

Contact: ComEd Media Relations
312-394-3500

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National Award Recognizes ComEd's Critical Role in Bringing Economic Growth to Northern Illinois

Company receives top honors from Site Selection Magazine for reliability, infrastructure and economic investment

CHICAGO (September 1, 2026) – ComEd has once again been recognized as one of the nation's top utilities for economic development, earning top honors in [Site Selection Magazine's 2026 Top Utilities in Economic Development](#) rankings. The recognition highlights ComEd's continued leadership in powering economic growth across northern Illinois through industry-leading reliability, innovative grid investments and strong partnerships that help businesses grow and invest in the region.

This marks the 12th time ComEd has earned the Top Utilities honor and the fifth time in the last six years.

"ComEd's nation-leading reliability and competitive rates make northern Illinois one of the country's top destinations for business growth and investment," said [ComEd President and CEO Gil Quiniones](#). "This latest Site Selection recognition underscores the critical role a strong electric grid plays in driving economic growth, creating jobs, generating local tax revenue and strengthening communities. With ComEd's grid supporting billions of dollars in investment each year, every new project helps build a more competitive, prosperous future for the 9 million people and communities we are privileged to serve across Illinois."

Based on economic development activity across northern Illinois, ComEd's grid has helped attract 95 business expansion and relocation projects since 2019, representing \$49.5 billion in capital investment and approximately 24,000 committed jobs. In 2025 alone:

- Global retailer Walmart announced plans to bring a \$1.2 billion cold-storage distribution hub to Belvidere. ComEd has built a substation to power the facility, which is due to open in 2027 and create at least 450 jobs over the next five years.
- The [Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park](#), currently under construction at the former site of US Steel South Works on the South Shore, continued to attract major tenants, cementing the state's status as a future leader in the emerging quantum computing industry. ComEd's reliable service was a significant factor in the IQMP decision to locate in this region.
- CSL, a global biopharma company that has a manufacturing complex in Kankakee County, announced \$1.5 billion expansion of its US operations, revealing in March that the funding will be invested in Illinois. The expansion required construction of a new 138-kilovolt substation to ensure long-term reliability for both the customer and the surrounding community.

"Reliable, affordable energy is fundamental to economic development, and it is becoming even more important as we compete for the next generation of investment," said **Illinois Economic Development Corporation President and CEO Christy George**. "ComEd is an

exceptional partner, helping ensure companies in northern Illinois have the reliable infrastructure they need to invest and grow."

Northern Illinois continues to attract investment across advanced manufacturing, logistics, life sciences, quantum computing, and data center development. With growing power demand from energy-intensive industries, ComEd is making strategic investments to ensure customers have the infrastructure needed to thrive while maintaining affordability and reliability.

Powering Illinois Forward

- Reliability: ComEd ranks No. 1 in the United States based on a [benchmark study](#) that compared the company's reliability performance to similar utilities.
- Cleaner, more flexible grid: ComEd has interconnected roughly two gigawatts of distributed generation and nearly five gigawatts of utility-scale renewable energy.
- Cleaner transportation: Since 2024, \$100 million in customer rebate programs to purchase or lease fleet EVs and to bring more than 13,000 electric vehicle chargers online throughout northern Illinois communities.
- Energy Efficiency: Since 2008, the program has saved ComEd customers over \$13 billion.
- Workforce development and education: Among participants in adult programs, 75% were employed in 2025. Over 3,400 people participate in workforce development programs annually. Flagship program, CONSTRUCT Infrastructure Academy, has served over 950 participants since 2012, achieving a 70% placement rate.

ComEd's economic development impact extends beyond infrastructure. The company works closely with state, regional and local partners to help businesses navigate site selection, energy planning, sustainability goals, workforce opportunities and growth strategies.

"ComEd's growth in Illinois last year upholds the utility company's longstanding role as one of the top performing utilities in the country," said **Site Selection managing editor Kelly Barraza**. "ComEd continues to meet unprecedented demand for large-load projects with technical expertise and a customer-focused approach, while making investments that strengthen reliability, expand renewable energy development, and grow workforce opportunities that benefit customers across the communities it serves. These investments demonstrate ComEd's versatile approach to economic development at a time where energy availability and grid resiliency is essential for businesses when considering where to locate."

In addition to reliability and clean energy leadership, businesses benefit from some of the most affordable electric rates among the nation's largest metropolitan areas. In 2025, the average residential electric bill in ComEd's service territory was \$107 per month, significantly below the national average of \$152 per month. Competitive energy costs help strengthen the region's value proposition for employers while supporting affordability for customers.

"Chicago's economic advantage is rooted in people, power, and place," said **Phil Clement, president and CEO of World Business Chicago**. "We have the talent companies need, a location built for scale, and, critically, the reliable infrastructure required to support investment and growth. ComEd is an essential part of that equation. Its continued

investment in the grid, commitment to reliability, and partnership with businesses and communities strengthen our region's competitiveness every day."

As demand for electricity continues to grow, ComEd remains focused on delivering the reliable and resilient infrastructure needed to support economic opportunity, attract investment, and help communities prosper across northern Illinois.

"ComEd continues to be an invaluable and steadfast partner in helping our communities grow into strong, vibrant, and attractive places to live, work, and do business," said **Angela Czakó Morrey, President and CEO of the Economic Alliance of Kankakee County.**

"Their team consistently demonstrates a commitment to delivering reliable service, supporting new development opportunities, and responding with innovation and urgency to meet the evolving needs of Kankakee County."

ComEd is part of the Exelon Corporation, one of the nation's largest utility companies, serving nearly 11 million customers nationally, including PECO, in Philadelphia, which was also named as part of this year's Site Selection rankings.

This recognition speaks to the performance Exelon delivers to customers and is an outgrowth of the targeted investments being made across the system to ensure continued customer reliability in the face of extreme weather events and to prepare households and businesses for the clean energy transition.

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ComEd is a unit of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation (NASDAQ: EXC), a Fortune 200 company and one of the nation's largest utility companies, serving nearly 11 million electricity and natural gas customers. ComEd [powers the lives](#) of more than 4 million customers across northern Illinois, or 70 percent of the state's population. For more information, visit [ComEd.com](#), and connect with the company on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#) and [YouTube](#).