## VILLAGE OF LOMBARD REQUEST FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION

For Inclusion on Board Agenda

<u>X</u>	Resolution or Ordinance (Blue) X Waiver of First Requested Recommendations of Boards, Commissions & Committees (Green) Other Business (Pink)					
TO:	PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES					
FROM:	David A. Hulseberg, Village Manager					
DATE:	April 25, 2012 (CO	W)( <u>B of T</u> ) May	3, 2012			
TITLE:	ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AGGREGATION OF ELECTRICAL LOAD AND ADOPTING AN ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE					
SUBMITTED BY:	Timothy Sexton, Director of Finance					
BACKGROUND/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:						
Attached is an ordinance that authorizes the Village of Lombard to establish an opt-out electricity aggregation program and adopt an electric aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance. The ordinance allows the Village to enter into service agreements for the sale and purchase of electricity to residential and small commercial customers, according to the terms of the Illinois Power Agency Act.  Also included is a proposed Plan of Operation and Governance that outlines how the Village plans to operate its aggregation program. On Thursday April 19 <sup>th</sup> , the Village will hold a public hearing on the plan and another public hearing is scheduled for Thursday May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , as required by state law. The hearings were advertised in the Lombardian.						
Village staff recommends Board of Trustee approval of the attached ordinance and proposed Plan of Operation and Governance.						
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Review (as necessary) Village Attorney X Finance Director X Village Manager X			Date			

NOTE: All materials must be submitted to and approved by the Village Manager's Office by 12:00 noon, Wednesday, prior to the Agenda Distribution.



To:

David A. Hulseberg

Village Manager

From:

Timothy Sexton

**Director of Finance** 

Date:

April 25, 2012

Subject:

Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance

Attached is an ordinance that authorizes the Village of Lombard to establish an opt-out electricity aggregation program and adopt an electric aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance. The ordininance allows the Village to enter into service agreements for the sale and purchase of electricity to residential and small commercial customers, according to the terms of the Illinois Power Agency Act.

The proposed Plan of Operation and Governance outlines how the Village plans to operate its aggregation program. The plan was drafted by Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative (NIMEC) and reviewed by myself and my staff. On Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup> the Village held public hearings on the plan. The second public hearing, as required by state law, will be held on Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The hearings have been advertised in the Lombardian.

Below are a few key points in the proposed Plan:

Section IV.A., the Provider shall provide adequate, accurate, and understandable pricing, terms and conditions of service, including but not limited to no switching fees and the conditions under which a Member may opt-out without penalty.

Section IV.C. Lombard's Retail Electric Supplier, the plan requires the Provider to hold the Village financially harmless and fully indemnifying the Village from any and all financial obligations arising from supplying power to the Aggregation Group.

Section IV.F. Termination of Service states that in the event that the agreement is terminated early, each Member of the Aggregation Group will receive written notification.

Section IV.H. Opt-out Procedures, the Provider may or may not charge an early termination fee. Members of the Aggregation Group will be allowed to switch to a different electric supplier after the expiration of the opt-out period on the terms set forth in the Power Supply Agreement but at least shall be allowed to opt-out every three years.

Staff recommends approval of the attached ordinance and Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance. This will allow the Village to move forward with seeking competitive bids for electricity.

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# ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AGGREGATION OF ELECTRICAL LOAD AND ADOPTING AN ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE

#### Recitals

- 1. Recently the Illinois Power Agency Act, Chapter 20, Illinois Compiled Statutes, Act 3855, added Section 1-92 entitled Aggregation of Electrical Load by Municipalities and Counties (hereinafter referred to as the "Act").
- 2. Under the Act, the Village may operate the aggregation program under the Act as an opt-out program for residential and small commercial retail customers, if a referendum is passed by a majority vote of the residents pursuant to the requirements under the Act.
- 3. The Village submitted the question in a referendum on March 20, 2012, and a majority of the electors voting on the question voted in the affirmative.
- 4. The corporate authorities hereby find that it is in the best interest of the Village to operate the aggregation program under the act as an opt-out program and to implement the program according to the terms of the Act.
- 5. The Act requires that prior to the implementation of an opt-out electrical aggregation program by the Village, the Village must adopt an electrical power aggregation plan of operation and governance and hold not less than two (2) public hearings.
- 6. The Village held the required Public Hearings for the Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance on April 19, 2012 and on May 3, 2012 and provided the required public notice.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF LOMBARD, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section One: The Corporate Authorities of the Village find that the recitals set forth above are true and correct.

Section Two: The Corporate Authorities of the Village find and determine that it is in the best interests of the Village to operate the electric aggregation program under the Act as an optout program.

#### Section Three:

- A. The Corporate Authorities of the Village hereby are authorized to aggregate in accordance with the terms of the Act residential and small commercial retail electrical loads located within the corporate limits of the Village, and for that purpose may solicit bids and enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity and related services and equipment.
- B. The Corporate Authorities of the Village are granted the authority to exercise such authority jointly with any other municipality or county and, in combination with two or more municipalities or counties, may initiate a process jointly to authorize aggregation by a majority vote of each particular municipality or county as required by the Act.
- C. The Aggregation Program for the Village shall operate as an opt-out program for residential and small commercial retail customers.
- D. The Aggregation Program shall be approved by a majority of the members of the Corporate Authority of the Village.
- E. The Corporate Authorities of the Village with the assistance from the Illinois Power Agency shall develop a plan of operation and governance for the Aggregation Program and shall conduct such public hearings and provide such public notice as required under the Act. The Load Aggregation Plan shall provide for universal access to all applicable residential customers and equitable treatment of applicable residential customers, shall describe demand management and energy efficiency services to be provided to each class of customers and shall meet any requirements established by law concerning aggregated service offered pursuant to the Act.
- F. As an opt-out program, the Corporate Authorities of the Village shall fully inform residential and small commercial retail customers in advance that they have the right to opt-out of the Aggregation Program. The disclosure and information provided to the customers shall comply with the requirements of the Act.
- G. The electric aggregation shall occur automatically for each person owning, occupying, controlling, or using an electrical load center proposed to be aggregated in the corporate limits of the Village, subject to a right to opt-out of the program as described under this ordinance and the Act.

Section Four: The Corporate Authorities hereby adopt the Electrical Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully set forth by this reference.

Section Five: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

County, Illin	SED by the President and the Books, on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2012 Village on that date pursuant to	2, and deposited and filed in	ige of Lombard, DuPage the office of the Village		
	Elected Trustees:				
	Ayes:				
	Nayes:				
	Absent:				
		Village Clerk of the Villag	e of Lombard, Illinois		
APPROVED by the President of the Village of Lombard, Illinois, this 3rd day of May, 2012.					
		President of the Village of	Lombard, Illinois		
ATTEST:					
Village Cler	k of the Village of Lombard, Ill	inois			
	Published in pamphlet form the	nis day of	. 20		

### **DRAFT**

### **VILLAGE OF LOMBARD**

ELECTRIC POWER
AGGREGATION
PLAN OF OPERATION
AND GOVERNANCE

April 19, 2012

# Village of Lombard Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Public Act 96-1076 amended the Illinois Power Agreement Act by adding Section 1-92 to Chapter 20, Act 3855 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes ("the Act") and allowed the Corporate Authorities of a municipality to adopt an ordinance in accordance with the Act to aggregate electrical loads for residential and small commercial retail customers within the corporate limits of the Village on an opt-out or opt-in program. The Act further authorized a municipality to select suppliers of retail electric supply, solicit bids and enter into service agreements to facilitate the sale and purchase of electricity and related services. The legislation authorized the Illinois Power Agency ("IPA") to assist a municipality in developing a plan of operation and governance.

Large industrial and commercial consumers with sophisticated electric operations use

their size and expertise to obtain lower electric power rates. Individual residential and small commercial retail consumers are typically unable to obtain significant price reductions since they lack the same bargaining power, expertise and the economies of scale enjoyed by larger

consumers. Aggregation, the combining of multiple electric loads, provides the benefits of retail electric competition for consumers with lower electric usage.

Municipal aggregation, the combining of multiple retail electric loads of customers by a municipality, provides the means through which municipal residential and small commercial retail customers may obtain economic benefits of Illinois' competitive retail electric market. The Village of Lombard Aggregation Program combines the electric loads of residential and small commercial retail customers to form a buying group ("Aggregation Group"). The Village of Lombard "Village" will act as purchasing agent for the Aggregation Group. Therefore, the Village will be a Municipal or Governmental Aggregator, as described by Illinois law and the rules established by authorized agencies, and shall act on behalf of Commonwealth Edison Company, an affiliate of Exelon Corporation (herein referred to as "ComEd" or "Commonwealth Edison") in the Village to obtain the best Aggregation Program for the Members of the Aggregation Group.

#### II. PROCESS

On March 20, 2012, in accordance with the requirements of the Act, Village of Lombard voters approved a referendum to operate an Aggregation Program as an "opt-out" program. Under the opt-out program, all ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village are automatically included as participants in the Program unless they opt-out of the Program by providing written notice of their intention not to participate as a part of the Aggregation Group. As required by state law, the Corporate Authorities of the Village duly

passed an Ordinance which authorized submitting to the Village's electorate the determination whether or not the Aggregation Program shall operate as an opt-out program. Following the approval of the referendum by the electorate, the Village passed Ordinance number \_\_\_\_\_ on May 3, 2012 authorizing the Village to aggregate electric loads for residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village and implement an opt-out program.

In addition to passing the required ordinances by the Corporate Authorities, the Village may also be required to comply with various rules and regulations established by authorized agencies of the State of Illinois. The Village will promptly file any application and comply with any applicable rules and regulations that may be required by Illinois law for certification as a Municipal Aggregator and to operate the Aggregation Program under the Act. As required by the Act, the Corporate Authorities developed and approved this Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance ("Plan"). Before adopting this Plan and as required by the Act, the Corporate Authorities duly published a notice in the Lombardian, a newspaper of general circulation in the Village, of public hearings to be held on April 19, 2012 and May 3, 2012 at 7:30 o'clock P.M. The public hearings were held by the Corporate Authorities at Village Hall and provided the residents of the Village a meaningful opportunity to be heard regarding the Aggregation Program and this Plan. The Corporate Authorities considered the concerns of the residents and information disclosed at the hearings in the development of this Plan. The opt-out notice for the Aggregation Program shall be provided in advance to all eligible electric customers in the Village upon approval of this Plan according to the opt-out disclosure program developed by the Village. The opt-out notice and disclosures shall comply with the Act and all applicable rules and regulations of any authorized agency in the State of Illinois and shall fully inform such customers in advance that they have the right to opt-out of the Aggregation Program. The opt-out notice shall disclose all required information including but not limited to the rates, terms and conditions of the Program and the specific method to opt-out of the Program.

By majority vote of the Corporate Authorities, the Village may select a Retail Electric Supplier ("RES" or "Provider") to provide the electric power for the Village of Lombard Aggregation Program according to the terms of a written service agreement entered into by and between the Provider and the Village. By majority vote of the Corporate Authorities, the Village may determine not to enter into a service agreement with any Provider and in such event the Aggregation Group shall continue to purchase electric power through Commonwealth Edison. If the Corporate Authorities enter into a service agreement with a Provider, Commonwealth Edison will continue to provide and service delivery of the electricity purchased from the Provider, and metering, repairs and emergency service will continue to be provided by Commonwealth Edison. The Corporate Authorities have determined that each participant in the Aggregation Group shall receive a single monthly bill from Commonwealth Edison under applicable tariffs.

#### III. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

In order to clarify certain terminology, the following terms as used in this Plan shall have the meanings set forth below:

"Aggregation Group" shall mean all the residential and small commercial retail customers of ComEd in the corporate limits of the Village that have not opted out of the Program and are permitted under the terms of the Act to participate in the Program.

"Aggregation Program" or "Program" means the program developed and implemented by the Village of Lombard as a Municipal Aggregator under the Act, to provide ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village with retail electric generation services.

"Municipal Aggregator" means the Village operating an Aggregation Program under the legislative authority granted the Village to act as an aggregator to provide a competitive retail electric service to residential and small commercial retail customers of ComEd in the Village. Pursuant to the Act, an Aggregator is not a public utility or an alternative retail electric supplier.

"Member" means a person or legal entity enrolled in the Village of Lombard Municipal Aggregation Program for competitive retail electric services and a member of the Aggregation Group.

"Retail Electric Supplier" ("RES" or "Provider") means an entity certified by all required authorities of the State of Illinois to provide competitive retail electric supply service(s), and which is duly selected by the Village to be the entity responsible to provide the required retail electrical supply service related to an Aggregation Program as defined in the Act, Village Ordinances and applicable rules and regulations of any authorized agency of the State of Illinois and has duly executed a Power Supply Agreement with the Village.

#### IV. OPERATIONAL PLAN:

#### A. Aggregation Services

- 1. Provider: The Village of Lombard will use a competent entity as a Provider to perform and manage aggregation services for Members of the Aggregation Program. The Provider shall provide adequate, accurate, and understandable pricing, terms and conditions of service, including but not limited to no switching fees and the conditions under which a Member may opt-out without penalty. The Provider must provide the Village, upon request, an electronic file containing the Members usage, charges for retail supply service and such other information reasonably requested by the Village.
- 2. Database: The Retail Electric Supplier shall create and maintain a secure database of all Members. The database will include the name, address, Commonwealth Edison account number, and Retail Electric Suppliers' account number of each active Member, and other pertinent information such as rate code, rider code (if applicable), most recent 12 months of usage and demand, and meter reading cycle. The database will be updated at least quarterly. Accordingly, the Provider will develop and implement a program to accommodate Members who (i) leave the Aggregation Group due to relocation, opting out,

- etc. (ii) decide to join the Aggregation Group; (iii) relocate anywhere within the corporate limits of the Village, or (iv) move into the Village and elect to join the Aggregation Group. This database shall also be capable of removing a Member from the Aggregation Group who has duly opted out of the Program. The Provider will use this database to perform audits for clerical and mathematical accuracy of Member electric supply bills. The Provider will make the database available to the Village at any time the Village requests it.
- 3. Member Education: The Provider shall develop and implement, with the assistance of the Village, as the Village may determine in its sole discretion, an educational program that generally explains the Aggregation Program to all residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village and the Aggregation Group, provides updates and disclosures mandated by Illinois law and applicable rules and regulations, and implements a process to allow any Member the opportunity to opt out of the Aggregation Program according to the terms of the Power Supply Agreement. See Appendix A for further details.
- 4. Customer Service: Provider shall hire and maintain an adequate customer service staff and develop and administer a written customer service process that will accommodate Member inquiries and complaints about billing and answer questions regarding the Aggregation Program in general. This process will include a description of how telephone inquiries will be handled, either internally or externally, how invoices will be prepared, how Members may remit remittance payment, and how collection of delinquent accounts will be addressed. The Provider and the Village will enter into a separate customer service plan agreement or the terms shall be included in the Power Supply Agreement.
- 5. Billing: Commonwealth Edison will provide a monthly billing statement to each Member which shall include the charges of the Provider, and the Provider will not charge any additional administrative fee.
- 6. Compliance Process: The Provider shall develop internal controls and processes to ensure that the Village remains in good standing as a Municipal Aggregator and ensure that the Village and the Program complies with the Act and all applicable laws, rules and regulations, as they may be amended from time to time. It will be the Provider's responsibility to timely deliver reports at the request of the Village that will include (i) the number of Members participating in the Program; (ii) a savings estimate or increase from the previous year's baseline; (iii) such other information reasonably requested by the Village; (iv) comparison of the Members' charge for the supply of electricity from one designated period to another identified by the Village. The Provider shall also develop a process to monitor and shall promptly notify the Village in writing of any changes or amendments to the Act or any laws, rules or regulations applicable to the Aggregation Program.
- 7. Notification to Commonwealth Edison: The residential and small commercial retail customers of ComEd in the Village that do <u>not</u> opt-out of the Aggregation Program will be enrolled automatically in the Aggregation Program by a Provider. Members of the Aggregation Group will <u>not</u> be asked to take affirmative steps to be included in the Aggregation Group. To the extent that ComEd requires notification of participation; the

Provider shall provide such notice to ComEd. The Provider will inform ComEd from time to time through electronic means any new members that it is enrolling into the Aggregation Group.

- 8. Plan Requirements: Pursuant to the Act, the Provider selected by the Village and the Village shall:
- a. Provide for universal access to all applicable residential customers and equitable treatment of applicable residential customers;
- b. Describe demand management and energy efficiency services to be provided to each class of customers;
- c. Meet any requirements established by law concerning aggregated service offered pursuant to the Act.
- 9. Solicitation of Bids: Pursuant to the requirements of the Act, the process of soliciting bids for electricity and related services and awarding power supply agreements for the purchase of electricity and other related services by the Village, shall be conducted in the following manner:
- a. The Corporate Authorities of the Village may solicit bids for electricity and other related services.
- b. Notwithstanding Section 16-122 of the Public Utilities Act and Section 2HH of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, an electric utility that provides residential and small commercial retail electric service in the Village must, upon request of the Corporate Authorities of the Village, submit to the requesting party, in an electronic format, those names and addresses of residential and small commercial retail electrical retail customers in the Village that are reflected in the electrical utilities records at the time of the request and such other information required by the Act or any applicable rule or regulation of an authorized Illinois agency.
- c. The Village, upon receiving customer information from an electric utility shall be subject to the limitations on the disclosure of that information described in Section 16-122 of the Public Utilities Act and Section 2HH of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Practices Act, and an electric utility providing such information shall not be held liable for any claims arising out of the provision of information pursuant to this Section and the Act.

#### B. Power Supply Agreement

The Corporate Authorities of the Village and the Provider shall duly execute and enter into a Power Supply Agreement to serve the Aggregation Group.

#### C. <u>Lombard's Retail Electric Supplier</u>

The Village may require the Provider to satisfy each of the following requirements in the Power Supply Agreement:

- Have sufficient sources of power to provide retail firm power to the Aggregation Group.
- Maintain a license as a Federal Power Marketer with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- Maintain a certification from the State of Illinois as a certified retail electric supplier and any and all other licenses or certifications required by Illinois law.
- Register as a retail electric supplier with ComEd.
- Maintain a Service Agreement for Network Integration Transmission Service under Open Access Transmission Tariff.
- Maintain a Service Agreement under Illinois Market-based Rate Tariff.
- Maintain the necessary corporate structure to sell retail firm power to the ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village and the Aggregation Group.
- Maintain an Electronic Data Interchange computer network that is fully functional at all times and capable of handling the ComEd residential and small commercial retail electric customers in the Village and the Aggregation Group.
- Maintain the marketing ability to reach all ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village to educate them on the terms of the Aggregation Program and the Act.
- Maintain a call center capable of handling calls from Members of the Aggregation Group.
- Maintain a local or toll-free telephone number for customer service and complaints related to the Village's Aggregation Program.
- Agree in a binding written agreement between the Village and the Provider to hold the Village financially harmless and fully indemnifying the Village from any and all financial obligations arising from supplying power to the Aggregation Group.
- Satisfy the credit requirements of the State of Illinois and the Village.
- Have the binding authority (to the satisfaction of legal counsel for the Village) to execute
  the Power Supply Agreement with the Village and be fully bound by all of its terms and
  conditions.
- Assist the Village in filing all reports required by the Act and any applicable law, rule or regulation, as may be amended form time to time.
- Assist the Village in developing a Consumer Education Plan.
- Assist the Village in developing a smart-meter program

#### D. Activation of Service

After a notice is mailed to all residential and small commercial retail electric customers in the Village providing an opportunity to opt out of the Program within a specific period of time, all customers who do not opt out in writing will be automatically enrolled in the Program. Customer enrollment with the Provider will occur thereafter without further action by the customer on terms set forth in the Power Supply Agreement and according to the retail tariffs of Commonwealth Edison.

#### E. Changes, Extension or Renewal of Service

The Power Supply Agreement with the Provider will provide when service shall begin and end. If the Power Supply Agreement is extended or renewed, Members will be notified as to any change in rates or service conditions and other information required by law. The Power Supply Agreement shall describe the terms upon which a Member or non-member will be given an opportunity to opt into or out of the Program, and reasonable notice will be provided as required by the Act or any applicable law. Members who opt-out will also be notified of their right to select an alternate retail electric supplier and of their ability to return to ComEd provided supply service.

#### F. <u>Termination of Service</u>

In the event that any Power Supply Agreement is terminated for any reason prior to the end of the scheduled term, each Member of the Aggregation Group will receive prompt written notification of termination of the Program at least sixty (60) days prior to termination of service under the Agreement. If the Agreement is not extended or renewed, Members will be notified in a manner determined by the Village and any applicable law, prior to the end of any service. Members will also be notified of their right to select an alternate retail electric supplier and of their ability to return to ComEd provided supply service upon termination of the Agreement.

#### G. Opt-In Procedures

ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers will be automatically enrolled in the Aggregation Program after any opt-out period has expired, unless they timely call the Provider's 800 number and/or return in writing a form to be provided notifying the Provider that they do not want to participate in the Aggregation Program. The Provider may provide special notice directly to categories of ComEd customers as the Village may direct, and inform such customers of specific potential consequences of their change from existing service from ComEd to the Program, including but not limited to (i) space heating customers, (ii) Real Time (Hourly) pricing customers, (iii) customers using an electrical supplier other than ComEd or the Provider. ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village may request to join the Aggregation Group after the expiration of any enrollment period by contacting the Provider, who shall accept them into the Aggregation Program, subject to written policies mutually agreed upon between the Village and the Provider in the Power Supply Agreement. The agreed upon policy shall be consistent with ComEd's supplier enrollment requirements. Members of the Aggregation Group who move from one location to another within the corporate limits of the Village shall continue as a Member of the Aggregation Group.

#### H. Opt-out Procedures

ComEd residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village may opt-out of the Aggregation Program at any time during the opt-out period. The Provider may or may not charge an early termination fee. Members of the Aggregation Group will be allowed to switch to a different electric supplier after the expiration of the opt-out period on the terms set forth in the Power Supply Agreement but at least shall be allowed to opt-out every three

years. Requirements for notification of intent to opt-out of the Aggregation Group shall be set forth in the Power Supply Agreement. Consumers who opt-out of the Aggregation Group will not be switched from their current supplier or their applicable to ComEd's Standard Service Offer, until the consumer selects an alternate generation supplier. As required by the Act, it shall be the duty of the Village or the Provider if so provided in the Power Supply Agreement, to fully inform residential and small commercial retail customers in the Village in advance that they have the right to opt-out of the Aggregation Program. Such disclosure shall prominently state any charges to be made and shall include full disclosure of the cost to obtain service pursuant to Section 16-103 of the Public Utilities Act, how to access it, and the fact that it is available to them without penalty, if they are currently receiving services under that section. As further required by the Act, the IPA shall furnish, without charge, to any resident of the Village, a list of all supply options available to them in a format that allows comparison of prices and products.

#### I. <u>Bid Process</u>

The Village may elect to hold an individual bid or participate in a group bid. If the Village elects to participate in a group bid, the Village may use the northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative Inc. ("NIMEC") to assist with the group bid. The Village will not delegate any signing authority to NIMEC or other entity, but will make its own decision to accept or reject their individual bid resulting from the group bid. Suppliers will present individual bids to each community participating in the bid group. NIMEC will create an advisory group, representing and consisting of those communities participating in the bid, to determine the bid winner(s) on the day of the bid. NIMEC will then recommend that each City/Village accept the bid winner's individual bid for the City/Village. The City/Village will then decide to accept or reject their individual bid. Whether or not each community participating in the bid accepts or rejects their individual bid will have no impact upon the individual bids of the other communities.

#### V. MISCELLANEOUS GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES

- A. The Corporate Authorities of the Village shall approve by an Ordinance passed by majority vote of the Corporate Authorities this Plan of Operation and Governance for the Aggregation program and any Amendments thereto.
- B. The Corporate Authorities of the Village shall contract with a Provider certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission for the provision of Competitive Retail Electric Service to the Aggregation Group.
- C. The Corporate Authorities of the Village will require any Provider to disclose any subcontractors that it uses in fulfillment of the services described above in the Power Supply Agreement.
- D. The Corporate Authorities of the Village will require the Provider to maintain either a toll-free telephone number, or a telephone number that is local to the Members.

#### VI. <u>LIABILITY</u>

THE VILLAGE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO PARTICIPANTS IN OR MEMBERS OF THE AGGREGATION GROUP FOR ANY CLAIMS, HOWEVER STYLED, ARISING OUT OF THE AGGREGATION PROGRAM OR THE PROVISION OF AGGREGATION SERVICES BY THE VILLAGE OR THE PROVIDER. PARTICIPANTS OR MEMBERS IN THE AGGREGATION GROUP SHALL ASSERT ANY SUCH CLAIMS SOLELY AGAINST THE PROVIDER PURSUANT TO THE POWER SUPPLY AGREEMENT, UNDER WHICH SUCH PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPRESS THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES.

#### VII. <u>INFORMATION AND COMPLAINT NUMBERS</u>

Copies of this Plan shall be available from the Village of Lombard free of charge. Members and residential and small commercial retail customers of ComEd may call Village Hall at 630-620-5910 for a copy of the Plan or for more information.

#### **Appendix A -- Education Process**

The Provider shall develop the educational program in conjunction with the Village. Its purpose will be to explain the Aggregation Program to its members, provide updates and disclosures as mandated by State law and the rules and regulations of any applicable Illinois agency, and provide the opportunity for the Members to Opt-out of the Aggregation Program. The following are components of the education program:

- 1. Each residential and small commercial retail customer of ComEd within the corporate limits of the Village will receive notification by U.S. Mail stating: what the municipal Aggregation Program means, the procedure which must be followed to Opt-out of the Aggregation Program, the estimated price of electricity for Member of the Aggregation Program, and the deadline for returning the Opt-out form. See sample letter attached.
- 2. The Provider shall cooperate with the Village to provide opportunities for educating residential and small commercial retail CE customers in the Village about the Program and their rights under the applicable law and rules and regulations. In addition, the Provider and Village will cooperate to provide education about opportunities for energy efficiency measures to help Members reduce energy consumption.
- 3. The Provider will provide updates and disclosures to the Village and Members as mandated by State law and applicable rules and regulations as amended from time to time.

Dear Village of Lombard Resident,

Village of Lombard is providing you the opportunity to join other residents to save money on the electricity you use. Savings are possible through governmental aggregation, where Village officials bring together citizens to gain group buying power for the purchase of electricity from a retail electric generation provider certified by the Public Illinois Utilities Commission. Village of Lombard voters approved this program in November, 2010.						
After researching competitive electricity pricing options for you, we have chosen						
As a member of this aggregation, you are guaranteed to save percent off your Price to Compare. Your Price to Compare is essentially the price you pay for electric generation from the utility and consists of generation and transmission related components, which are the costs associated with generating the power and delivering it through the transmission system.						
To estimate what your savings per kilowatt-hour (KWH) will be through this program, locate your Price to Compare on your electric bill. Divide your Price to Compare by 100, then multiply by 0.0(%) to determine your savings per KWH. Multiply that number by your total monthly usage. The final number is how much you can expect to save each month you use the same amount of electricity.						
You will see your electric savings from after your enrollment has been completed and your switch has been finalized - approximately 30 - 45 days, depending upon your meter read date. Of course, you are not obligated to participate in the Village of 's electric governmental aggregation program. If you wish to be excluded from the program and remain a full-service customer of your local electric utility - Commonwealth Edison- you have until						
charges included. The only thing you'll notice is savings.  If you have any questions, please calltoll-free at 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please do not call the Village of Lombard with aggregation p	, Monday through Friday, rooram questions.					
Sincerely,	100000000000000000000000000000000000000					
Village of Lombard						
P.S. To receive these savings, you should not respond. Return the opt-out fo Village's electric governmental aggregation program.	orm only if you <u>do not want</u> to participate in the					
Option 1: Do nothing and save.  If you want to participate in this program and save, you do not need to return this form. Your enrollment is automatic.	Option 2: Opt out by returning this form. If you do not want to participate in this program, you must return this form before the due date.					
Service address (City, state and zip):						
Phone number:						
Account holder's signature:	Date:					