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Commonwealth Edison Co. is set to become the first investor-owned utility in the United States to tie its profits to performance. The company's performance metrics, filed Thursday with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), are in response to landmark smart grid legislation passed last month in Springfield. The smart grid bill ties excessive outages to ComEd's bottom line. The metrics are subject to ICC review.

Commonwealth Edison and downstate utility Ameren Illinois have promised to upgrade the electrical grid and undergo a wide scale build out of smart grid. In exchange, they receive a more streamlined regulatory structure for rate making at the ICC -- one that pads utility profits.

The utilities have promised that the technology, which would eliminate the need for meter readers, add smart meters in homes and include so-called self-healing electrical lines, will reduce the number and duration of outages and give consumers more control over their electricity usage.

To ensure those promises are kept; legislature has tied a certain portion of utility profits to how well the utility performs for its customers. Every year, the utilities will have to prove they are making progress toward ten year goals that include:

- Improving outages by 20 percent and the duration of those outages by 15 percent.
- Eliminate estimated billing by 90 percent.
- Eliminate consumption of inactive meter (electricity for which there is no customer to bill - an expense that is socialized across its territory) by 90 percent.
- Eliminate energy theft by 50 percent.
- Eliminate bad debt and unpaid bills by \$30 million.
- Increase the amount of money spent on minority-owned and women-owned businesses by 15 percent.

"If they do not meet the metrics agreed to this bill, their bottom line is negatively impacted," said State Rep. David Winters.

"Their rate of return goes up if they meet their standards, but if they don't there are definite penalties."

A study by the Galvin Electricity Initiative found that outages are indirectly costing Illinois electricity customers \$20 per month.

Electricity Pricing Areas - Dec 13, 2011

January

On-Peak	Per kWh
Cinergy	\$.03734
PJM West	\$.04600

ComEd Average Day Ahead LMP Electric Price

Time Period	Average per Kwh
Dec 1 - Dec 31	\$.03545
Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2011	\$.03871
Feb 1 - Feb 28	\$.03581
March 1- Mar 31	\$.03668
April 1 - April 30	\$.03448
May1- May 31	\$.03954
June 1 - June 30	\$.03851
July 1 thru July 31	\$.05170
Aug 1 - Aug 31	\$.04064
Sep 1 - Sep 30	\$.03058
Oct 1- Oct31	\$.02968
Nov 1- Nov 30	\$.02816
Dec 1 - Dec 12	\$.03048

Weather Today: Generally cloudy. High 43F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph. **Tonight:** Cloudy with periods of rain. Low 39F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 80%. Rainfall around a quarter of an inch. **Wed:** Rain and perhaps a thunderstorm in the afternoon. High 52F. Winds S at 20 to 30 mph. Chance of rain 80%. Rainfall around a half an inch. **Thu:** Windy, and mainly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the low 30s. **Fri:** Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the upper 20s. **Sat:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the low 30s.

