ICC Approves New Delivery Rates for ComEd Customers

CHICAGO – The Illinois Commerce Commission issued an order today authorizing ComEd to decrease electric delivery rates by 2.58 percent which is expected to generate approximately $66.7 million less in annual revenue for the company compared to rates approved in the 2014 formula rate case (Docket No. 14-0312).

ComEd initially proposed a decrease of approximately $50.4 million, but the Commission made further adjustments to the Company’s industry association dues, employee savings program, merger costs, outside services, and cash working capital.

Electric distribution rates, for companies like ComEd, are set annually according to the Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act (EIMA). In 2011, EIMA established a prescribed formula rate procedure for ComEd to recover actual, prudently incurred costs for the delivery of electricity to customers.

The Commission Order (Docket No. 15-0287) follows a thorough review during the past eight months of the company’s formula rate case filing in April 2015. The review involves two major components: 1) a reconciliation of ComEd’s actual 2014 revenue requirement; and 2) a determination of the new revenue requirement that includes the company’s 2015 projected plant additions. The net effect of both components will be reflected in the rates to be charged in 2016.

The Commission Order reflects an overall rate of return of 7.05 percent and a return on equity of 9.14 percent for the new revenue requirement. Pursuant to a statutory requirement applicable to the company’s performance metrics, the order also reflects a lower overall rate of return of 7.02 percent and a return on equity of 9.09 percent for the reconciliation of the 2014 revenue requirement.

ComEd filed its initial formula rate petition in November 2011 and has adjusted rates in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 using the formula. For a complete history of adjustments, go to http://www.icc.illinois.gov/electricity/iccreports/ and click “Rate Case History Report.”

New rates are expected to be reflected on customer bills beginning with the January 2016 billing cycle.

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission
The Illinois Commerce Commission’s mission is to pursue an appropriate balance between the interests of consumers and existing and emerging service providers to ensure the provision of adequate, efficient, reliable, safe and least-cost public utility services. The Commission pursues this mission through three bureaus: The Bureau of External Affairs, which provides educational information on utility issues for consumers, governmental entities and communities and through its Consumer Services Division, resolves customer/utility disputes and develops rules on utility service and consumer protection; the Public Utilities Bureau, which focuses on financial and operational analysis, policy development, public safety and enforcement activities related to electric, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies; and the Transportation Bureau, which includes trucking insurance and registration, railroad safety, relocation towing, safety towing and household goods moving company enforcement activities. The ICC’s five commissioners are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Illinois State Senate for five-year terms.