

**VILLAGE OF LOMBARD**  
**REQUEST FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION**  
For Inclusion on Board Agenda

  X   Resolution or Ordinance (Blue) \_\_\_\_\_ Waiver of First Requested  
\_\_\_\_\_ Recommendations of Boards, Commissions & Committees (Green)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other Business (Pink)

**TO:** PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
**FROM:** Scott R. Niehaus, Village Manager  
**DATE:** February 12, 2021 (COW) (B of T) **Date:** March 4, 2021  
**TITLE:** Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program  
**SUBMITTED BY:** David P. Gorman, Assistant Director of Public Works *DPG*

**BACKGROUND/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

A recommendation from the Public Works & Environmental Concerns Committee to endorse the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:**

Review (as necessary):  
Village Attorney X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Scott A. Niehaus, Village Manager

**FROM:** David P. Gorman, Assistant Director of Public Works *DPG*

**SUBJECT:** Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program

**DATE:** February 12, 2021

As part of the Greenest Region Compact, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus has developed a new Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution (CS<sup>2</sup>) program. This program allows residents in participating communities to share in electricity generated by regional solar arrays, and then receive credits with a guaranteed rebate in their ComEd rate. The only obligations to the Village are to pass a resolution endorsing the program, request ComEd's customer mailing list, and then provide information on the program to residents. The only cost to the Village is a \$200 fee to ComEd.

### **Background:**

The Board of Trustees signed onto the Greenest Region Compact in 2008 to join with other local governments in Northeastern Illinois to work cooperatively toward sustainability goals. The Village's Sustainability Framework was created at that time to comprehensively set goals and record progress in that effort. Decreasing greenhouse gas emissions is one of the goals in the Framework.

Slides on the CS<sup>2</sup> program are attached. The Power Bureau is the CS<sup>2</sup> program administrator, and also a marketing and sales designee authorized by the Illinois Power Agency. The billing administrator is mc<sup>2</sup>. The Illinois Power Agency administers the State's Adjustable Block Program, which was established by the Future Energy Jobs Act, P.A. 99-0906, eff. 6/1/17. All customer questions are directed to The Power Bureau so there would be no burden on Village Staff.

There is no cost to residents to sign up or to terminate involvement, and the average residential customer receives an annual rebate of about \$100. Growing participation in the program will support the construction of additional solar arrays. Municipalities play a role by helping with promotion, and also by demonstrating legitimacy to skeptical customers. Communities that are currently part of the CS<sup>2</sup> program include Lake Forest, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Glencoe, Deerfield, Northbrook, Oak Park and Skokie. There are no communities in DuPage County actively participating yet.

All municipalities in the ComEd service area are eligible to participate. However, the program will eventually be limited by the capacity of the existing solar arrays. The Village may opt to enroll its own billable ComEd accounts in the program, although that is not required.

### **Recommendation:**

The Public Works & Environmental Concerns Committee has voted to recommend that the Board of Trustees formally endorse the CS<sup>2</sup> program by resolution.

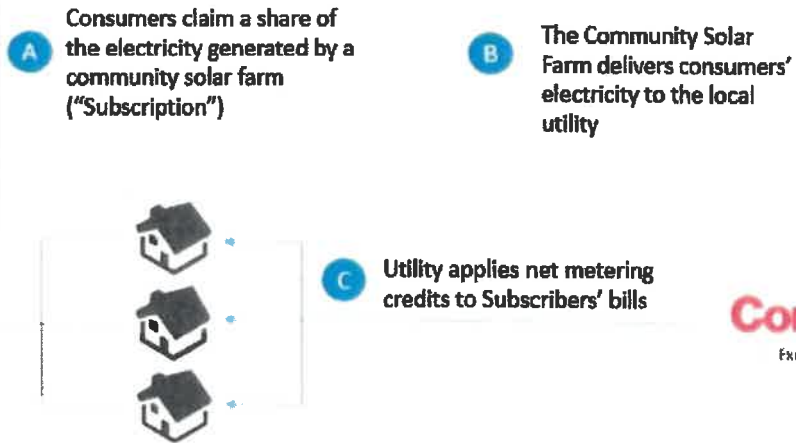
# COMMUNITY SOLAR

## Community Solar

- State law allows multiple consumers to share a single community solar farm (A)
- The generation from the community solar farm is delivered to the local utility (B)
- The local utility issues "net metering credits" to all consumers that subscribe to the community solar farm (C)



Community Solar Farm



# COMMUNITY SOLAR

## Renewable Community Supply Credits

- For Community Solar Subscribers
- Based on the consumers' share of the community solar farm
- Rate equal to:
 
$$\frac{\text{Electricity Supply Charge} + \text{Purchased Electricity Adj}}{\text{Net Metering Credit Value}}$$

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For Questions, Support, and Outages visit [ComEd.com](http://ComEd.com)

English 1.800.FORSON (1.800.334.7668)  
 Español 1.800.OS.LUCES (1.800.655.8237)  
 Hearing/Speech Impaired 1.800.872.5789 (TTY)  
 Federal Video Relay Services (VRS) [vrs.us/persim/ced](http://vrs.us/persim/ced)

Issued 7/21/20 Account # 1234567890

Total Amount Due by 8/5/20 **\$221.22**

### METER INFORMATION

Read Date	Meter Number	Load Type	Reading Type	Previous	Present	Difference	Multiplier	Usage
6/23/20	111111111	General Service	Total kWh	37498 Actual	39395 Actual	1896	x 1	1896

### RENEWABLE COMMUNITY SUPPLY DETAILS

Generation Period	Project Name	Phone Number	Generation kWh	Rate	Total
6/1 - 7/1	Community Solar Project	312.000.1234	292.21	-0.05068	514.26

### CHARGE DETAILS

Residential - Single 6/23/20 - 7/21/20 00 Days

Category	Description	Amount
SUPPLY	Electricity Supply Charge	1,896 kWh x 0.05188 = \$98.00
	Transmission Services Charge	1,896 kWh x 0.01305 = \$24.77
	Purchased Electricity Adjustment	\$9.40
	Renewable Community Supply Credit	-\$14.10
DELIVERY - ComEd	Customer Charge	\$11.43
	Standard Metering Charge	\$4.60
	Distribution Facilities Charge	1,896 kWh x 0.002096 = \$38.96
	Electricity Distribution Charge	1,896 kWh x 0.00122 = \$23.22
	<b>TAXES &amp; FEES</b>	<b>\$18.76</b>
Environmental Cost Recovery Adj	1,896 kWh x 0.00208 = \$39.42	
Renewable Portfolio Standard	1,896 kWh x 0.00189 = \$35.82	
Zero Emission Standard	1,896 kWh x 0.00193 = \$36.59	
Energy Efficiency Program	1,896 kWh x 0.00132 = \$25.21	
State Tax	\$8.36	
<b>Service Period Total</b>	<b>\$221.22</b>	

Total Amount Due **\$221.22**

### UPDATES

- ComEd
- PRICE TO COMPARE:** The ComEd electric supply price to compare is 6.473 cents per kWh. This price does not include a monthly passbook electricity adjustment factor that may range between +\$0.005 and -\$0.005 per kWh. For more information and supplier rates visit <http://www.regulator.state.il.gov/cedrtrnsh.aspx>. For more information on ComEd bill line items go to [ComEd.com/UnderstandBill](http://ComEd.com/UnderstandBill).
  - COVID-19 RESPONSE:** For information, visit [ComEd.com/Coronavirus](http://ComEd.com/Coronavirus).
  - DO NOT GET SCAMMED:** We will never ask for personal information about your ComEd account or demand payment using prepaid cash cards. Learn more: [ComEd.com/ScamAlert](http://ComEd.com/ScamAlert)
  - WAYS TO PAY:** Looking for ways to pay your bill? Visit [ComEd.com/PAY](http://ComEd.com/PAY)
  - ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION CONSUMER DIVISION:** The Consumer Services Division is available at 800-524-0765 to help resolve disputes with ComEd. However, customers should contact ComEd before seeking assistance from the ICC.
  - Past due balances are subject to late charges.

## COMMUNITY SOLAR – MONTHLY SAVINGS

### Before

- ComEd Charges \$144

### After

- ComEd Charges \$ 84
- Subscription Cost \$ 48
- Customer Savings \$ 12
- TOTAL \$144

### Annual Savings

- ~\$100/year in net savings to an average single-family home

## Without Community Solar

### Electric Bill

**SUPPLY** \$84  
1200 kWh X \$0.07 = \$84

**DELIVERY** \$45

**TAXES & FEES** \$15

**TOTAL COST** \$144

**Total Owned: \$144**

## With Community Solar

### Electric Bill

**SUPPLY** \$24  
1200 kWh X \$0.07 = \$84

**Net Metering Credit**  
-1000 kWh X \$0.06 = -\$60

**DELIVERY** \$45

**TAXES & FEES** \$15

**TOTAL COST** \$84

### Subscription Bill

**Net Metering Credits** \$60

**Subscriber's Share (20%)** -\$12

**TOTAL COST** \$48

**Total Owned: \$132**

**Total Monthly Savings: \$12**

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## CS<sup>2</sup> PROGRAM - STRUCTURE

### Program Provides

- Access to Multiple solar farms
- Fair contract terms
  - No credit checks
  - No enrollment fees
  - No termination fees
  - Consumers keep 10 to 20% of net metering credits
- Simple sign up and billing
- No cost direct mail outreach to residents and small businesses

Identified all suppliers  
Optimize economics  
Rules and Regs

Terms and Conditions  
Standards of Care  
Prices

Evaluate

Negotiate

Manage

Educate

Enrollments  
Regulatory Filings  
Customer Service  
Monthly Billing & Reporting

Direct Mail  
Consumer Education  
Forms and Documents

## CS<sup>2</sup> PROGRAM - PROCESS

### Simple Process

- Limited time commitment for municipal staff and elected officials
- No costs to municipality
- No minimum participation requirements

#### 1 Municipal Action

- Pass a Board Resolution
- Letter of Endorsement, Marketing Designation

#### 2 Direct Mail Outreach

- Direct mailing to Residential and Small Commercial accounts
- Mailing approved by municipality
- Includes municipal name and logo

#### 3 Consumer Sign Up

- Online signup
- Accounts must be on ComEd default service

#### 4 Subscription Enrollment

- Account Subscriptions on a first-come/first-served basis
- Billing Agreement for electronic Subscription payments

#### 5 Ongoing Support

- Net Metering Credits arrive every month
- Electronic Auto-payment billing
- No-cost termination with notice

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## CS<sup>2</sup> PROGRAM - HOW MUNICIPALITIES CAN JOIN

### 1 INDICATE INTEREST

Municipalities engage with the CS<sup>2</sup> Community Solar Program by indicating their interest.

#### TASKS FOR MUNICIPALITY

- ✓ Complete an Expression of Interest
- ✓ Consult with the Power Bureau
- ✓ Approve Subscription Terms

### 2 FORMALIZE PARTICIPATION

Municipalities join the CS<sup>2</sup> Community Solar Program by taking three (3) formal steps.

#### TASKS FOR MUNICIPALITY

- ✓ Pass a Resolution joining the Program
- ✓ Submit an Endorsement Letter to IPA
- ✓ Register as a Marketing Designee

### 3 ASSIST WITH OUTREACH

Municipalities then facilitate outreach to residents (all costs are covered by the CS<sup>2</sup> Program).

#### TASKS FOR MUNICIPALITY

- ✓ Order mailing list from ComEd
- ✓ Edit and Approve mailer
- ✓ Upload materials on website
- ✓ Enroll a few municipal accounts

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## SAMPLE COMMERCIAL TERMS FOR CS<sup>2</sup> COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM

The commercial terms outlined below were adopted by the first communities to use the CS<sup>2</sup> Program for their resident (e.g., Village of Oak Park, North Shore Consortium). The CS<sup>2</sup> Program secured commitments from community solar developers to offer a limited volume of subscriptions that met these terms.

KEY COMMERCIAL TERMS FOR CS <sup>2</sup> COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM	
<b>Net Metering Credit Split</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subscriber receives 100% of all utility net metering credits on the monthly utility bill.</li> <li>Subscriber pays 80% of all monthly net metering credits to through electronic billing</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Accounts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential and Small Commercial accounts receiving service from Ameren Illinois or ComEd</li> <li>Must remain on utility default tariff rates</li> </ul>
<b>Enrollment Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No credit check or minimum credit score</li> <li>\$0 enrollment fees</li> </ul>
<b>Agreement Term</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 15-20 years</li> <li>Subscription sale and transfers allowed</li> </ul>
<b>Subscription Termination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0 termination fees with 60 days' notice</li> <li>Termination for non-payment or placement on non-Default tariff rates for 2 consecutive billing cycles</li> </ul>
<b>Consumer Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online enrollment, electronic billing, call center, program website</li> <li>Services paid by community solar farm developers</li> </ul>
<b>Marketing Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mailings, press releases, municipal website content</li> <li>Paid by community solar farm developers</li> </ul>

Because of the limited availability of community solar projects in the ComEd region, communities may not be able to secure the same terms noted above. The CS<sup>2</sup> Program will present the best terms available in the market on an ongoing basis, and municipalities can determine whether to accept those amended terms prior to fully participating in the program.

Sponsor	
Initiative	
Program	
Program Manager	
Billing Administrator	

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Village Manager X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**R E S O L U T I O N**

**R \_\_\_ -21**

**A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE COMMUNITY SOLAR  
CLEARINGHOUSE SOLUTION PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus provides a forum for the chief elected officials of northeastern Illinois to develop consensus and act on common public policy issues and multi-jurisdictional challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus has a history of environmental stewardship, including energy efficiency, water conservation, urban forestry, and leadership of the Greenest Region Compact initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Lombard signed onto the Greenest Region Compact in 2008, and has since actively participated in regional meetings and activities that advance sustainability goals; and

**WHEREAS**, to facilitate local support of new solar development in Illinois, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus created the Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program (the "Program") that allows residents to subscribe in shared solar electricity generated in Illinois without the need to install solar panels on their properties; and

**WHEREAS**, participating residents may reduce their total cost of electricity supply by receiving net metering credits on their monthly utility bills; and

**WHEREAS**, the Program will assist the Village in its ongoing effort to provide residents with access to sustainable energy solutions that enhance the quality of life along with stewardship of the environment and sustainable economic vitality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village's Public Works and Environmental Concerns Committee has recommended the endorsement of the Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF LOMBARD, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS** as follows:

**SECTION 1:** That the Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program is endorsed, and the Village will educate and inform residents regarding its availability.

**SECTION 2:** That the Village Manager or designee is authorized to execute any necessary documents for participation in the Program.



Adopted this 4<sup>h</sup> day of March, 2021.

Ayes; \_\_\_\_\_

Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Keith Giagnorio**  
**Village President**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sharon Kuderna**  
**Village Clerk**