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PRESS RELEASE

**For immediate release**

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**What's going on with my electric bill?**  
*Municipal Aggregation and Rising Electricity Costs  
for Ameren Customers in Bloomington-Normal*

The Town of Normal and City of Bloomington have both entered into a new municipal aggregation contract with Constellation Energy. The contract is for 3 years and begins on July 1, 2022. These contracts offer a fixed electric supply rate of 7.859 cents/kWh (with an option for 8.324 cents/kWh for a renewable energy source option). Some residents are wary of the now ten-year old Municipal Electricity Aggregation program in Normal and Bloomington and are deciding to opt-out this time.

However, while the new aggregation rates are higher than the current Ameren rate, electricity costs are schedule to start a rapid increase beginning June 1, 2022. The current Ameren price to compare (which is the combination of the Ameren Electric Supply and Transmission charge) through May 2022 is 5.478 cents per kWh. Ameren submitted new rate documents to the Illinois Commerce Commission on April 22, 2022. The new price to compare beginning June 1, 2022 will be 9.46 cents/kWh, and will increase to 11.5 cents/kWh from October 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023.

Regional electricity generating capacity was underestimated last year, and now costs are rising as a result of increased electricity demand as pandemic restrictions ease combined with a decrease in generation (renewable energy development is increasing, but is only partially weighted in the capacity market, and more coal-fired plants are going offline), and other market influences including inflation and the war in Ukraine. The rise in Ameren rates represents the increased wholesale price of electricity.

See full details on the Ecology Action Center website at  
<https://ecologyactioncenter.org/aggregation2022/>.

*The Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit environmental agency with a mission to inspire and assist residents of McLean County in creating, strengthening and preserving a healthy environment. The EAC acts as a central resource for environmental education, information, outreach, and technical assistance in McLean County.*

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