

210059



MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Works & Environmental Concerns Committee

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

SUBJECT: Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program

DATE: February 2, 2021

As part of the Greenest Region Compact, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus has developed a new Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution (CS²) program. The CS² program is a partnership between the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, The Power Bureau (program manager) and mc² (billing administrator). This program allows residents in participating communities to share in the generation of electricity from regional solar arrays, and then receive credits with a guaranteed rebate in their ComEd rate. The only obligation to the Village would be to pass a resolution endorsing the program and to provide information on the program to Lombard residents. The Village will incur no costs for this program being offered to residents.

Background:

Slides on the program are attached. The CS² program is made possible by the Illinois Commerce Commission's renewable energy requirements on franchised utilities. The Power Bureau is the CS² program administrator, and also a marketing and sales designee authorized by the Illinois Power Agency. 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 questions regarding the program 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 their involvement. Growing public participation in the program will support the construction of additional solar arrays, the average residential account receives an annual rebate of about \$100. Municipalities play a role in this program by not only helping with promotion, but also in demonstrating program legitimacy to skeptical customers. Communities that are currently part of the CS² program include Lake Forest, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Glencoe, Deerfield, Northbrook, Oak Park and Skokie. There are no communities in DuPage County participating yet.

All municipalities in the ComEd service area are eligible to participate in the CS² program. However, the program will eventually be limited when the capacity of the existing solar arrays has been reached. The Village may opt to enroll its own billable ComEd accounts in the program, although that is not mandatory.

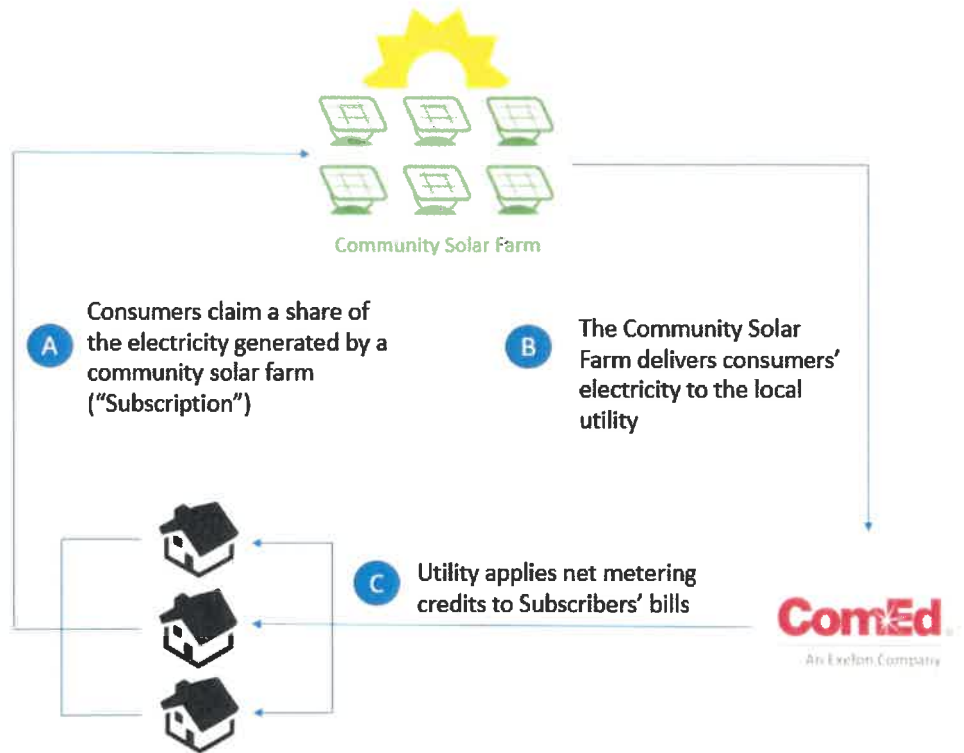
Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Committee vote to recommend the program to the Board of Trustees, which will then be recognized by a 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)



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COMMUNITY SOLAR

Renewable Community Supply Credits

- For Community Solar Subscribers
- Based on the consumers' share of the community solar farm
- Rate equal to:

$$\frac{\text{Electricity Supply Charge} + \text{Purchased Electricity Adj}}{\text{Net Metering Credit Value}}$$

Issued 7/21/20 Account # 1234567890

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

For Questions, Support, and Outages visit ComEd.com
 English 1.800.EDISON1 (1.800.334.7661)
 Español 1.800.95.LUCES (1.800.955.8237)
 Hearing/Speech Impaired 1.800.572.5789 (TTY)
 Federal Video Relay Services (VRS) Fedvrs.us/session/new

Read Dates	Meter Number	Load Type	Reading Type	Previous	Present	Difference	Multiplier	Usage
6/23-7/21	111111111	General Service	Total kWh	37496 Actual	36396 Actual	1898	x 1	1898

Generation Period	Project Name	Phone Number	Generation kWh	Rate	Total
6/1 - 7/1	Community Solar Project	312.000.1234	252.21	-0.05658	-\$14.30

CHARGE DETAILS
 Residential - Single 6/23/20 - 7/21/20 (99 Days)

Category	Description	Amount
SUPPLY	Electricity Supply Charge	1,898 kWh X 0.05168 = \$98.09
	Transmission Services Charge	1,898 kWh X 0.01305 = \$24.77
	Purchased Electricity Adjustment	\$9.48
	Renewable Community Supply Credit	-\$14.30
DELIVERY - ComEd	Customer Charge	\$11.43
	Standard Metering Charge	\$4.58
	Distribution Facilities Charge	1,898 kWh X 0.02585 = \$49.05
	IL Electricity Distribution Charge	1,898 kWh X 0.00122 = \$2.32
TAXES & FEES	Environmental Cost Recovery Adj	1,898 kWh X 0.00038 = \$0.72
	Renewable Portfolio Standard	1,898 kWh X 0.00189 = \$3.59
	Zero Emission Standard	1,898 kWh X 0.00185 = \$3.70
	Energy Efficiency Programs	1,898 kWh X 0.00132 = \$2.51
	Basic Tax	\$6.26
Service Period Total		\$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 purchased electricity adjustment factor that may range between +\$0.005 and -\$0.005 per kWh. For more information and supplier offers visit <https://www.pluginillinois.org/needrate.aspx>. For more information on ComEd bill line items go to ComEd.com/UnderstandBill.
- COVID-19 RESPONSE: For information, visit ComEd.com/Coronavirus.
- DON'T 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
- WAYS TO PAY: Looking for ways to pay your bill? Visit ComEd.com/PAY.
- ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION CONSUMER DIVISION: The Consumer Services Division is available at 800-524-0795 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.

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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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CS² 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



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CS² 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

CS² PROGRAM - HOW MUNICIPALITIES CAN JOIN

1 INDICATE INTEREST

Municipalities engage with the CS² 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 CS² 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 CS² Program).

TASKS FOR MUNICIPALITY

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

Community Solar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Solar farms shared by multiple consumers (Subscribers) ▪ Subscribers credited for their share of solar energy ▪ Requires no installation, investment or maintenance
Consumer Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guaranteed savings from the ComEd Default rate ▪ Supports renewable development in northern Illinois
CS2 Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No-cost partnership for local municipalities to help residents and small business access community solar ▪ Protects consumers with fair and competitive community solar subscription agreements and ongoing customer service
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited volumes available ▪ No new funding expected for the next 4-5 years

Sponsor	
Initiative	
Program	
Program Manager	
Billing Administrator	