



FAQs: Municipal Electrical Aggregation Program 2023

What is government (municipal) aggregation?

Illinois law allows municipalities, counties and townships (with voter approval) to act on the behalf of residential and some small-business customers of electric utilities to arrange for the purchase of electricity supply.

Does Edwardsville participate in municipal aggregation?

Yes. Voters backed a ballot initiative (with 69% approval) in 2012 to allow Edwardsville to take part in municipal aggregation. Many area municipalities have also approved aggregation and are part of the program Edwardsville is in.

How does it work?

The participating municipalities work with an energy consultant to seek bids from “alternative retail electricity suppliers.” Aggregating, or grouping, municipalities together leverages a large number of electric customers to seek savings for a fixed period, typically up to 24 months. During that contract, your rate per kilowatt hour WON’T change, protecting you from rate hikes.

What’s the status of Edwardsville’s electrical aggregation program?

Edwardsville and about 30 other municipalities worked with a consultant, Good Energy LP, to secure bids this fall. One alternative retail electricity supplier, Constellation NewEnergy, submitted a bid. A 22-month term was approved with Constellation that begins in February 2023. The fixed rate for the contract period will be 12.2 cents per kilowatt hour. For more information about Constellation, including a link and phone number to opt out, visit:

www.constellation.com/il-edwardsville

Is Ameren still my electricity provider?

Yes. Ameren continues to service your account, deliver electricity, offer budget billing, send your bill and ensure power for all customers. Municipal aggregation only affects WHO SUPPLIES the electricity that Ameren delivers to you.

Do I have to participate in the municipal aggregation program?

No. It is an opt-out program, however, so you must opt out if you don’t wish to take part. You also can opt out at any time if you later decide that’s the right choice for you. However, once you opt out, you won’t be able to return to the municipal aggregation program for 12 months by state law.

Do I have any other choices?

Yes. You can allow Ameren to also supply your electricity. The per-kilowatt-hour rate may vary, however. Other alternative retail electricity suppliers also exist. Please use due diligence, as with any service contract: Check if the rate is fixed or will fluctuate; be aware of termination fees or penalties; verify the length of any contract.

What do I do if I want to participate in municipal aggregation?

If you are an Ameren customer living in Edwardsville (the program does not apply to utility co-op customers), you will be automatically enrolled in the program unless you opt out. However, if you previously opted out and chose a different alternative retail electricity supplier, you will NOT be automatically enrolled just in case that would trigger penalties or fees. You will instead receive an “opt-in” letter from Constellation NewEnergy to give you the opportunity to join. (Please double-check the terms of your current supplier first.)

How do I opt out?

Each new term, the alternative electricity supplier will send an opt-out notice to customers who are included in the aggregation program in each municipality. You will be provided multiple ways to opt out (mail, phone and online). For the term that begins February 2023, the new supplier is Constellation NewEnergy. For more information on Constellation or to opt out after the program begins, visit: www.constellation.com/il-edwardsville

Will anyone involved in the municipal aggregation program come to my door?

No. Communication from your supplier is handled by mail.