

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

AMEREN ILLINOIS COMPANY)
) 13-0498
Approval of the Energy Efficiency and)
Demand Response Plan Pursuant to)
220 ILCS 5/8-103 and 220 ILCS 5/8-104)

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF REBECCA DEVENS
ON BEHALF OF
THE CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD

CUB Exhibit 2.0

October 28, 2013

1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A. My name is Rebecca Devens. My business address is 309 W. Washington, Suite 800,
4 Chicago, IL 60606.

5
6 **Q. Are you the same Rebecca Devens who filed testimony in this docket on
7 October 18, 2013?**

8 A. Yes.

9
10 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

11 A. The purpose of my testimony is to respond to the direct testimonies of the Office of
12 the Attorney General on Behalf of the People of the State of Illinois (“OAG”), the
13 Natural Resources Defense Council (“NRDC”), the Environmental Law and Policy
14 Center (“ELPC”), and the Staff of the Illinois Commerce Commission (“Staff”)
15 regarding Ameren Illinois Company’s (“Ameren” or “the Company”) three-year
16 Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard Plan (the “Plan”). Specifically, I will respond
17 to these parties’ recommendations related to Illinois Power Agency (“IPA”)
18 programs, utility flexibility and discretion, banking, and smart devices.

19
20 **I. IPA PROGRAMS**

21
22 **Q. What are the IPA programs?**

23 A. The IPA programs refer to the measures or programs procured by the IPA pursuant
24 by Section 16-111.5B of the Public Utilities Act (“the PUA” or “the Act”). That

25 portion of the statute directs Ameren and Commonwealth Edison Company
26 (“ComEd”) to annually submit an assessment of cost-effective energy efficiency
27 programs or measures that could be included in the procurement plan to the IPA by
28 July 15th. 220 ILCS 5/16-111.5B(a). The assessments should include

29 “Identification of new or expanded cost-effective energy efficiency
30 programs or measures that are incremental to those included in
31 energy efficiency and demand-response plans approved by the
32 Commission pursuant to Section 8-103 of this Act and that would be
33 offered to all retail customers whose electric service has not been
34 declared competitive under Section 16-113 of this Act and who are
35 eligible to purchase power and energy from the utility under fixed-
36 price bundled service tariffs, regardless of whether such customers
37 actually do purchase such power and energy from the utility.” *Id.*

38
39 After this assessment is given the IPA, the IPA must include cost-effective
40 energy efficiency programs and measures it determines are cost-effective and
41 the associated annual energy savings goal in the Plan. 220 ILCS 5/16-
42 111.5B(g). The Commission then must also approve the energy efficiency
43 programs and measures included in the Plan “if the Commission determines
44 they fully capture the potential for all achievable cost-effective savings, to the
45 extent practicable, and otherwise satisfy the requirements of Section 8-103 of
46 this Act.” *Id.*

47
48 Last year, the 2013 IPA Procurement Plan was the first time the IPA
49 incremental energy efficiency programs were included in the IPA Plan. In
50 the Final Order approving that plan, the Commission ordered Staff and the
51 IPA to facilitate a workshop process. Final Order in ICC Docket No. 12-0544
52 at 271. I participated in that workshop process, along with the utilities and
53 other stakeholders, and we reached consensus on many issues, including that

54 the IPA programs are separate from the 8-103 portfolios, and as such that the
55 utilities will exercise minimal administrative control over non-utility
56 administered programs, and that savings from IPA programs will not count
57 towards the 8-103 goals we are discussing in this Plan filing.

58

59 **Q. What recommendations do parties make regarding the IPA programs?**

60 A. NRDC recommends that the Commission order Ameren to move the electric portion
61 of its behavior modification program, Home Energy Reports, for PY 8 and PY 9 to
62 the IPA portfolio. NRDC Ex. 1.0 at 21. NRDC suggests this would be consistent
63 with ComEd's treatment of its behavior modification program, which ComEd shifted
64 to the IPA Procurement Plan for PYs 7-9. *Id.* NRDC states that this would reduce
65 savings in the 8-103 portfolio, but would free up budget resources to invest in other
66 programs. Specifically, NRDC recommends investing the newly available \$1.3
67 million previously spent on Home Energy Reports on the Business Standard
68 program. *Id.*

69

70 The OAG recommends that Ameren move both the Home Energy Reports program
71 and the Standard CFLs program to the IPA. OAG Ex. 1.0 at 14-15. Ameren already
72 moved the Specialty CFLs program to the IPA. *Id.* at 14. The OAG also believes
73 Ameren should increase the number of CFLs incented in the program, and posits
74 that by keeping the Specialty and Standard CFLS programs separate, Ameren may
75 be creating inefficiencies in outreach, vendor coordination, data tracking, and
76 evaluation. *Id.* at 14-15. The OAG states that this program is a "good candidate" for
77 IPA funding because it is a "standalone program with straightforward

78 administrative procedures, and can easily be ramped up without large increases in
79 administrative funding.” *Id.* at 15. The OAG goes on to recommend that the Home
80 Energy Reports program also be increased if moved to the IPA. *Id.* Like NRDC, the
81 OAG recommends that the funds freed up for 8-103 programs from moving the
82 Home Energy Reports program and Standard CFL program to the IPA should be
83 spent on three Commercial and Industrial (“C&I”) sector programs. *Id.* at 17. The
84 OAG posits that this is a prudent action because 1) C&I savings are cheaper than
85 residential program savings; 2) there are more cost-effective efficiency opportunities
86 in the C&I sector, and 3) C&I programs have a greater ability to ramp up. *Id.* The
87 OAG concedes that “equity between sectors is important,” but that “residential
88 ratepayers still will benefit significantly from IPA programs, so shifting these
89 Section 8-103 funds to C&I will effectively maintain total residential contributions.”
90 *Id.* However, the OAG would also “support a balanced approach where some funds
91 were shifted to C&I programs and a portion is shifted to ramp up other residential
92 programs.” *Id.* at 18.

93
94 **Q. Do you support NRDC and the OAG’s recommendation to move any**
95 **programs to the IPA?**

96 A. Yes. I agree with both stakeholders that the Home Energy Reports program should
97 be moved to the IPA, and with the OAG that the Standard CFL program should also
98 be moved. While I am not an attorney, Section 16-111.5 B of the Act calls for “new
99 or expanded cost-effective energy efficiency programs or measures that are
100 incremental to those included in energy efficiency and demand response plans
101 approved by the Commission pursuant to Section 8-103 of this Act,” and I believe

102 that means the General Assembly sought for ComEd and Ameren to achieve energy
103 efficiency savings incremental to the 8-103 programs. 220 ILCS 5-16-111.5B(a). I do
104 not believe that the programs Ameren has bid to the IPA in this year's IPA
105 Procurement Plan are adequate. In last year's Plan, Ameren programs were
106 forecasted to provide savings of 70, 834 MWh, reduce the energy required for the
107 IPA procured portfolio by 25,409 MWh, and lower peak demand by 4 MW. IPA Plan
108 in ICC Docket No. 13-0546 at 81. In this year's Plan, Ameren is proposing programs
109 with estimated savings of 65,680 MWh, peak demand reductions of 2 MW, and
110 savings attributable to eligible retail customers of 17,950 MWh. *Id.* at 86. This is a
111 reduction in savings of 5,154 MWh and 2 MW of peak demand from last year.

112
113 I am disappointed that Ameren was unable to bid a greater number of MWh into
114 the incremental IPA energy efficiency, particularly in a year when Ameren is also
115 filing its three year 8-103 portfolio. This year, ComEd doubled the number of MWh
116 from last year in the first year of the Company's programs, increased the savings by
117 nine fold from last year over the three year program life, and more than doubled the
118 demand reductions.

119
120 Ameren has had no trouble meeting the 8-103 Commission approved goals in recent
121 years, and has done so without expending the budget. Ameren is clearly capable of
122 achieving greater MWh savings under both the IPA and 8-103 programs, and
123 moving the Home Energy Reports and Standard CFL programs to the IPA is an
124 important first step in increasing the savings Ameren achieves.

125

126 **Q. Do you support NRDC and the OAG’s recommendation that Ameren spend**
127 **the money that will no longer be spent on the two residential programs**
128 **that are moved to the IPA on one or more commercial and/or industrial**
129 **sector programs?**

130 A. No. The Act states that 8-103 programs must “represent a diverse cross-section of
131 opportunities for customers of all rate classes to participate in the programs.” 220
132 ILCS 5/8-103(f). The Act calls for customers funding the 8-103 programs to have
133 programs available to them. From participating in the SAG, it is my understanding
134 that at least some utilities specifically allocate funds collected from a customer class
135 to programs delivered to that specific customer class, which CUB believes is
136 equitable and supports. It is also my understanding that utilities are sensitive to
137 the above language from the Act because they do not wish to noncompliant with the
138 statutory requirements. C&I sector programs may be more cost-effective than
139 residential programs, and residential customers still receive benefits from C&I
140 programs, but by law residential customers must have the opportunity to participate
141 in 8-103 programs they fund. Further, there is great volatility in the load served by
142 the IPA. In recent years, around two-thirds or three-quarters of customers have
143 switched from purchasing supply from ComEd or Ameren as procured by the IPA to
144 purchasing supply from an Alternative Retail Electricity Supplier (an “ARES” or
145 “supplier”). Customers who have switched to purchasing supply from an ARES no
146 longer require the IPA to procure power for them. This volatility means that it is
147 possible for the IPA to have procured more supply than is required in a given year.
148 In such a year, it is possible that the IPA or Commission may find that the IPA does
149 not need to procure any or as much energy efficiency as in previous years. Under

150 that scenario, residential customers who are funding both the 8-103 and incremental
151 IPA EE programs through Rider EDA would have limited access to programs if
152 Ameren is not at the same time offering them robust program offerings through the
153 8-103 as well.

154
155 When discussing the opportunity for energy efficiency created by the IPA and the
156 relationship between the IPA and 8-103 programs, I think it is important to bear in
157 mind that the IPA serves residential and small business load. Residential and small
158 business customers either purchase supply procured by the IPA or are eligible to
159 purchase supply procured by the IPA. As such, they fund the IPA programs and can
160 realize the benefit from them. Just because residential customers are now funding
161 programs through both the IPA and the 8-103 does not mean that those customers
162 are not entitled to a full, diverse, and comprehensive portfolio of program under the
163 8-103 portfolio.

164
165 **Q. What are your recommendations to the Commission related to moving**
166 **programs to the IPA?**

167 A. I support the OAG's recommendation that Ameren move the Standard CFL and
168 Home Energy Reports programs to the IPA, and recommend that the Commission
169 order Ameren to do so. I also recommend that the Commission order Ameren to
170 spend most of the funds freed up by moving those two programs to the IPA on either
171 new or existing residential programs.

172
173

174 **II. UTILITY FLEXIBILITY AND DISCRETION**

175

176 **Q. What does Ameren request regarding Company flexibility and discretion?**

177 A. Ameren makes the following requests related to managing program and portfolio
178 risk: 1) Maintain portfolio flexibility; 2) Align the timing for the application of the IL
179 net-to-gross (NTG) framework and Technical Reference Manual (TRM) to the
180 program years; 3) Maintain a portfolio level positive TRC, while recognizing that
181 measure level TRCs fluctuate; and 4) “Align” savings goals according to changes in
182 TRM and NTG values, meaning Ameren is asking to reduce goals if TRM and/or
183 NTG values decline. Ameren Ex. 1.1(2nd Rev.) at 18-21.

184

185 **Q. Do you support these requests?**

186 A. I support the second and third requests. I support the first request within certain
187 parameters, and I do not support the fourth request.

188

189 **Q. Do other stakeholders comment on the request for portfolio flexibility?**

190 A. Yes. The OAG and NRDC both posit that Ameren should have some flexibility, but
191 that the amount requested in the Plan filing is too great. NRDC states that the
192 flexibility Ameren is requesting could allow the Company to reduce its Plan savings
193 targets without Commission approval. NRDC Ex. 1.0 at 25. The OAG states
194 approving Ameren’s request would be tantamount to Ameren “pursuing a different,
195 cheaper plan than the one approved by the ICC,” because with “unlimited ability to
196 shift funds, Ameren is virtually guaranteed it can easily meet any approved goal
197 simply by shifting more effort to the cheapest programs.” OAG Ex. 1.0 at 31.

198 **Q. Do you agree with NRDC and the OAG's concerns?**

199 A. Yes. While Ameren has done a good job of running a multi-faceted portfolio of
200 programs that reach diverse customer classes in previous years, we should
201 safeguard against policies that would allow the Company to heavily invest in the
202 cheapest programs at the expense of more expensive programs with longer and more
203 significant savings. For example, under Ameren's proposal, the Company could shift
204 funding from the moderate income multifamily program, which has a TRC of 1.14, to
205 the Standard CFL program, which has a TRC of 1.98, because the CFL program is
206 cheaper. Ameren Ex. 1.1(2nd Rev.) at 10. But this would mean that moderate
207 income multifamily customers, an important customer sector to reach, would have
208 fewer offerings available to them, and overall, the portfolio would include fewer
209 offerings with deeper and longer savings.

210

211 For that reason, I recommend that the Commission adopt the OAG's proposal that:

212 "Any shifts of budgets that result in a variance from planned annual
213 program budgets of 20% or more would trigger goal adjustment. In
214 other words, Ameren could underspend 10% in one program and
215 overspend 15% in another program with no adjustments. However, if
216 it were to shift resources beyond the 20% benchmark, then goals
217 would be modified accordingly." OAG Ex. 1.0 at 32.

218

219 I also recommend that the Commission adopt the OAG's proposal for Ameren to
220 discuss proposed program and budget changes with the SAG. *Id.* at 34. These
221 recommendations strike a balance between providing Ameren with the necessary
222 flexibility to manage the portfolio while still ensuring that the Company administers
223 the programs approved in this Plan in the manner approved in this Plan filing and
224 comes as close as possible to meeting the statutory annual incremental goals.

225

226 **Q. Do stakeholders comment on Ameren’s fourth request, for the Company to**
227 **be able to alter the approved annual incremental savings goals in response**
228 **to changes in TRM and NTG values?**

229 A. Yes. NRDC does not support this request, and states that if the Commission
230 approved this request, it would “send too strong a message that Ameren does not
231 need to stay alert to changing market conditions in managing its portfolio,” that
232 “removing this level of risk rewards complacency rather than innovation, which will
233 not lead to the greatest return on investment for Ameren’s ratepayers,” and that this
234 would “create a disincentive for Ameren to actively manage its portfolio to maximize
235 ratepayer benefits as market conditions change.” NRDC Ex. 1.0 at 27-28. The OAG
236 agrees, stating that the request is “unreasonable,” would not lead to Ameren having
237 an incentive to forecast likely NTG results and make sure it is spending resources
238 appropriately to respond to changes in the market. OAG Ex. 1.0 at 40. Additionally,
239 the OAG states that implementing Ameren’s request would be “extremely
240 administratively burdensome and impractical” because the TRM contains hundreds
241 of measures and thousand of individual assumptions, and if TRM changes “had to be
242 translated into explicit goal adjustments,” it would “result in constantly moving
243 targets, require extensive administrative effort, and significantly reduce
244 transparency of goals,” and “be very difficult for SAG parties to follow and
245 understand how goal adjustments were made and whether they were appropriate.”
246 *Id.* at 42.

247
248 Staff is willing to accept this proposal with modifications, but notes that this
249 flexibility “allows the Company to take a ‘set-it-and-forget-it’ approach to managing

250 its portfolio. Staff Ex. 1.0 at 28. Staff also believes that if the Commission does not
251 adopt this proposal, Ameren will “have an incentive to oppose updates to the IL-
252 TRM and NTG values that reduce savings attributable to measures.” *Id.* at 29.

253

254 **Q. How do you respond to NRDC, the OAG, and Staff’s testimonies on this**
255 **issue?**

256 A. I agree with NRDC’s and the OAG’s responses to Ameren’s request. Allowing the
257 Company to change goals any time there is a change in the NTG or TRM values for a
258 measure or program is antithetical to the purpose of the statutory Energy Efficiency
259 Portfolio Standard (“EEPS”) goals, which call for utilities to put forth efforts to
260 annually increase the amount of energy efficiency achieved by managing programs.
261 The OAG states that Ameren is spending ratepayer money to offer these programs,
262 and as so, has a responsibility toward ratepayers, not shareholders. OAG Ex. 1.0 at
263 43. CUB couldn’t agree more. Risk management is an inherent facet of offering
264 goal-centered energy efficiency programs. CUB, along with NRDC and the OAG,
265 supports a reasonable degree of flexibility, and therefore supports Ameren’s request
266 for flexibility to adjust programs and budgets within reason. Ameren should not
267 operate under a scheme where the Company does not face any risk for not meeting
268 Commission approved goals. I disagree with Staff that if Ameren is not provided
269 with the flexibility to adjust goals based on changes in TRM and NTG values, the
270 Company will oppose updates that could lead to lower savings. I do not believe that
271 this concern is adequate justification for granting the Company an unfettered ability
272 to lower savings goals. Ameren, and any entity offering goal-centered energy
273 efficiency programs, must always respond prudently to changes in the market,

274 whether that change results from federal efficiency standards, an informative EMV
275 report, or a change in TRM values. The flexibility to adjust programs and budgets
276 discussed above adequately buffers Ameren from an untoward degree of risk.

277

278 **Q. What are your recommendations regarding Company flexibility?**

279 A. The Commission should approve Ameren's second and third requests for NTG and
280 TRM values to be available by the March 1st before a program year begins and
281 maintaining a portfolio level TRC, as well as the first request for portfolio flexibility
282 as modified by the OAG's proposal. The Commission should reject Ameren's fourth
283 proposal to have the discretion to modify savings goals based on changes in NTG and
284 TRM values.

285

286 **III. BANKING**

287

288 **Q. What are the legislative policies related to banking?**

289 A. Though I am not an attorney, it is my understanding that the Act does not mention
290 the word banking. However, in the past year, the General Assembly amended the
291 Act to allow ComEd and Ameren to either meet annual incremental savings goals in
292 the applicable year or by showing that the total cumulative annual savings within a
293 3-year planning period is equal to the annual incremental savings requirement. 220
294 ILCS at 5/8-103(b). Though this language does not include the term banking, it
295 essentially means that ComEd and Ameren can bank savings within the years
296 included in a Plan filing, beginning with this Plan filing. So if Ameren exceeds the
297 approved annual goal in PY 7, they can apply the MWH achieved beyond the PY 7

298 goal, toward either PY 8 or PY 9 goal achievement, if there is a shortfall in either
299 year. While achievement in PYs 7 and 8 should constitute a third of the cumulative
300 goal each, essentially, the “true-up” wouldn’t be until the end of PY 9.

301

302 **Q. What are the regulatory policies related to banking?**

303 A. The Commission has allowed ComEd and Ameren to bank savings in all previous
304 Plan filing dockets, including ICC Docket Nos. 07-0539, 07-0540, 10-0568, and 10-
305 0570, although the language in those Final Orders varies, and I believe could be
306 interpreted in different ways. Banking has also been discussed in ComEd and
307 Ameren’s annual energy efficiency compliance dockets, I believe to clarify policies
308 surrounding banking, and the amount utilities can bank, including ICC Docket Nos.
309 10-0519, 10-0520, 11-0592, and 11-0593.

310

311 **Q. What is the amount of savings that Ameren has banked so far?**

312 A. While finalized estimates are not available, the OAG estimates that Ameren may
313 have a total banked savings amount of 101,939 MWH at the end of PY 5. OAG Ex.
314 1.0 at 24. This is about half of one year of Ameren’s proposed annual savings goals
315 in this Plan filing. *Id.* at 24-25.

316

317 **Q. Did Ameren account for these banked savings in this Plan filing?**

318 A. No. Ameren did not mention the existence of the banked savings, or the impact the
319 banked savings might have on goal achievement.

320

321

322 **Q. What do other parties recommend related to banked savings?**

323 A. The OAG states that Ameren could “effectively shut down its programs for six
324 months and still achieve goals simply by drawing on this banked accumulated
325 savings.” OAG Ex. 1.0 at 25. The OAG states that if CFL carry-forward savings are
326 include, the number of banked and carried forward savings could be closer to 100%
327 of a single years goals. *Id.* at 27. The OAG proposes either increasing Ameren’s
328 goals by the amount of forecasted banked savings, or discontinuing Ameren’s ability
329 to apply banked savings from PYs 1-6 in PYs 7-9. *Id.* NRDC concurs, and states
330 that either approach “achieves the same policy objective, which is to assure that
331 Ameren continues to make every effort to get as close to the statutory savings goals
332 and funding allows.” NRDC Ex. 1.0 at 30.

333

334 **Q. Do you agree with the OAG and NRDC’s recommendations related to**
335 **banked savings?**

336 A. Yes. As illustrated by the OAG’s estimate of the number of banked savings and
337 CFL carry over savings, allowing Ameren to apply banked savings from PYs 1-6 in
338 PYs 7-9 would not make Ameren any closer to meeting the statutory goals, and in
339 fact, it would only move Ameren farther away from achieving the statutory goals. It
340 is my understanding that part of the reason banking was approved in the 2007 and
341 2010 Plan filings was to ensure that Ameren and ComEd would continue to run
342 programs even after goals had been achieved.

343

344 With the legislative change I discussed above, Ameren may now bank savings
345 between PYs 7-9, and so that policy now addresses the potential issue of Ameren

346 discontinuing programs after goals have been met. Additionally, as a member of the
347 SAG, it is clear to me that it would be detrimental to stop any program in a year
348 where the goal have been met, and start that program at the start of the following
349 year, and that the utilities would not elect to do so. As I illustrated in my direct
350 testimony, Ameren has a history of exceeding the Commission approved goals while
351 not spending the entire budget under the rate cap, and still falling short of the
352 statutory goals. It is apparent that Ameren could be achieving much greater savings
353 than they have been in previous years. Ameren is now in its sixth year of offering
354 statutory energy efficiency programs; there is no reason to continue to allow the
355 Company to pad savings with banking when the Company is clearly capable of
356 achieving greater savings without banking.

357

358 **Q. What is your recommendation to the Commission?**

359 A. I recommend that the Commission disallow the application of banked savings from
360 PYs 1-6 to PYs 7-9. I also recommend that the Commission require Ameren to
361 report on CFL carry-over savings, and adjust goals upward based on the number of
362 CFL carry-over savings reported in EMV.

363

364 **IV. PROGRAMS**

365 **A. Demand Response**

366 **Q. Do other intervenors address the demand response goals?**

367 A. Yes. Staff does not oppose Ameren's proposal to count demand reduction savings
368 from energy efficiency measures because "the definition of demand-response

369 specified in the statute does not appear to require a demand-response ‘program’ be
370 implemented.” Staff Ex. 1.0 at 14.

371 **Q. What is the definition of demand response in the Act?**

372 A. The Act states that demand response means “measures that decrease peak
373 electricity demand or shift demand from peak to off-peak periods.” 220 ILCS 3855/1-
374 10.

375
376 **Q. Do you agree with Staff’s assessment of what the Act requires related to the
377 demand response goals?**

378 A. No. I am not an attorney, but I do not believe the Act explicitly states that the
379 demand response goals can be met through the implementation of energy efficiency
380 programs. Again, while I am not an attorney, I believe that the General Assembly’s
381 establishment of a demand response portfolio standard unique from the EEPS
382 means that the legislature intended for the electric utilities to establish unique
383 demand response programs or measures.

384
385 **Q. What do you recommend related to demand response?**

386 A. I recommend that Ameren and the Commission adopt the recommendations in my
387 direct testimony related to Conservation Voltage Reduction and/or the Power Smart
388 Pricing program. ELPC also supports the implementation of a voltage optimization
389 program. ELPC Ex. 2.0 at 15.

390

391

392

393 **B. Smart Devices**

394 **Q. What are smart devices?**

395 A. ELPC defines smart devices as hardware on the customer side of the meter that
396 enable customers to reduce their energy use overall and at times of peak demand.
397 ELPC Ex. 2.0 at 10. Smart devices are sometimes required for customers to
398 participate in certain energy efficiency and dynamic pricing programs. *Id.*
399 Examples of smart devices include thermostats, plugs, power strips, switches, smart
400 chargers for electric vehicles, gateways, and in-home displays that can communicate
401 with smart meters. *Id.* at 11. ELPC states that smart devices are critical for
402 customers to fully realize the benefits of AMI, and CUB agrees.

403

404 **Q. What recommendations to parties make related to smart devices?**

405 A. ELPC recommends that Ameren establish interoperability standards for smart
406 devices to communicate with smart meters and be willing to verify and register
407 devices that a customer may purchase and install on their own. ELPC Ex. 2.0 at 11.
408 ELPC also recommends that the Company “considering offering discounts or other
409 incentives” for smart devices in areas of Ameren’s service territory where AMI
410 meters are being deployed. *Id.* ELPC goes on to provide more detailed
411 recommendations for a program Ameren could employ regarding smart devices. *Id.*
412 at 12. ELPC recommends that the Commission should order Ameren to spend the
413 \$5.13 million Emerging Technologies budget on a smart devices program.

414

415

416

417 **Q. Do you support such a smart device program?**

418 A. Yes. Ameren states the Company has earmarked a portion of the Emerging
419 Technologies budget for a codes and standards pilot program. Ameren Ex. 1.1 (2nd
420 Rev.) at 68. CUB supports funding the codes and standards pilot program through
421 this fund, and recommends that the Commission order Ameren to spend the
422 remainder of the Emerging Technologies funding on a smart device program as
423 recommended by ELPC. Further, the Company should discuss its plans for this
424 program with the SAG and with the Smart Grid Advisory Council (“SGAC”).

425

426 **C. On-Bill Financing**

427 **Q. What recommendations to parties make regarding innovative programs?**

428 A. ELPC points out that Ameren relies almost exclusively on cash incentives, i.e.,
429 rebates for making prescriptive and custom upgrades, and states that there are
430 other consumer incentives that are not included in the Plan. ELPC Ex. 1.0 at 5.

431

432 **Q. What are some examples of those consumer incentives?**

433 A. ELPC provides several examples of other types of consumer incentives, including
434 on-bill financing, off-bill loans, revolving loans, performance contracting, tariffed
435 installation programs, leasing, amortization, capitalization, and others. ELPC Ex.
436 1.0 at 8.

437

438 **Q. Do you agree with ELPC’s recommendations?**

439 A. ELPC suggests innovative concepts that have overall not yet been tried in Illinois
440 within the context of the EEPS programs. I would like to see Ameren report on

441 benefits and barriers to implementing some of these programs in the Revised Plan I
442 recommend Ameren file with the Commission, and perhaps pilot one of these
443 programs if it appears likely that it would be cost-beneficial. I am most interested in
444 ELPC's suggestion that Ameren consider offering an on-bill financing program. The
445 General Assembly authorized on-bill financing programs for the gas and electric
446 utilities. 220 ILCS 5/16-111.7; 220 ILCS 5/19-140. I participated in ICC Docket No.
447 11-0689, which approved an evaluation plan for the on-bill financing programs, and
448 through the evaluation plans for that program, am aware that Ameren has maxed
449 out the spending authorized by the PUA for that Company's program. No other
450 utility has yet maxed out funding for the program, which suggests to me that
451 Ameren's program was very successful (all the utilities in Illinois rely on the same
452 underwriting criteria, bank, and financing mechanism for the program). There are
453 several reasons I believe Ameren's program may have been successful: Ameren is
454 the sole dual fuel utility in the state, and so for customers who receive both gas and
455 electricity supply from Ameren, it may have been easier for the Company to market
456 the program and it may have been easier for customers to participate. Additionally,
457 I recall from the workshops held for ICC Docket No. 11-0689 that Ameren
458 extensively trained the Company's contractor and ally network for promoting this
459 program to customers. Finally, as a dual fuel utility, Ameren has been able to offer
460 the most comprehensive suite of programs available under any utility program, even
461 prior to some recent legislative changes that will enable utilities to offer financing on
462 any EEPS measure.

463

464 Because Ameren already has a strong network in place for offering this program to
465 customers, I recommend that Ameren report on whether the Company believes it
466 would be cost-effective to include an iteration of the on-bill financing program
467 through the EEPS in the Revised Plan the Company files with the Commission.
468 CUB believes that on-bill financing, and similar loan programs, are essential for
469 customers to be able to participate in energy efficiency. Since Ameren has maxed
470 out funding for the on-bill financing program through Sections 5/16-111.7 and 5/19-
471 140 of the Act, if it appears that it would be cost-effective for Ameren to include an
472 on-bill financing program in this Plan filing, the Commission should order Ameren
473 to do so.

474

475 **CONCLUSION**

476 **Q. Please summarize your recommendations made in this rebuttal testimony.**

477 A. In my direct testimony, I recommended that the Commission order Ameren to file a
478 Revised Plan for Commission approval with increased therm and MWH goals, a
479 modified demand response goal based on the number of customers who are eligible
480 to become supply customers of Ameren, and a proposal for a demand response
481 program. In this rebuttal testimony, I further recommend that:

- 482 • The Commission order Ameren to move the Standard CFL and Home
483 Energy Reports programs to the IPA, and spend most of the funds freed
484 up by moving those two programs to the IPA on either new or existing
485 residential programs. These changes should be included in a Revised Plan
486 that the Company files for Commission approval;
- 487 • The Commission approve Ameren's second and third requests for aligning
488 the timing of the NTG and TRM values to the program years and
489 maintaining a portfolio level TRC, as well as the first request for portfolio
490 flexibility as modified by the OAG's proposal. The Commission should
491 reject Ameren's fourth proposal to have the discretion to modify savings
492 goals based on changes in the market;
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- The Commission disallow the application of banked savings from PYs 1-6 to PYs 7-9. I also recommend that the Commission require Ameren to report on CFL carry-over savings, and adjust goals upward based on the number of savings reported in EMV;
- The Commission order Ameren to spend a portion of the Emerging Technologies funding on a smart device program as recommended by ELPC. Further, the Company should discuss its plans for this program with the SAG and the SGAC; and
- Ameren should report on whether the Company believes it would be cost-effective to include an iteration of the on-bill financing program through the EEPS in the Revised Plan the Company files with the Commission.

Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

510 A. Yes.