



SIMEC

AN ENERGY SOLUTIONS COMPANY

For Immediate Release
June 7, 2019

NEWS

For more information
Reg Ankrom, 217-779-2595

Ameren Illinois has announced a residential electric rate of 4.6 cents per kilowatthour for the 12-month period beginning with June meter readings. The rate is 1.7 cents less than Benton's current electric aggregation rate of 6.285 cents.

Under the contract the City negotiated in early 2017 with Homefield Energy of Collinsville, the City's electric supplier, residents who participate in the program have the right to opt out at any time and at no cost. To opt out, participants can call Homefield at 866-694-1262, a toll-free number. They will need only their account number, found at the top of their electric bill, to opt out.

The electric supply accounts of residents who opt out will be returned automatically to Ameren or to an alternative retail electric supplier the resident designates. Electric aggregation regulations require consumers who opt out to remain a total of 12 months with Ameren for electric supply if they do not return to the City's program or another supplier within the first two months after opting out.

Nearly all 300 downstate Illinois communities that have electric aggregation programs have seen their rates rise above Ameren's. The utility's rate has fallen in each of the past two years due largely to the decreasing cost in energy commodities and reduced invested capital costs.

Residents who have additional questions may call Homefield's customer care center toll-free at 866-694-1262.

SIMEC, LLC, headquartered in Quincy, is the broker for the City's electric aggregation program.