the Electricity Supply Charge, the Capacity Charge, and the Miscellaneous Procurement Component Charge. Fixed-Price rate bills include the costs for these three items in a single line item (listed as Electricity Supply Charge).
- RRTP customers will have a Meter Lease charge in the Delivery Services - ComEd section.

## Differences in how charges are calculated under RRTP vs. ComEd's fixed-price rate

### The Electricity Supply Charge

ComEd's fixed-price rate Electricity Supply Charge is based on the costs of procuring power, which are incurred pursuant to the Illinois Commerce Commission-approved procurement plan. This Electricity Supply Charge includes the cost for the electricity supply, capacity, and other miscellaneous services and procurement costs. All of these components are purchased together and combined into one Electricity Supply Charge for fixed-price rate customers.

The RRTP Electricity Supply Charge is based on the ComEd Zone PJM real-time hourly prices, but it does not include capacity costs or miscellaneous services and procurement costs. Therefore RRTP customers have a separate Capacity Charge line item and a Miscellaneous Procurement Component Charge line item. Both of these are explained in detail in the section titled "Answers to Your Questions about Specific Line Items."

ComEd does not profit from the Electricity Supply Charges, it simply passes through the cost of supplying electricity to its customers.

### Transmission Services Charge and Purchased Electricity Adjustment

The Transmission Services Charge is different for RRTP customers than it is for customers on the fixed-price rate because the supply for RRTP customers is procured differently (directly through PJM rather than through the Illinois procurement processes). For a similar reason, the RRTP customers' Purchased Electricity Adjustment (PEA) charge or credit is different from the charge or credit for fixed-price rate customers. ComEd does not mark up or profit from these charges. They are simply a pass through of costs incurred by ComEd.

### Meter Lease Charge

The \$2.25 monthly Meter Lease charge on RRTP bills covers a portion of the additional costs of providing the special hourly recording meter needed for the program.

# Answers to Your Questions about Specific Line Items

## Q. Why do I pay a different Transmission Services Charge with the RRTP program?

### A. Transmission Services Charge under ComEd's fixed-price rate

ComEd purchases transmission services for all fixed-price rate customers in regional markets regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This charge is then apportioned to different customer groups on the fixed-price rate, resulting in different Transmission Services Charge rates for residential, commercial and industrial customers.

### Transmission Services Charge with RRTP

ComEd purchases transmission services for all hourly rate customers in regional markets regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The same Transmission Services Charge rate is charged to all hourly customers (residential, commercial and industrial).

## Q. What is the Purchased Electricity Adjustment?

A. The Purchased Electricity Adjustment (PEA) acts as the balancing mechanism to assure that ComEd's supply charges exactly match supply costs over time. This balance is reviewed monthly and the charge rate is adjusted accordingly. ComEd's revenues track the actual payments that ComEd must make to procure supply service.

The Purchased Electricity Adjustment can be a debit or credit that addresses the difference, if any, between the actual amount of money collected from ComEd's customers for electricity supplied and the cost incurred to supply that electricity. ComEd is taking steps to limit the amount that the PEA will vary from one month to the next.

The supply costs are tracked (and the PEA is adjusted) separately for different customer groups. As a result, the Purchased Electricity Adjustments may differ between RRTP customers and customers on the standard fixed-price rate. In 2009 there were nine months when this charge was lower for the hourly customers, two months when this charge was higher for the hourly customers and one month when it was the same.

## Q. Why do I still have to pay ComEd's Standard Metering Charge?

**A.** The delivery services that ComEd provides include standard metering charges for all the different customer classes that ComEd supplies. Thus, there is a Standard Metering charge for all ComEd residential customers. If a meter other than the standard meter is needed by a customer (RRTP customers need a special meter to record hourly energy usage), ComEd calculates the incremental additional cost of the meter being used over the meter that would be used for the fixed-price rate. This is why RRTP customers must pay the Standard Metering Charge, and an incremental additional Meter Lease Charge for the hourly recording meter that is required in order to participate in the ComEd RRTP program.

Under ComEd's current Meter-Related Facilities Lease fees, the hourly recording meter used for RRTP would normally cost \$7.65 per month. (This cost is current as of June 2010 and is subject to change.) The RRTP program provides the meter to the first 110,000 participants in the program at the reduced fee of \$2.25 per month. The balance of the cost of the meter (as well as the costs of additional program services) is paid by all residential customers under a \$0.14 per month charge from Rider RCA added to the Customer Charge. All customers are charged a portion of the cost of the meters for RRTP customers because the anticipated decrease in energy used by RRTP customers is likely to lower peak demand for electricity, which has benefits to all customers.

The reduced monthly meter lease fee of \$2.25 per month and the exemption of the meter exchange fee only apply to the first meter on the account. If a customer has more than one meter on the account, this customer is subject to the full regular monthly meter lease fee and a meter exchange fee for each additional hourly recording meter.

## Q. What is the Capacity Charge?

**A.** The Capacity Charge covers ComEd's costs to reserve enough electricity to meet demand at all times, including peak hours. Capacity Charges essentially allow ComEd to reserve generating capacity in advance, ensuring that enough electricity will be available when it is needed. All electricity suppliers are required to reserve capacity to cover their customer's Capacity Obligation (for a more detailed description of the Capacity Obligation please see the Question & Answer that addresses how the Capacity Charge is calculated). The Capacity Obligation represents your expected level of hourly usage in the afternoon on a hot summer day.

For residential customers who pay the standard fixed-price rate, capacity costs are included in their fixed-price rate per kilowatt hour Electricity Supply Charge. For RRTP customers, the Electricity Supply Charge does not include these capacity costs. Instead ComEd lists this charge as a separate line item on RRTP bills (labeled as the Capacity Charge).

As the market price of capacity fluctuates, both standard fixed-price rate customers and RRTP hourly rate customers will see adjustments to their rate. The Capacity Charge item on your bill is adjusted every year in June. ComEd does not profit from the Capacity Charge. Instead, like with the cost of electricity, ComEd simply passes through capacity costs to its customers without mark up.

## Q: How is the Capacity Charge calculated?

**A.** There are two components to this charge, your Capacity Obligation and the Capacity Charge rate. Multiplied together, they make up the Capacity Charge item on your bill. The method used to calculate your individual Capacity Charge depends on when your RRTP meter was first installed.

### Capacity Obligation

If you were enrolled in the RRTP program during the summer of 2009, your Capacity Obligation is based on your individual electricity usage data from last summer. In this case, ComEd calculates your highest electricity demand (adjusted for Transmission and Distribution losses) coincident with the five hours of the summer when the overall PJM System demand was highest (PJM Coincident Demand) (this has historically occurred between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays), and the five hours of the summer when ComEd's System demand was highest (ComEd Coincident Demand) (these sets of hours may or may not overlap). These two sets of five coincident demands are averaged and adjusted to determine your contribution to the system load, creating your Capacity Obligation.

Your Capacity Obligation is then used to calculate your Capacity Charge. So the higher your demand was during those ten peak hours (coincident with the five PJM System peak hours and the five ComEd System peak hours) of last summer, the higher your Capacity Charge will be this year beginning with your June 2010 Billing Period.

If you did not have an RRTP meter in place during the summer of 2009, your Capacity Obligation is set by using averages of peak demand for your customer class. (ComEd's four residential customer classes are: Single Family Non-Electric Space Heating, Single Family Electric Space Heating, Multi-Family Non-Electric Space Heating, and Multi-Family Electric Space Heating.) In future years, starting with your June Billing Period your Capacity Obligation will be based on your individual energy use during the highest demand hours of the previous summer.

### Capacity Charge Rate

The Capacity Charge rate is updated annually (it can go up or down) based on the cost of capacity in the PJM wholesale market. Starting June, 2010 the Capacity Charge rate is \$5.69001 per kW-Month. The Capacity Charge rate can have a significant impact on your bill. For example, a typical single family home has a Capacity Obligation of around 3.7 kW. (Most apartments will have a much smaller Capacity Obligation.) This means that in June 2010 the Capacity Charge for a typical single family home would be \$21.05 per month.

## Q: How can I reduce my Capacity Charge in the future?

**A:** Reducing your electricity usage during peak hours (this has historically occurred between 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. on the hottest weekdays of the summer) may help to reduce the Electricity Supply Charge portion of your bills this summer, and could reduce the Capacity Charge portion of your future bills.

In general, the price of electricity goes up when demand is high, so the peak system load is likely to correspond with higher real-time prices. This means that if you can reduce your electricity use when prices are high, you'll also have a good chance of reducing your demand during peak system load. This in turn may result in a lower Capacity Obligation, and thus, a lower Capacity Charge in the future.

The more you can reduce electricity usage during the afternoon (2 p.m. – 5 p.m.) on the hottest weekdays of the summer, the less capacity costs will be incurred in future years.

## Q. What is the Miscellaneous Procurement Component Charge?

**A.** The Miscellaneous Procurement Component Charge is a line item for hourly customers only. It is itemized on your bill to make it easier to compare the total supply costs under RRTP to the fixed-price rate. This charge recovers the costs that ComEd incurs related to procuring electricity supply directly from PJM-administered markets for customers with hourly energy pricing that are not recovered through the application of the Capacity Charge, the Electricity Supply Charge, and the Transmission Charge. Similar costs for customers on the fixed-price rate are included in their Electricity Supply Charge.

## Q. What is the Customer Charge?

**A.** The Customer Charge is the same for both RRTP participants and customers on the standard fixed-price rate. This charge recovers costs such as the standard service connection, customer service operations, and billing. The Customer Charge also includes charges from Rider RCA for state funds for renewable energy resources, coal technology development, low-income energy assistance, and the RRTP program cost recovery charge.

## Q. What is the Energy Efficiency Programs charge?

**A.** The Energy Efficiency Programs charge is a charge that is the same for all residential customers. This charge recovers costs related to ComEd's energy efficiency and demand response plans, which were approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission. This includes programs that are developed, implemented, or administered by or for ComEd or the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). ComEd does not mark up or profit from these charges. They are simply a pass through of costs incurred by ComEd.

## Q. What is the Smart Meter Program charge?

**A.** The Smart Meter Program charge is a charge that is the same for all of ComEd's residential customers. This charge recovers the costs associated with an Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) approved pilot to evaluate smart meter technology.

# For More Information

Learn more about the ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) program at [www.theWattSpot.com](http://www.theWattSpot.com) or call **1-877-WATTSPOT** for more information.