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**News Release**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Fill the Air with Love, Not Balloons, This Valentine's Day**

*ComEd reminds customers to keep foil balloons away from power lines*

**(CHICAGO)** Feb. 13, 2018 – As Valentine's Day nears, love may be in the air – but foil balloons should not be. Loose metallic balloons, also known as Mylar balloons, can lead to power outages when they come into contact with outdoor power lines. These balloons also can float for days and end up having a negative impact on the environment.

When a foil balloon contacts a power line or electrical substation equipment, its metallic properties can cause a surge of electricity that can cause equipment to short-circuit and lead to a power outage or fire.

ComEd encourages customers to help reduce foil balloon-related power outages and ensure safety by following these tips:

- Keep balloons secured and attached to weights at all times.
- Properly dispose of Mylar balloons by puncturing them to release helium that otherwise could cause balloons to float away.
- Never touch a power line. Do not attempt to retrieve a balloon or toy that is entangled in an overhead power line. For assistance, call ComEd at 1-800-334-7661.
- Always assume power lines are live and keep yourself and your belongings at least 10 feet away from power lines.

ComEd customers can get more safety tips for the season at [ComEd.com](http://ComEd.com).

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*Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) is a unit of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC), the nation's leading competitive energy provider, with approximately 10 million customers. ComEd provides service to approximately 4 million customers across northern Illinois, or 70 percent of the state's population. For more information visit [ComEd.com](http://ComEd.com), and connect with the company on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).*