



For Immediate Release
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NEWS

For more information
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Ameren Illinois has announced new residential electric rates for Ursa that make the utility's average annual rate of 4.95 cents per kilowatthour approximately 1.3 cents less than the village's electric aggregation rate 6.285 cents per kilowatthour.

The community's rate was fixed in competitive bidding at 6.285 cents per kilowatthour for 36 months starting in June 2017. Ameren's comparable price in the first year of the contract was 6.118 cents per kilowatthour last year.

SIMEC LLC of Quincy, the village's consultant, negotiated a billing credit designed to equalize village and Ameren rates last year and is negotiating again this year with Homefield for a similar concession. Neither firm, however, could predict the outcome or when a decision might be reached.

Homefield Energy of Collinsville supplies electricity to Ursa and more than 300 other Illinois communities for their electric aggregation programs. Electric rates in nearly all those municipalities rose above Ameren's as a result of recent prices established for the Illinois Power Agency. The IPA supplies power to Ameren for consumers who have not chosen alternative electric suppliers.

Communities that have electric aggregation programs use Ameren's residential electric rates as the price to compare to their aggregation rates. Ameren's rates have fallen in each of the

past two years due largely to falling costs of energy commodities and reduced invested capital costs.

Residents are encouraged to review their annual electric usage and compare annual bills. They may opt out of the program at any time and at no cost by calling Homefield at 866-694-1262. Participants are reminded that electric aggregation regulations require consumers who opt out to remain a total of 12 months with Ameren for electric supply if they choose not to return to the village's program or choose another electric supplier within two months of opting out.

Consumers can obtain their usage information by going to Ameren Illinois' website and from the homepage creating a confidential account from the homepage's left side.

Additional information is available by calling Homefield's customer care center toll-free at 866-694-1262.