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## MEDIA RELEASE

### North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium

Deerfield • Glencoe • Highland Park • Lake Bluff • Lake Forest • Northbrook • Park Ridge • Skokie

#### Consortium Contacts:

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Date: March 31, 2014

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City of Highland Park

## North Shore Residents to Realize Continued Savings in Third Year of Electrical Aggregation Program

*Residents and Businesses in Consortium Communities  
Estimated to Save More than 12% over ComEd Rate into Mid-2015*

The North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium ("Consortium") has worked collaboratively during the last two years to save participating residential and commercial customers in eight member communities more than \$32 million\* off of Commonwealth Edison's ("ComEd") electricity supply rates. During this time, the average customer has saved more than \$463\* on electricity against current ComEd rates.

In 2012, the municipalities of Deerfield, Glencoe, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Lake Forest, Northbrook, Park Ridge and Skokie, collectively known as the Consortium, entered into a three-year contract with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC ("mc<sup>2</sup>") to serve as the alternative electricity supplier to the almost 70,000 Consortium customers. Last week, for the final year of the three-year contract, the Consortium secured electricity rates of 6.688 cents per kilowatt-hour ("kWh") for June 2014 through May 2015 billing cycles for residential and eligible small commercial customers. ComEd's estimated rate for the same time period is 7.63 cents per kWh, representing an estimated savings to customers of more than 12%.

The new price is an increase from the current rate for the electricity commodity due to the significant rise in the price of capacity effective June 1, 2014. Capacity is the cost of generating electricity to meet demand during peak times. In the last two years, such capacity cost was lower and represented a smaller portion of the electricity price. However, with an expected increase in the capacity price of more than 300%, it is now a substantial part of the electricity supply price.

Customers interested in participating in the 100% Green Power Program can sign-up for an additional cost of .140 cents per kWh. Those customers already purchasing enhanced renewal energy certificates as part of the Green Power Program do not need to take any action.

If customers are already receiving the Consortium's electricity supply rate, no action is necessary. Customers interested in signing up for the Consortium rate (those who have moved into a Consortium community or may want to change providers), can sign-up through the customer portal at [www.northshoreelectricityaggregation.com](http://www.northshoreelectricityaggregation.com). Individuals may also call mc<sup>2</sup> directly at (888) 808-7731, or email at [NorthShore@MC2energyservices.com](mailto:NorthShore@MC2energyservices.com), for more information.

Customers will receive a letter from the Consortium during the first week of April regarding new pricing terms. To learn more about mc<sup>2</sup>, please visit [www.northshoreelectricityaggregation.com](http://www.northshoreelectricityaggregation.com).

***About Electric Aggregation & the Consortium:***

Illinois law authorizes municipalities to aggregate the electric loads of residential and small commercial retail customers and to then solicit bids, select a retail electric supplier, and enter into a supply agreement to facilitate the purchase of electricity and related services and equipment on behalf of its residents and small businesses. By aggregating electric supply services, lower rates are anticipated for the purchase of electricity than the standard rate offered by ComEd. In an effort to maximize the amount of savings for customers, the communities of Deerfield, Glencoe, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Lake Forest, Northbrook, Park Ridge and Skokie worked together through an Intergovernmental Agreement and created the North Shore Electric Aggregation Consortium.

As required by State law, each municipality advanced a referendum and on March 20, 2012 voters in all eight Consortium communities approved referendums authorizing each municipality to operate an "opt-out" electricity aggregation program for residents and small businesses. Mc<sup>2</sup> was selected at the Consortium's service provider in April 2012 following a request for proposals for electricity aggregation services. As part of the agreement with mc<sup>2</sup>, Consortium communities review electricity rates annually within the 36-month time period to ensure that customers are receiving the best possible electricity rate. The three year contract with mc<sup>2</sup> will end with the May 2015 billing cycle.

\*The savings estimate for the Consortium reflects a period of June, 2012 through May 2014. The individual customer savings is based on an estimate of all Consortium members.

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