



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

m e m o r a n d u m

TO: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin and City Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer
DATE: June 8, 2020
SUBJECT: **Municipal Electric Aggregation Mayoral Authorization**

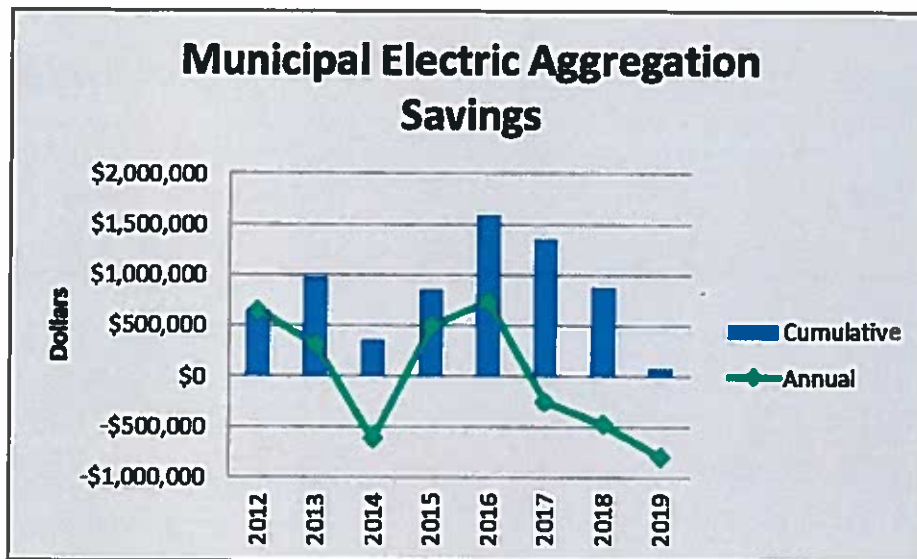
Brief Description

State law allows municipalities to secure an electricity price for residents and small businesses as a single or aggregated purchasing pool from retail electric suppliers on the open market, a process called Municipal Electric Aggregation. Residents and small businesses may opt out of aggregation, should they wish to remain on the Ameren Illinois default supply service or choose their own retail electric supplier.

In order to prepare a bid and supply agreement for another term of municipal electric aggregation when the current agreement expires in December 2020, the City Council needs to undertake certain actions, including authorizing the mayor to execute an electricity supply agreement for the municipal electric aggregation program and approving a new contract with our energy consultant, Good Energy. Details about those actions and additional background information follows:

Benefits From Aggregation

- a. **Lower prices.** By competitively bidding the purchase of electricity as a large group, a lower per kilowatt hour (kWh) price of electricity may be achieved.
- b. **Green power.** A municipally led aggregation can incorporate the purchase of renewable energy credits equal to 100 percent of the electricity used by the aggregation group. With aggregation, the electric supplier's cost to purchase REC's is incorporated into the per kWh price that residents and small businesses in the aggregation group pay.
- c. **Price stability.** The price of electricity is fixed throughout the term of the aggregation agreement and will not fluctuate due to regulatory or market activities.



Consultant

Good Energy provides bid specifications and procurement services, opt-out services, renewable energy credit procurement services, document preparation, monthly opt-out letters to offer aggregation prices to households that change addresses, and experience and contacts with the Illinois Commerce Commission and retail electric suppliers. By agreement, Good Energy charges a consulting fee of \$0.00075 / kWh, which is the rate they charge every other city and county in Illinois and the same rate as our previous contract with them.

Participation

Residents and small businesses are mailed an opt-out letter at the beginning of each aggregation agreement allowing them to remove themselves from the aggregation group and use the Ameren Illinois utility electric service or a retail electric supplier. Residents and small businesses need not take any action in order to be included in the aggregation group.

Forthcoming Aggregation Bid Solicitation

The next aggregation request for bids is expected to occur June 18, 2020. Good Energy expects prices to close to historic lows for Central Illinois aggregation programs. The second aggregation bid group will be approximately 400,000 residences and small businesses representing more than 100 cities and counties. By joining a larger group, we should avoid any market penalty for our high rate of customer churn in a university town and the fact that our households use relatively less power than many cities because we have so many apartment dwellers.

Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)

As part of the first aggregation bid price, many cities, including Urbana, opted to procure Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) to offset the greenhouse gas pollution generated from the production of electricity the aggregation group uses. No other funding source for purchase of RECs has been identified if the City chooses not to participate in aggregation. The consistent purchase of RECs contributes significantly to our greenhouse gas reduction goals. Good Energy plans to offer REC options to cities where they can purchase credits to offset either 50 percent or 100 percent of their energy usage. In the current contract, Urbana residents are paying \$0.00057 per kWh toward the purchase of RECs.

City Fee

In addition to the municipal electric aggregation supply price, the electricity supplier collects and remits a fee to the city. The amount of the fee is set by the City upon acceptance of an electric supply bid. Historically, Central Illinois aggregation programs have assessed fees between \$0.0010 and \$0.0020.

Requested Action

The City of Urbana's aggregation agreement with the retail electric supplier expires at the end of the December 2020 electric billing cycle. Staff recommends that the City undertake the following actions to enable a new aggregation agreement to commence in January 2021:

- a. **Consultant services.** In order to be included in a large multi-city aggregation pool, the City Council must pass the resolution titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GOOD ENERGY, L.P."
- b. **Retail electric supplier.** In order to expeditiously accept a bid for municipal electric aggregation, the City Council must pass the resolution titled "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS WHO DO NOT OPT OUT OF SUCH A PROGRAM"

RESOLUTION NO. 2020--06-027R

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GOOD ENERGY, L.P.

(Municipal Electrical Aggregation)

WHEREAS, the City is a home-rule unit of local government pursuant to Article VII, Section of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, Section 1-92 of the Illinois Power Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3855/1-92, permits a municipality, if authorized by referendum, to adopt an ordinance by which it may operate a program to solicit bids and enter into service agreements for the sale and purchase of electricity and related services and equipment to residential and small commercial customers who do not opt-out of such a program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana ("City"), in a referendum held on March 20, 2012, submitted the public question of whether it should operate the program as an opt-out program; and

WHEREAS, the referendum passed by a majority vote of the qualified electors voting on the question; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the best interests of the City are served by entering into an agreement with the lowest responsible bidder, pursuant to 20 ILCS 3855/1-92, to aggregate the residential and small commercial retail electric loads located within the City and to arrange for competitive electric supply to these retail electrical accounts; and

WHEREAS, because electricity is a commodity for which supply bids typically are made each morning and expire the same day at the close of business, the City must act promptly to accept any such desired bid in order to contractually guarantee a per kilowatt hour electric rate for its residential and small commercial customers; and

WHEREAS, Good Energy, L.P. has provided energy consulting services for the City since September 3, 2012, and

WHEREAS, Good Energy, L.P. can place the City into a bulk purchasing group of Illinois Cities for the purposes of gaining lower electricity prices with a larger volume of sales;

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into an Agreement for energy consulting services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, as follows:

The Agreement (a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof), shall be and hereby will be and is executed for a term equal to that of the term of an electricity supply contract entered into or renewed by the City and Good Energy, L.P.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this Date day of Month, Year.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this Date day of Month, Year.

Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor

SERVICES AGREEMENT

Professional Energy Consulting

Services

This Services Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into and effective on this ___ day of _____ 2020 ("Effective Date") by and between the City of Urbana, Illinois ("City"), an Illinois Municipal Corporation, with offices located at 400 South Vine Street Urbana, Illinois 61801 and Good Energy, L.P ("Service Provider"), with an office and principal place of business located at 232 Madison Avenue, Suite 405, New York, NY 10016.

Recitals

WHEREAS, the City desires to engage Service Provider to perform electricity consultancy services and procurement for City in relation to a program for the aggregation of residential and small commercial electric accounts on an opt-out basis (the "Program") in accordance and compliance with Section 92 of the Illinois Power Agency Act, 20 ILCS 385511-92 (the "Act"), and to provide consulting and brokerages services for non-residential electric and natural gas accounts that the City owns or controls;

WHEREAS, Services Provider desires to perform the Services as hereinafter defined and desires to be so engaged;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and of the covenants and agreements herein contained, and other good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged and approved, the parties, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

Provisions

I. Performance of the Services. Provider shall perform each of the following activities (collectively, the "Services") in a manner consistent with the best practices established for electrical aggregation program consulting services.

A. Provide the following services:

1. Electricity Residential and Small Commercial opt-out consulting services, including but not limited to preparation and management of opt-out notices, scrubbing of eligibility customer lists, and supervision of all other notices and publications required under the Act to facilitate the adoption and operation of the Program,
2. Implement comprehensive marketing services for an opt-out electricity aggregation program, all at Service Provider's sole expense, per the requirements of subject regulation
3. Coordinating efforts with the Illinois Commerce Commission
4. Supporting City and/or attending council meetings and public hearings
5. Preparation and/or update of a Plan of Operation and Governance for the Program, in consultation with the City, addressing, inter alia, each of the following issues:
 - a) *Purpose of Municipal Electricity Aggregation*
 - b) *Background- Illinois Power Agency Act*
 - c) *Opt-Out Process*
 - d) *Request for Proposal - Summary*
 - e) *Consolidated Billing Procedures*
 - f) *Credit Requirement and Default Procedures*
 - g) *Program Move-In and Move Outs*
 - h) *Opt-In Program*
 - i) *Green Power - Renewable Energy*

- j) Program Education Initiative*
- k) Demand Management and Energy Efficiency Program*
- l) Power Supply Agreement*
- m) Pricing Methodology*
- n) Eligible Customer Service Classes*
- o) Supplier Selection Criteria*
- p) Selected Supplier Responsibilities*
- q) Liability*

6. Preparation of bid specifications and procurement of competitive, fixed-price bids, with final selection of an electric supplier being decided by City.

7. Assist with contract negotiations with the selected electricity supplier

8. After-purchase program delivery and on-going daily monitoring.

B. Give prompt notice to City should the Service Provider observe or otherwise become aware of any fault or deficit in the Program or any nonconformance with the electricity sale & purchase agreement.

C. Remit to City after the termination of this Agreement, all files and documents pertaining to the project that have been obtained or produced including, but not limited to, permits, licenses, applications, codes, drawings, site plans, photographs and similar materials.

D. Comply with all statutes, ordinances, laws, rules and regulations which may be applicable to the services provided hereunder.

II. Obligations of City. City shall:

A. Assist the Service Provider by placing at its disposal all public information pertinent to the services for the project, upon reasonable request.

B. Use reasonable efforts to secure release of other data applicable to the Program held by others, including but not limited to residential and small commercial customer account and load information under the authority granted in the Act.

C. Give prompt notice to the Service Provider should City observe or otherwise become aware of any fault or deficit in the Program or any nonconformance with the electricity sale and purchase agreement.

D. Nothing herein shall be construed to require the City to approve an electricity purchase and sale agreement with an alternative retail electric supplier.

III. Term and Termination. The Agreement shall commence on upon execution by the Service Provider and the City and shall terminate on the date on which an electricity sale and purchase agreement with an alternative retail electric supplier expires or earlier terminates, or as otherwise mutually agreed to by City and the Service Provider. City may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving Service Provider thirty (30) days advance written notice. In the event this Agreement is terminated by City prior to its termination due to the expiration of an alternative retail electric supply contract, Service Provider shall be paid for the volume of electricity purchased through the residential and small commercial opt-out contract by the current alternative retail electric supplier through the next meter read date following the date of expiration of any executed (if any) electricity contract with a current alternative retail electric supplier.

IV. Payment. Subject to the City's termination rights described in Section III, the City agrees that Good Energy fees will be paid by the selected electricity supplier per kilowatt-hour (kWh) volumetrically for electricity purchased for the duration of the City contract. Such fees shall be \$0.00075 per kWh.

V. Relationship of the Parties. The parties acknowledge and agree that Service Provider is an independent contractor and is not an agent or employee of the City. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create a relationship between Service Provider and City of a partnership, association, or joint venture.

VI. Indemnification.

A. Professional Liability. Relative to any and all claims, losses, damages, liability and cost, the Service Provider agrees to indemnify, defend and save City, its officers, officials, and employees harmless from and against any and all suits, actions or claims for property losses, damages or personal injury claimed to arise from a negligent act, error, or omission by the Service Provider or its employees.

B. Non-Professional Liability (General Liability). To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Service Provider shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless City, its officers, officials, employees or any combination thereof, from and against claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, arising out of the acts or omissions of the Service Provider, provided that such claim, damage, loss or expense is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of property (other than the work itself) including loss of use resulting therefrom, but only to the extent caused to in whole or in part by the acts or omissions of the Service Provider, any subconsultant(s) of the Service Provider, its agents, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by them or anyone for whose acts they may be liable, regardless of whether or not such claim damage, loss or expense is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder. Such obligations shall not be construed to negate, abridge, or reduce other rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist as to a party or person described in this paragraph. City shall be held harmless for any damage to the Service Provider's property and/or equipment during the course of performance under the Contract.

VII. Insurance.

A. The Service Provider shall secure and maintain, at his/her/its own expense, errors and omissions insurance in an amount not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per claim/annual aggregate to protect itself from any claim arising out of the performance of professional services and caused by negligent acts or omissions for which the Service Provider may be legally responsible, with a deductible not to exceed \$50,000 without prior written approval. The Service Provider shall maintain said coverage for the entire contract period and for a minimum of one year after completion of the work under the contract.

B. In addition to errors and omissions insurance, the Service Provider shall also secure and maintain, at his/her own expense, insurance which complies with the requirements set forth in Exhibit A to this contract, attached hereto and incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

C. The above referenced insurance shall be maintained in full force and effect during the life of this Contract and for one year beyond, where specified.

VIII. Right to Audit

A. Service Provider guarantees that the individuals employed by the Service Provider in any capacity, including but not limited to, employees, subcontractors and independent contractors, are authorized to work in the United States. The Service Provider represents that it has completed the 1-9 verification process for all individuals the Service Provider has performing services for City. City maintains the right to audit the Form I-9s for all individuals the Service Provider has performing services for City every six (6) months. City will provide the Service Provider with five (5) days advanced written notice of its intent to perform a Form 1-9 audit. In response to City's audit request, the Service Provider shall provide copies of all Form I-9s and any supporting documentation for all individuals who the Service Provider had performing services for City at any time subsequent to the date upon which City gave notice of the preceding Form 1-9 audit.

B. The Service Provider agrees to indemnify City in accordance with Section VI of the Agreement for any issue arising out of the Service Provider's hiring or retention of any individual who is not authorized to work in the United States.

IX. Taxes

A. Service Provider has the following identification number for income tax purposes: 43-2003973.

B. Service Provider is subject to and responsible for all applicable federal, state, and local taxes.

C. City represents that it is a tax-exempt entity and evidence of this tax-exempt status shall be provided to Service Provider upon written request.

X. Assignment. Neither party may assign this Agreement without obtaining express, written consent from the other party prior to assignment.

XI. Entire Agreement / Amendment. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior negotiations, discussions, undertakings and agreements between the parties. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a writing executed by the duly authorized officers of the parties hereto. It is understood and agreed that this Agreement may not be changed, modified, or altered except by an instrument, in writing, signed by both parties in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois.

XII. Discrimination.

A. To the extent the following applies, Service Provider shall reasonably comply with all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations applicable to the work including without limitation the requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity Clause of the Illinois Human Rights Act, (775 ILCS 5/2-105), the rules and regulations of the Illinois Department of Human Rights, and all laws and regulations pertaining to occupational and work safety. Service Provider's signature on this document herein certifies that it had a sexual harassment policy in effect that complies with 775 ILCS 5/2-1 OS.

B. In the event of Service Provider's non-compliance with the provisions of the foregoing Equal Employment Opportunity Clause, the Illinois Human Rights Act, or the rules and regulations of the Illinois Department of Human Rights, Service Provider may be declared ineligible for future contracts or subcontracts and this Agreement may be canceled and voided in whole or in part and such other sanctions or other penalties may be imposed as provided by statute or regulation. However, any forbearance or delay by the City in canceling this contract shall not be construed as and does not constitute the City's consent to such a violation or the City's waiver of any rights it may have.

C. Nothing in this Agreement shall require the commission of any act contrary to any law or any rules or regulations of any union, guild, or similar body having jurisdiction over the Services of Service Provider.

XIII. Confidential and Proprietary Information.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth herein, the Parties are not required to disclose information which they reasonably deem to be proprietary or confidential in nature. The Parties agree that any information disclosed by a Party and designated as proprietary and confidential shall only be disclosed to those officials, employees, representatives, and agents of the other Party that have a need to know in order to administer and enforce this Agreement. For purposes of this Section, the terms "proprietary or confidential" include, but are not limited to, information relating to a Party's corporate structure and affiliates, marketing plans, financial information, or other information that is reasonably determined by a Party to be competitively sensitive. A Party may make proprietary or confidential information available for inspection but not copying or removal by the other Party's representatives. Compliance by the City with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 n.cs 14011 et seq. ("Illinois FOIA"), including compliance with an opinion or directive from the Illinois Public Access Counselor or the Illinois Attorney General under the Illinois FOIA, or with a decision or order of a court with jurisdiction over the City, shall not be a violation of this Section and City shall have no duty to litigate or defend any action against it under the Illinois FOIA.

A. Ownership of Data and Documents. All data and information, regardless of its format, developed or obtained under this Agreement ("Data"), other than the Service Provider's confidential information, will be and remain the sole property of the City. The Service Provider must promptly deliver all Data to the City at the City's request. The Service Provider is responsible for the care and protection of the Data until that delivery. The Service Provider may retain one copy of the Data for the Service Provider's records subject to the Service Provider's continued compliance with the provisions of this Contract.

B. Limitations on customer information. Both Parties acknowledge and agree that the customer information is subject to, and must be maintained in compliance with, the limitations on disclosure of the customer information established by the Act, including without limitation Section 16-122 of the Public Utilities Act, 220 ILCS 5/16-102, Section 2HH of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, 815 ILCS 505/2HH, and the provisions of the applicable utility tariff. City agrees that customer-specific information provided to the City in accordance with the provisions of the applicable tariff shall be treated as confidential, subject to the Illinois FOIA. To protect the confidentiality of customer information:

1. Service Provider access to customer information is limited those authorized representatives of Service Provider, or any third party, who have a need to know the information for purposes of this Contract.

2. Service Provider warrants that it will not disclose, use, sell, or provide Customer Information to any person, firm or entity for any purpose outside of the aggregation program.

3. Service Provider and City acknowledge that customer information remains the property of the City and that material breaches of confidentiality will prohibit Service Provider from placing any new bids to the City's subsequent Request(s) for qualifications for a period of one year after termination of this Agreement.

4. Proprietary Rights, Survival. Each Party acknowledges the proprietary rights of the other Party in and to the Confidential Information. The obligations under this Article Nine shall survive the conclusion or termination of this Agreement for two (2) years.

XIV. Governing Law/Venue. Any controversy or claim, whether based upon contract, statute, tort, fraud, misrepresentation or other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to this Agreement, whether between the parties, or of any of the parties' employees, agents or affiliated businesses, will be resolved under the laws of the State of Illinois, in any court of competent jurisdiction in county in which the City is principally located.

XV. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable, such provision shall be deemed deleted from this Agreement and shall be replaced by a valid, mutually agreeable and enforceable provision which so far as possible achieves the same objectives as the severed provision was intended to achieve, and the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

XVI. Paragraph Headings. Paragraph headings are inserted in this Agreement for convenience only and are not to be used in interpreting this Agreement

(signatures follow)

GOOD ENERGY, L.P.
By: Good Office Technology Partners,
LLC. General Partner

City of Urbana, IL
By: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin

Sign: _____

Sign: _____

Print: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Print: Diane Wolfe Marlin

Title: Mayor

Date: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-06-28R

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT
WITH THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF
ELECTRICITY FOR RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS
WHO DO NOT OPT OUT OF SUCH A PROGRAM**

(Municipal Electrical Aggregation/2020)

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana is a home rule unit of local government pursuant to the Illinois Constitution of 1970, Article VII, Section 6; and

WHEREAS, Section 1-92 of the Illinois Power Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3855/1-92, permits a municipality, if authorized by referendum, to adopt an ordinance by which it may operate a program to solicit bids and enter into service agreements for the sale and purchase of electricity and related services and equipment to residential and small commercial customers who do not opt-out of such a program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana (“City”), in a referendum held on March 20, 2012, submitted the public question of whether it should operate the program as an opt-out program; and

WHEREAS, the referendum passed by a majority vote of the qualified electors voting on the question; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the best interests of the City are served by entering into an agreement with the lowest responsible bidder, pursuant to 20 ILCS 3855/1-92, to aggregate the residential and small commercial retail electric loads located within the City and to arrange for competitive electric supply to these retail electrical accounts; and

WHEREAS, because electricity is a commodity for which supply bids typically are made each morning and expire the same day at the close of business, the City must act promptly to accept any such desired bid in order to contractually guarantee a per kilowatt hour electric rate for its residential and small commercial customers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1.

The Mayor of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same is hereby authorized to execute and deliver and the Deputy City Clerk of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same is hereby authorized to attest to said execution of an agreement with the lowest responsible bidder for the supply of electricity for residential and small commercial retail customers who do not opt out of

such a program, said execution and attestation to take place within the applicable time constraints required by the bidder.

Section 2.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until such time that a bid for electricity is accepted or rejected.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this Date day of Month, Year.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this Date day of Month, Year.

Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor