# Reporting from the Front Lines: Time-Variant Pricing in Illinois

**David Becker** Director of Dynamic Pricing April 20, 2016





CSIS Panel: Time-Variant Electricity Pricing: Theory and Implementation, Washington, D.C., April 20, 2016



## We promote smarter energy use for all.



We give people the resources they need to make informed energy choices.



We design and implement efficiency programs that lower costs, and protect the environment.



We ensure the benefits of energy efficiency reach those who need them most.



## **TVP in Illinois: Pilot Programs**

#### **Energy Smart Pricing Plan** (2003 – 2006)

• 1,500 households, Hourly pricing

#### **ComEd Customer Applications Pilot** (2010)

8,500 households; Tested five different rates



		Enabling Technology Type						
		None	Removed	Enhanced Web (eWeb)	eWeb+ Basic IHD (BIHD)	eWeb+ Advanced IHD (AIHD)	eWeb+PCT /IHD (AIHD/PCT	
Flat Rate Type N = 1,650	Flat Rate Existing Meter No Education	Control F1 N=450						
	Flat Rate Existing Meter Education			Application F2 N=225				
	Flat Rate AMI Meter Basic AMI Education			Control F3 N=225				
	Flat Rate AMI Meter Education		Application F4 N=0	Application F5 N=225	Application F6 N=300	Application F7 N=225		
Energy Efficiency Rate Type N = 750	IBR Rate AMI Meter Education			Application E1 N=225	Application E2 N=300	Application E3 N=225		
Demand Response Rate Type N = 3,525	CPP/DA-RTP Rate AMI Meter Education			Application D1 N(a)=525 N(b)=225	Application D2 N=525	Application D3 N=525	Application D4 N=525	
	PTR/DA-RTP Rate AMI Meter Education			Application D5 N=225	Application D6 N=525	Application D7 N=225	Application D8 N=225	
Load Shifting Rate Type N = 2,625	DA-RTP Rate AMI Meter Education			Application L1 N(a)=225 N(b)=225	Application L2 N=525	Application L3 N=225		
	TOU Rate AMI Meter Education			Application L4 N=225	Application L5 N(a)=525 N(b)=225	Application L6 N(a)=225 N(b)=225		
N = 8,550		N = 450	N = 0	N = 2,550	N = 2,925	N = 1.875	N = 750	



## **TVP in Illinois: ComEd**

#### **ComEd Hourly Pricing** (2007 – Present)

- Opt-in
- 10,750 households; Real-time hourly pricing
- 20% average electricity supply savings (\$15M)

#### **ComEd Peak Time Savings** (2014 – Present)

- Opt-in
- Over 120,000 households
- Credit: \$1/kWh reduced
- Average 2016 savings: \$7/participant

11 12 1
10 2
9 33
7 6 5
<b>HOURLY PRICING</b>
<b>PROGRAM GUIDE</b>
2015 - 2016
ComEd. powering lives
An Exclan Company



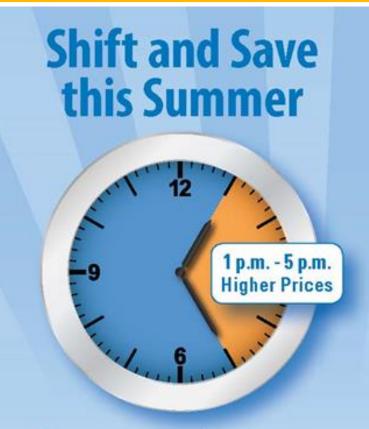
## **TVP in Illinois: Ameren Illinois**

#### Ameren Illinois Power Smart Pricing (2007 - Present)

- Opt-in
- 10,550 households; Day-ahead hourly pricing
- 17% average electricity supply savings (\$9M)

#### Ameren Peak Time Rewards (2015 – Present)

- Opt-in
- 10,455 participating households
- First events scheduled for 2016



To manage summer electricity costs, use less electricity between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays and shift some of your usage to nights and weekends.



powersmartpricing.org | 1-877-655-6028



## **Our Role – Customer Service Support**





## **Our Role – Marketing**



## PICK THE ELECTRICITY RATE THAT'S TO YOUR TASTE. GET A SWEET DEAL WITH HOURLY PRICING

#### You can choose to take control of your electric costs with ComEd's Hourly Pricing Program.

Thousands of households have saved by paying the hourly, market-based prices for electricity, rather than the fixed-rate.

#### ENROLL OR CALL

#### ComEd.com/HourlyPricing 888-202-7787

#### MORE OPTIONS, MORE SAVINGS, MORE YUM

Savings cannot be guaranteed. Individual bills will vary month to month based on market rates, weather, and individual electricity usage.



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## **Our Role – Education**



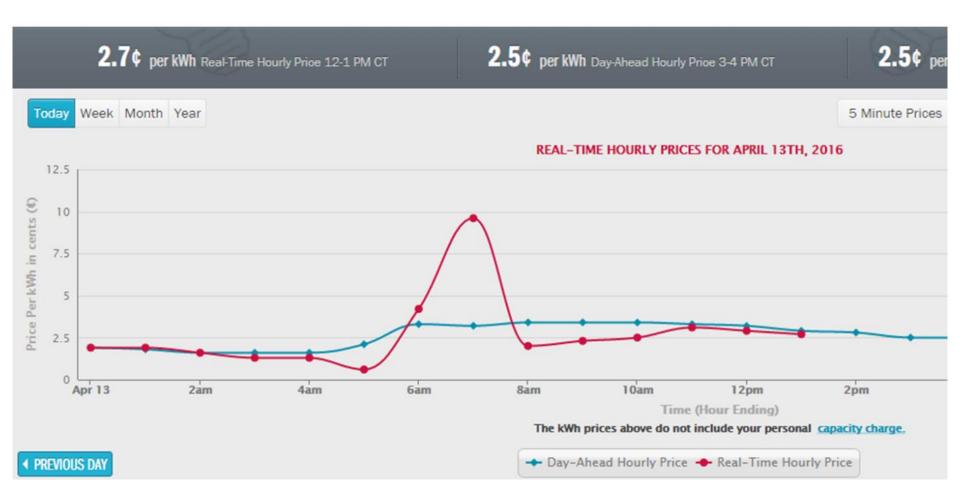


## **Our Role – Customer Communications**

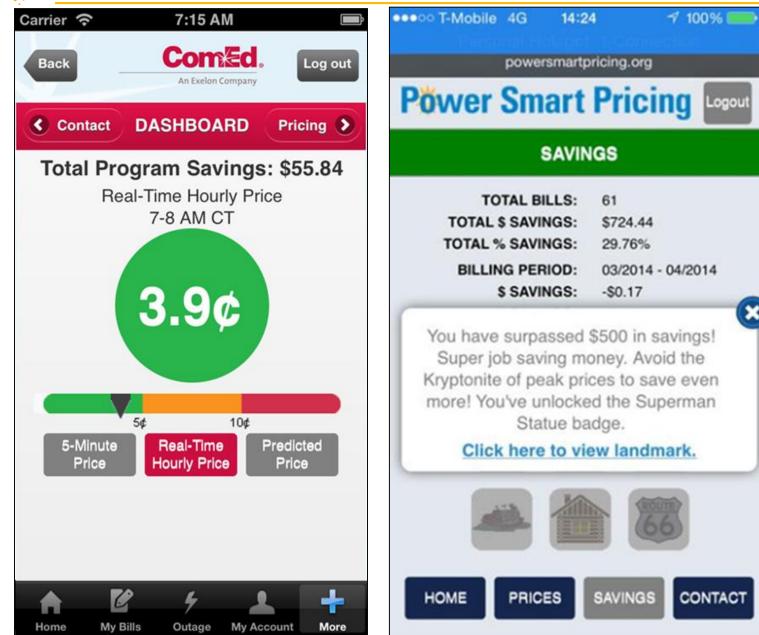








## **Our Role – Performance Tracking**





- Increase Energy Efficiency
  - Consistent 4-6% annual electricity use reduction for ComEd customers
- Environmental Benefits
  - Energy reduction and load shifting (2015: \$300k ComEd only)
- Bill Savings
  - 15-20% average electricity supply savings (over \$24M saved!)
- Demand Response
  - Consistent 0.5 kW reduction during peak times
- High Satisfaction
  - 75-90% satisfaction rate (even after Polar Vortex)
- Engaged Customers
  - 33% adoption rate to ComEd's AC Cycling program
  - 45% response rate to Ameren Illinois Peak Time Rewards program



#### Stagnant Enrollments

- 10% churn rate
- Limited program awareness
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party supplier choice and municipal aggregation

#### Marketing Limitations

- Unlike 3<sup>rd</sup> party suppliers, our marketing and communication methods require utility approval
- Program Design
  - Risky no guaranteed savings
  - Monthly fee (PSP: \$2.25; ComEd Hourly: \$0.39)
  - 12 month commitment
  - Real-time prices current hour price isn't known until it's over
  - We take something historically simple (the flat rate), and are adding a layer of complexity, without providing a guaranteed benefit



 Integrate with other technologies

 Develop rate shopping tools to help consumers choose best option

Position as tangible
Smart Grid benefit for consumers



*"We set our vehicle to charge at midnight and most times we pay next to nothing to fully charge."* 

-Michael M., Hourly Pricing participant since 2015



David Becker Director of Dynamic Pricing <u>David.Becker@ElevateEnergy.org</u> 773-269-4009 <u>ElevateEnergy.org</u>





@Elevate\_Energy



Facebook/ElevateEnergy



## Appendix



**ELEVATE** ENERGY Smarter energy use for all



#### **Default Supply Rates for Residential Customers:**

- Utilities are default supplier with a fixed per-kWh rate
- Alternative retail electric suppliers are active
- Municipal aggregation

## **Benefits of Hourly Pricing to the Utility:**

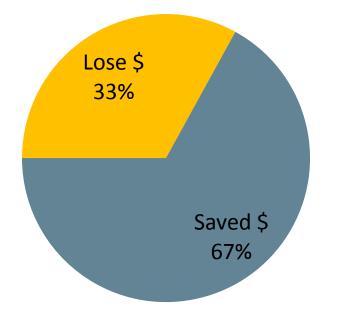
- Better utilization of distribution resources
- Less peaky
- Flatter load shape

#### **Costs of Hourly Pricing to the Utility:**

 Administrative cost of procuring hourly supply separately from default supply

## Hourly Pricing as the Default Rate – Study #1

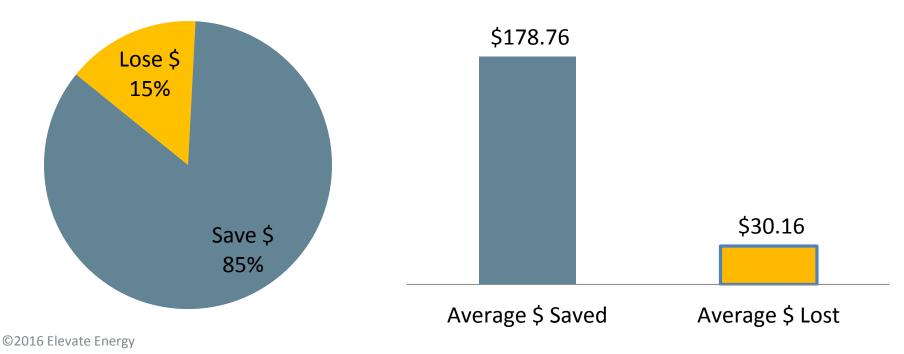
- Included ComEd customers with 12 months of reported usage between June 1, 2010 and May 31, 2011
- No awareness of hourly rates
- Sample size: 83,891 customers
- Total Savings \$8.6 Million



	Less than 300 kWh/month	Gi 300
Number of Customers	18,329 (22%)	65
Median Dollar Savings	(\$29)	
Median % Savings	-18%	

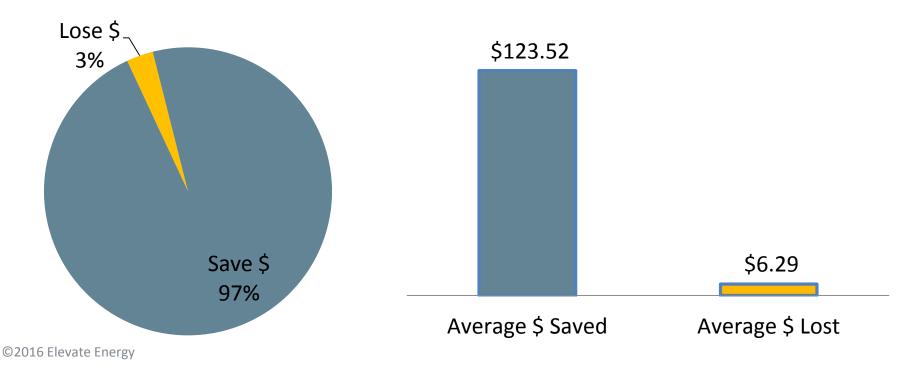
## Hourly Pricing as the Default Rate – Study #2

- Included ComEd customers with 12 months of reported usage between December 1, 2011 and November 30, 2012
- No awareness of hourly rates
- Sample size: 97,938 customers
- Total savings: \$15 million



## Hourly Pricing as the Default Rate – Study #3

- Included ComEd customers with 12 months of reported usage between December 1, 2012 and November 30, 2013
- No awareness of hourly rates
- Sample size: 108,417 customers
- Total savings: \$13.4 million



## ComEd's Hourly Pricing Program Benefits



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH HOURLY PRICING

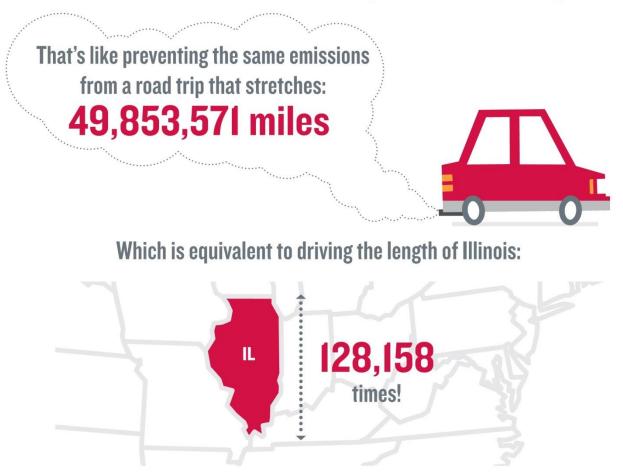
# Together, Hourly Pricing participants have helped to:

Reduce over 22 million kWh in energy use Avoid over **46 million lbs.** in greenhouse gas emissions



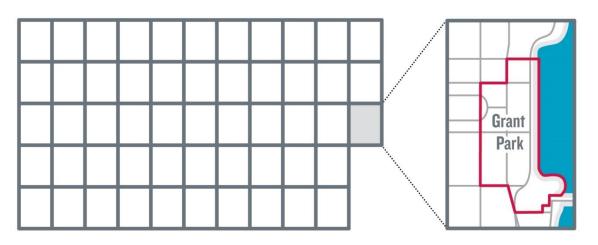


## What does that mean for your community?





# That's the same size as **53 Grant Parks**





## Your pocketbook benefits, too.

## Hourly Pricing participants have saved more than \$15 million

since the program began in 2007





## Power Smart Pricing Program Benefits

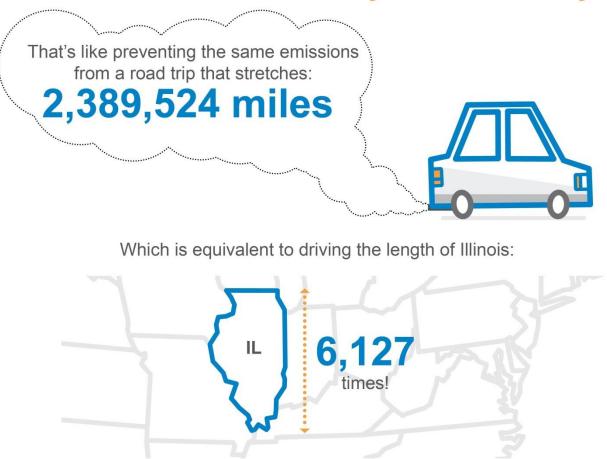


Making a Difference with Power Smart Pricing Together, Power Smart Pricing participants like you have helped to:

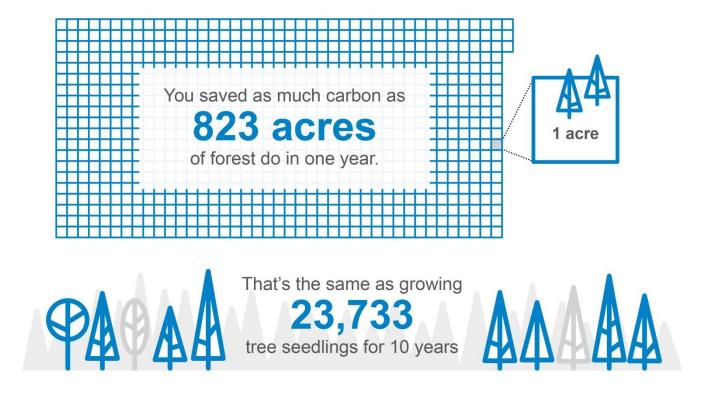
Reduce over **1 million kWh** in energy use And helped avoid over **2.2 million lbs.** in greenhouse gas emissions



#### What does that mean for your community?











#### Your pocketbook benefits, too.

Power Smart Pricing participants have saved more than

## \$8 million

since the program began in 2007



