

## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ComEd Launches Optional Program to Allow Consumers to Adjust to Rate Increase Over Time**

*Voluntary “phase-in” program provides a tool to help customers manage their electric bills*

**CHICAGO** (Jan. 23, 2007) – Just weeks after electric bills increased for the first time in nearly 10 years, ComEd has launched a program that provides residential customers the choice to adjust to the rate increase over time. The company began mailing information about the new phase-in program, including an enrollment form, to customers today and will continue the mailings over the next month, in conjunction with customers’ billing cycles.

As part of ComEd CARE (Customers’ Affordable Reliable Energy), residential customers can choose to take part in a phase-in program, which will cap bill increases at 10 percent per year as early as April 2007 through 2009 and defer amounts above these caps. Customers would repay the deferred portion of any increase from 2010 to 2012 at a below-market interest rate of 3.25 percent, to cover some of ComEd’s costs to finance the program. The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) approved the plan on December 20, 2006.

Program enrollment starts today and runs through Aug. 22, 2007. Customers who enroll by March 24 will see the caps take effect on their April bills. After enrolling, customers are free to leave the program at any time, with the full deferral balance plus interest due in the next bill. More information regarding the phase-in plan is available at [www.ComEdRates.com](http://www.ComEdRates.com), or by calling a specially designated toll-free number, 1-888-208-9298.

“For customers who may have difficulty paying the increase all at once, or are on a fixed income, the phase-in plan provides a reasonable alternative,” said Anne Pramaggiore, senior vice president of regulatory affairs, ComEd. “We encourage customers to look at their options and take advantage of the many programs offered through ComEd CARE to help manage their energy bills.”

As an example, residential customers with an average \$60 monthly bill who enroll in this plan would see their bills increase to \$66 per month, with \$8.40 per month deferred. At the end of 2007, the deferral balance would be \$75.60, plus 3.25 percent interest. All deferral balances and interest charges would be repaid from 2010 to 2012. For customers who do not enroll, an average \$60 monthly bill would increase by \$14.40 to \$74.40 per month. While these estimates are based on an average monthly residential bill of \$60, actual increases may vary for individual customers.

“This plan is one of many options that ComEd has put in place to help customers manage their bills,” Pramaggiore said. “Our CARE program offers a variety of energy saving programs for all our customers. We also offer a budget billing program that allows customers to pay a consistent amount every month and smooth out seasonal spikes.”

In addition to the phase-in plan, ComEd’s CARE program offers a number of energy-efficiency and low-income programs that can help customers lower their bills.

Due to higher energy costs, residential customer bills increased by an average of 24 percent beginning Jan. 2, 2007, after the end of a 20 percent rate cut and nine-year rate freeze. Based on an average residential monthly bill of \$60, the increase will be about \$14.40, or 48 cents per day. Even with this increase, ComEd’s rates will still be lower than they were in 1995.

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*Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) is a unit of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC), one of the nation’s largest electric utilities with approximately 5.2 million customers and more than \$15 billion in annual revenues. ComEd provides service to approximately 3.7 million customers across Northern Illinois, or 70 percent of the state’s population.*