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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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URBANA RENEWS ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM

City of Urbana is pleased to announce we have renewed our municipal electricity aggregation program. Below is the utility rate with Constellation New Energy. The City's primary goal is to protect our residents from the continued volatility in electric supply rates.

Since February 2023, the City's residents and small businesses participating in the municipal electricity aggregation program have been receiving rates of \$0.0998 from their current supplier, Energy Harbor. The new contract will be with Constellation New Energy. The new rate will be \$0.0803, which equates to a \$0.0194 savings per kilowatt hour (kWh) using the current program rate. The savings for an average account using 800 kWh will amount to over \$16 of monthly savings for those accounts currently participating in the aggregation program. Also, the delivery rate will change from the higher summer rate period to lower non-summer rate period which will result in additional savings.

Unlike our previous contracts for the aggregation program, the City of Urbana, along with their consultant Good Energy, have deliberately secured the new rate for a shorter period of time due to the uncertainty in the energy market. The new shorter program will commence on the December 2024 meter read date and will continue through the May 2025 meter read date. This new 5-month program rate is a fully-fixed rate and will not change during that timeframe. A new follow-on rate will be negotiated with suppliers prior to the expiration in May 2025. Meanwhile, the utility rate can change throughout the period and is scheduled for an annual change in January 2025, which in the past several years has been an increase. The City's aggregation program rate provides protection against higher rates as well as stability. For while those participating in the program since its inception have had only 7 rate changes since 2012, the Utility has had 30 rate changes.

Although this program is designed to protect our residents from the volatility in the energy market and provide insurance against large increases in rates as we experienced in 2021 and 2022, it also provides the ability to opt-out of the program at any time without penalty if the account holder desires. An opt-out letter will be mailed to all eligible residents within the City in October, 2024. If the account holder desires to continue participating in the program, then they need do nothing with the opt-out notice and they will be automatically enrolled. If the account holder chooses not to participate in the program, there are several ways to do this. Simply return the opt-out notice by

mail, call the new Supplier, Constellation New Energy at 833-636-8357, or go to the website as referenced in the letter. If there are questions about the program, it's important to not call the City of Urbana as the City cannot opt-out of the program for residents. Again, please call Constellation New Energy direct at 833-636-8357 or call with any questions on Good Energy's direct line to speak to Vicki Browning at 844-686-4244.

In addition to the opt-out letter from Constellation New Energy, each account holder may receive a notice from Ameren that their current supplier contract with Energy Harbor is expiring, and that account holders must make a new choice in suppliers. Don't be alarmed with the letter, it is part of the process required by the State of Illinois. Again, the opt-out letter remedies any letter received from Ameren. If residents and small businesses wish to continue participating in the program, they simply do nothing. They will be automatically enrolled when the program transitions to the new supplier in December 2024. Lastly, Ameren will also send a letter confirming that residents have chosen Constellation New Energy as their new supplier, providing another opportunity to decline enrollment. Unless account holders actively opt-out of the program they are automatically enrolled.

Since the inception of the program over a decade ago, every community has realized savings for their residents over the length of the program. The residents in the City of Urbana's program have saved nearly \$1million during the life of the program. Further, the program affords the opportunity to purchase a higher proportion of green power, produced by renewable clean energy, than is otherwise required by State statute for the default electric supply through Ameren.

Questions or concerns about the municipal aggregation program can be addressed via email at gecsi@goodenergy.com or by phone at 844-686-4244.

For more information about the City of Urbana, please visit www.urbanaininois.us.

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