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# What Has Happened

Last July, PJM, the transmission system operator for northern Illinois, held its annual capacity auction, through which it purchases electricity generation resources in advance of future demand. This cost makes up part of the Supply portion of a customer's monthly ComEd bill. For customers who receive energy supply from ComEd, this cost is passed through with no mark up by, or profit to, ComEd.

Because of power plant retirements, increased load and more frequent instances of extreme weather, capacity prices stemming from the PJM capacity auction have risen significantly and will result in a 10-15 percent increase in ComEd electric bills beginning in June and will be reflected in the July bill.

## WHO IS PJM?

PJM Interconnection is a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) that coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in all or parts of 13 states, including the ComEd territory of northern Illinois, and the District of Columbia. It's a federally regulated independent organization that manages the bulk power transmission system and operates a competitive wholesale electricity market.

## WHY ARE CAPACITY PRICES INCREASING?

There are several reasons for price increases.

1. There is a lack of reliable fossil fuel (gas and coal) plants. Some of those plants have become less reliable in the face of increasing severe weather and were not able to bid their capacity into the auction.
2. Some fossil fuel plants are retiring, which leads to less capacity.
3. The PJM interconnection permission process has slowed the availability of renewable energy to replace the capacity lost from fossil fuel plants.
4. There is a projected increase in load demand from data centers, AI and greater electrification.

## HOW IS COMED HELPING CUSTOMERS?



We know any increase is tough—so we're stepping up support. ComEd now has a portion of its website dedicated to educating customers and connecting them to resources. Customers can visit [ComEd.com/BillSupport](https://www.comed.com/BillSupport) to find additional information about solutions to help them manage rising costs. The new website works in conjunction with ComEd's Smart Assistance Manager, an online resource available at [ComEd.com/SAM](https://www.comed.com/SAM) that makes it easier to identify and take advantage of programs that will help customers with both their immediate and future bills.

These efforts support ComEd's long-running efforts to help educate customers on money-saving programs, including energy efficiency offerings, energy-savings tips, and bill-assistance options.

ComEd also filed in 2024 with the Illinois Commerce Commission a proposal for a Low-Income Discount (LID) program, which was approved in March 2025. LID helps income-eligible residential customers manage their energy bills by enabling them to qualify to receive a percentage-based discount on their monthly electric bill determined by income level. ComEd's LID program is expected to go into effect in 2026.