



City of Columbia, Illinois
Information for Electricity Aggregation Program Participants
June, 2019

Ameren Illinois has recently released its new residential and small business account electric supply rate(s) for customers in the City of Columbia – effective June 2019, the Ameren Illinois summer rate (June 2019 - September 2019) is 4.56 cents/kilowatt hour and the non-summer rate (October 2019 – May 2020) is 4.83 cents/kilowatt hour (note: electricity usage greater than 800 kilowatt hours/billing cycle in the non-summer billing periods may receive an additional reduction). These rates are lower than the city’s current municipal electricity aggregation contract rate with Homefield Energy, which is 5.596 cents/kilowatt hour of electricity usage throughout the year – this municipal electricity aggregation contract rate is fixed through December 2020.

The price differential between the Ameren Illinois rate/kilowatt hour of usage and that of the city’s municipal aggregation rate (through Homefield Energy) is approximately 1.04 cents/kilowatt hour in the summer rate billing periods, and approximately .77 cents/kilowatt hour in the non-summer rate billing periods. Depending on the electricity usage of customers who are part of the city’s electricity aggregation program (those whose electricity is supplied by Homefield Energy), the rate differentials detailed above should result in average higher costs of 13 – 15% of electricity usage charges by customers staying with the city’s electricity aggregation program rather than opting out and having Ameren Illinois supply their electricity. (Note: Ameren Illinois delivers the electricity to customer’s homes/businesses regardless of who supplies their electricity, and this delivery charge, which is in addition to the electricity usage charge, should be the same regardless of who supplies the customer’s electricity).

This information is being provided to the city’s residents and small businesses to help them decide whether to continue in the city’s electricity aggregation program (if they are currently in it) or choose another electricity provider.

Columbia electricity aggregation program customers may choose to opt-out of the program by contacting Homefield Energy by phone (866)694-1262 (between 7 AM – 7 PM) or by email at HomefieldCustCare@Dynergy.com – customers should be prepared to provide the caller name, the name(s) as it/they appear on the account billing, the service address and the utility account number, and indicate they would like to opt-out of the municipal electricity aggregation program. If they do not have another electricity supplier, they will automatically be switched to the Ameren Illinois default rate. Customers may also choose a different alternative retail electricity supplier (ARES) by signing an individual contract with a supplier of their choice within Ameren Illinois’ first two billing cycles (approximately 60 days). After two billing cycles on Ameren’s supply rate, the customer account is on “utility hold” for 12 consecutive billing cycles – customers will not be able to switch electricity suppliers until the hold expires, even if rates increase during that time.