



CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD

Fighting for Illinois Consumers

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Contact: Jim Chilsen
(o) 312-263-4282, (c) 312-513-1784

STATEMENT FROM CUB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAVID KOLATA ON RECORD COMED RATE-HIKE REQUEST

ComEd's four-year, \$1.5 billion request is terrible news on top of the record rate-hike requests that customers are already dealing with from Nicor Gas and Peoples Gas. CUB will do a thorough review, but it's immediately clear that the utility giant wants an excessive profit rate for shareholders. That's why we will join with other consumer advocates to fight it. We will scrutinize ComEd's filing to challenge every penny the company can't justify. Making strategically smart, consumer-friendly grid improvements can help save customers money in the long-run, but that shouldn't mean ComEd gets an excessive profit rate for shareholders.

Background:

- On Monday January 17, *Crain's Chicago Business* reported that ComEd would push for a record \$1.5 billion rate hike. The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) will rule on the request near the end of the year after an 11-month rate case. The rates would take effect on Jan. 1.
- This will impact bills an average of \$4.25 a month each year, for a cumulative impact of \$17 per month by 2027.
- This rate increase will impact the delivery portion of consumers' bills. All consumers pay delivery rates to cover the utilities' costs of sending electricity over their wires to our homes, plus a profit.

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CUB is Illinois' leading nonprofit utility watchdog group. Created by the Illinois Legislature, CUB opened its doors in 1984 to represent the interests of residential and small-business utility customers. Since then, CUB has saved consumers more than \$20 billion by helping to block rate hikes and secure refunds. For more information, call CUB's Consumer Hotline at 1-800-669-5556 or visit CUB's award-winning website, www.CitizensUtilityBoard.org.