

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS  
REGARDING THE  
REFERENDUM ON ELECTRIC SERVICES

**1. How can the Village purchase electricity on behalf of residents and small businesses at potentially lower costs?**

*Under a new state law villages are now able to receive bids from suppliers on behalf of the entire community under a single contract. If the rates are lower than ComEd's, all residential and small business accounts in the Village limits would purchase electricity from the new supplier saving residents and businesses money on their electric bills.*

**2. Why is there a referendum?**

*Under the new state law, voters must approve a referendum granting the Village the authority to seek electric service bids for residents and small businesses under a single contract.*

**3. What does the referendum ask?**

*The referendum asks voters if the Village should have the authority to seek competitive pricing bids for electric services under a single contract. Specifically it asks:*

*“SHALL THE VILLAGE OF KILDEER HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ARRANGE FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR ITS RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL RETAIL CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE NOT OPTED OUT OF SUCH PROGRAM?”*

**4. Why is the Village asking voters for this authority?**

*The Village wants to try and save residents and businesses money by taking advantage of the new state law. The Village receives no financial benefit from the bidding process. But if the process results in lower electricity costs, residents and businesses would benefit.*

**5. What happens if the voters approve the referendum?**

*If voters approve, the Village would begin the process of developing bidding documents and seeking bids from electric suppliers. If the resulting prices are lower than current prices from ComEd, the Village Board would accept the best bid. Since electric prices would be lower, residents and business electric bills would go down.*

**6. What if I don't want to participate?**

*You don't have to change electric suppliers. Each electric customer would be contacted by the selected new electricity supplier. Any customer may "opt out" of the program and stay with your current electric supplier.*

**7. What if the prices from the bids are higher than ComEd's prices?**

*The Village Board would not accept any bids and your account would stay with ComEd.*

**8. What rate savings can be expected?**

*It is too early to predict the magnitude of savings as electric suppliers have yet to price residential and small business accounts under a single bulk contract. It is hoped that the bulk pricing will result in savings. The experience in other villages is a 15-20% savings in the electricity portion of the bill. The service charge portion of the bill is not affected by the program.*

**9. If power is purchased from another supplier who would residents call for outages?**

*By law, ComEd would continue to handle all service issues including any emergency repairs.*

**10. Would I get a separate bill from the new supplier?**

*You will still be a customer of ComEd's delivery system while you purchase power from another supplier. The Village has the option of continuing to use ComEd for all monthly billings through a single bill covering ComEd and the new electricity supplier.*

**11. Can the public have input on the bids?**

*Yes, the Village would hold public hearings to give residents the opportunity to provide input on the plan.*

**12. If the referendum passes, is the Village obligated to switch suppliers?**

*No. The referendum merely gives the Village the right to seek competitive bids. If bids are not lower, no change would be made.*

**13. Will the Village provide the public with comparison information on the new proposed rates versus the current ComEd rates?**

*Yes. Prior to accepting any bids the village will provide the public with this information.*

**14. When would the first bid take place if the voters vote "yes"?**

*Several months after passage of the referendum.*