Energy Efficiency in the Future Energy Jobs Act

The Future Energy Jobs Act will propel Illinois to the top of the country’s ranks for energy efficiency. ComEd and Ameren now have the potential to receive shareholder incentives on their energy efficiency spending, with bonuses for exceeding savings targets and penalties for falling short. This structure will better align the utilities’ priorities with those of utility customers and energy efficiency.

Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard
- Beginning January 1, 2018, ComEd and Ameren’s energy efficiency targets will resume annual increases and will now be expressed in terms of cumulative persistent savings, which encourage utilities to pursue deeper, longer-lived efficiency measures
  - ComEd must achieve a 21.5% reduction in energy use by 2030 and Ameren a 16% reduction from eligible customers
  - To achieve those long-term savings goals, ComEd must acquire new savings of between 2.0% and 2.5% of electricity sales every year – a higher level of savings than currently achieved by every state except Massachusetts and Rhode Island; Ameren will need to acquire between 1.5% and 2.0% new savings every year – comparable to a “top 10” state.
  - Large usage customers with more than 10MW of demand are exempt from the utilities’ demand-side management programs after May 31, 2017.
  - Customer savings from voltage optimization are now eligible to count toward the electric utilities’ goals; limited amounts of gas efficiency savings can also count under certain circumstances

Energy Efficiency Programming
- **Low-Income**: A minimum of $33 million per year for programs targeting low-income households
- **Local government and other public buildings**: A minimum of 10% and 7% of ComEd and Ameren’s entire efficiency budgets, respectively, to fund efficiency measures for local government, municipalities, schools, public housing and community colleges
- **Third Party**: Over $33 million per year to fund competitively bid third-party energy efficiency programs beginning in 2019

Hardship Programs & Job Training
- ComEd will spend $50 million over five years on hardship programs, including those for low-income customers, seniors, and disabled veterans
- ComEd will invest $30 million to fund job training programs as follows:
  - $3 million for solar training as a pipeline for the IL Solar Energy for All projects
  - $3 million for a craft apprenticeship program
  - $4 million for multi-cultural jobs programs

On-Bill Financing
As of 2019, any measure recommended by a qualified building assessment, including health and safety measures, will be eligible for on-bill financing. Effective in 2017, the amount financeable by each utility will increase by $5 million per year, up to a maximum of $20 million. This allows homeowners to pay back costs of home upgrades directly on their electric bill.

Spending Cap
The energy efficiency spending cap equates to approximately $360 million for ComEd’s 2018-2021 plan and approximately $100 million for Ameren’s 2018-2021 plan. These caps will increase in each future plan.