

## **Municipal Energy Aggregation FAQ**

### **What Does “Opt-Out” Mean?**

Opt-out means you are not required to participate. If a municipal energy aggregation program is offered, residents can choose not to join and keep their current energy supply.

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### **If I vote YES, am I signing up?**

No. Voting YES only allows the Village to offer a program. No one is automatically enrolled just by voting.

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### **Will my energy supplier change if I do nothing?**

**Yes**, the Village will enter into a contract on behalf of its residents. If you do not want to participate, you can simply opt out and go back to Ameren.

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### **Do I have to respond or take action?**

Show up to the polls in March and Vote YES. Residents who prefer their current energy service will be notified of the upcoming service changes and can opt out and take no further action. Those who wish to proceed will be able to and can change their mind at any time.

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### **Can I keep my current energy plan?**

Yes. **Opting out** means you keep your existing energy supplier and terms.

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## Why is the Village asking for this authority?

Municipal aggregation gives a Village or town the ability to purchase electricity supply on behalf of its residents and small businesses. Because this shifts who is making energy supply decisions — from individual customers to the municipality — state law requires voter approval before that authority can be used.

Under Municipal Aggregation Legislation (HB3182), a municipality cannot move forward with aggregation unless voters approve it through a referendum. The law specifically states that aggregation authority only exists after voter approval. This ensures transparency, accountability, and community consent before the municipality goes out to bid or enters into any supply contracts.

A YES vote allows the Village to:

- ✓ Explore an optional energy supply program
- ✓ Offer residents another choice
- ✓ Let each household decide what works best for them

### **The Bottom Line**

- Participation is voluntary
- Opt-out means you stay with what you have

 **A YES vote gives residents a choice — not a requirement.**

## **A Message to Residents Regarding the Upcoming Energy Referendum**

In March, residents will be asked to vote on a ballot question related to municipal energy aggregation. We encourage all residents to take time to understand what this question means before casting their vote.

The referendum asks whether the Village should have the authority to arrange an electricity supply option for residential and small commercial customers. This question does not select an energy supplier or set energy rates, but it does determine whether the Village may offer a municipal aggregation program in the future.

If this authority is granted and a program is established, eligible customers would receive advance notice and would be automatically included unless they choose to opt out. Residents who opt out would keep their current electricity supply arrangement, including a variable supply rate from Ameren. Participation would remain a personal choice, and opting out would require no additional changes to a resident's existing service.

With energy rates rising, residents are encouraged to take time to educate themselves about this potential opportunity and what it could mean — not only for their own households, but also for neighbors who may benefit from having access to an additional energy supply option if given the opportunity.

This referendum is about whether the Village may make such an option available. We encourage residents to seek out information, ask questions, and discuss the issue with friends and neighbors so everyone can make an informed decision.