

**ORIGINAL**

15-0403

**POLICY DIVISION STAFF REPORT**

**OFFICIAL FILE  
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

June 5, 2015

**SUBJECT: On-Bill Financing Evaluation Report**

Section 16-111.7 of the Public Utilities Act ("PUA"), 220 ILCS 5/16-111.7, requires electric utilities serving more than 100,000 customers on January 1, 2009, which includes Commonwealth Edison Company and Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois ("Ameren"), to provide on-bill financing ("OBF") to assist eligible retail customers in the purchase of energy efficient equipment. Similarly, Section 19-140 of the PUA, 220 ILCS 5/19-140, requires gas utilities with more than 100,000 customers on January 1, 2009, which includes Ameren, The Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company, North Shore Gas Company, and Northern Illinois Gas Company d/b/a Nicor Gas Company, to provide OBF to assist eligible retail customers in the purchase of energy efficient equipment.

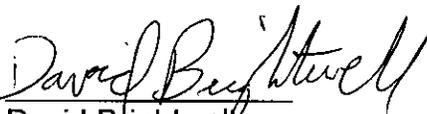
Sections 16-111.7 and 19-140 each require that independent evaluations of the electric and gas OBF programs are to be conducted after three years of the programs' operation. The independent evaluator is to report to the Commission its findings no later than four years after the date on which the program commenced. The Commission, in turn, is to provide a report to the Governor and General Assembly which includes a summary of the information provided by the evaluator along with recommendations as to whether the programs should be discontinued, continued with modification or modifications, or continued without modification. The Cadmus Group Inc. ("Cadmus Group")

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was selected to be the independent evaluator of the OBF programs. *ICC On Its Own Motion*, ICC Order Docket No. 11-0689, 2 (May 15, 2013).

In Docket 11-0689, the Commission determined that the programs effectively started in June 2011 and that the evaluation report should be completed by June 2015. The Final Order in Docket 11-0689 also provided that once the evaluation report is complete, it should be filed with the Commission in a new docket where parties will be allowed to provide comments to the Commission. After receiving comments, the Commission will instruct its Staff to prepare a Report to the Governor and General Assembly that is consistent with its Order in the new docket.

The Cadmus Group completed the evaluation of the OBF programs and filed the Illinois On-Bill Financing Program Evaluation report (dated June 1, 2015) in Docket 11-0689 on June 1, 2015. It is also included as an attachment to this Staff Report. Staff recommends that the Commission, consistent with its direction in Docket 11-0689, open a new docket for the purposes of allowing interested parties to comment on the OBF evaluation report.

  
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