

# FactsOnEnergy

October 2009

Helpful information from the Ameren Illinois Utilities

## ARE PHANTOM LOADS HAUNTING YOUR HOME?

Here's a frightening fact: In the average home, **75 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned OFF.**

Many appliances and electronic devices continue to use power even when they are turned off, creating what are called "phantom loads." In fact, more than 25 phantom loads are lurking in the average home. Common culprits are televisions, DVD players, stereos, computers, kitchen appliances and charging devices.

### Follow these simple tips to fight phantom loads:

- **Unplug** televisions, office equipment and other high-tech electronic devices if you're going to be away for an extended period of time.
- Use **power strips** for as many electronic devices as possible and turn the strip off when you are away or sleeping.
- Use **LED-powered** nightlights and remove unnecessary nightlights and other non-essential electronic equipment.
- Look for the **ENERGY STAR®** symbol when buying new appliances or electronics.



## PowerSwitch: The Choice is Yours

The Ameren Illinois Utilities will be your energy delivery company as long as you live in our service territory, but **did you know that you can choose the company that supplies the electricity** we deliver to your home or business?

In Illinois, you have the right to purchase your power from a third-party retail electric supplier (RES). That electricity is then delivered to you by the Ameren Illinois Utilities. These alternate suppliers are certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission and registered with us, your energy delivery company, to supply electricity to business customers, residential customers, or both.

If you do not select an alternate supplier, the Ameren Illinois Utilities will continue to provide your electricity supply through our standard Basic Generation Service option. We also offer a real-time pricing option, as well as an enhanced hourly pricing program for residential customers called Power Smart Pricing.

**We encourage our customers to explore all of their supply options.** Regardless of your choice for electric supply, as your energy delivery company, we will continue to respond to service calls, outages and emergencies.

For more information about your electric supply options, including a list of suppliers, visit [illinoispowerswitch.com](http://illinoispowerswitch.com).



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Have You Taken the  
ENERGY STAR® Pledge?

## Follow us on Twitter!



@ActOnEnergy  
@IllinoisOutage

October is  
**ENERGY**  
Awareness Month

Visit [ActOnEnergy.com](http://ActOnEnergy.com)  
for simple ways to save  
energy and money.



**AmerenCILCO**  
1.888.672.5252

**TTY Illinois Relay**  
711

**Underground Locating (JULIE):**  
1.800.892.0123 (or 811)

  
*Illinois Utilities*

### Stay Safe and Warm This Winter

A winter chill will soon fill the air—are you ready to stay warm safely? **Begin by scheduling an inspection of your natural gas furnace** to make sure it will operate safely and efficiently this winter.

And if you plan to use a space heater in your home, remember to keep it a safe distance from furniture, curtains, and other flammable items, as well as children and pets. And always turn the heater off when you're away or sleeping.

### HAVE YOU TAKEN THE ENERGY STAR® PLEDGE?

Small steps can make a big difference. Just ask the more than 2.2 million Americans who have pledged to **"Change the World, Start with ENERGY STAR."**

The Ameren Illinois Utilities are sponsoring a **Take the Pledge Giveaway contest** beginning in October. Winners will be randomly selected from all the Ameren Illinois Utilities customers who take the ENERGY STAR pledge in the next six months.

The **grand prize winner will take home \$2,000 worth of ENERGY STAR-qualified appliances.** First and second place winners will receive gift certificates to the home improvement store of their choice.

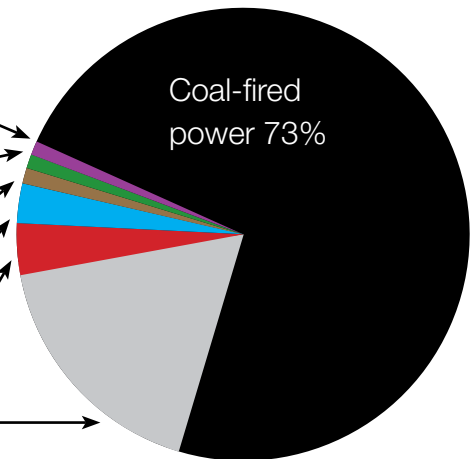
To enter our giveaway contest, simply join the millions who are proving we can make a difference and take the ENERGY STAR pledge on [ActOnEnergy.com](http://ActOnEnergy.com) or call **1.866.838.6918** to receive a paper copy of the pledge form.



**2008-2009 Take the Pledge Giveaway contest winner Maggie from Urbana, Illinois, selected an ENERGY STAR® qualified, stainless steel, LG refrigerator with French doors from Sears®.**

### Sources of electricity supplied for the 12 months ending June 30, 2009 for AmerenCILCO

- Unknown resources purchased from other companies 1%
- Wind power 1%
- Oil-fired power 1%
- Hydro power 3%
- Nuclear power 5%
- Natural gas-fired power 16%



Sources of electricity supplied for the 12 months ending June 30, 2009	Percentage of total
Biomass power	0%
Coal-fired power	73%
Hydro power	3%
Natural gas-fired power	16%
Nuclear power	5%
Oil-fired power	1%
Solar power	0%
Wind power	1%
Other resources	0%
Unknown resources purchased from other companies	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### AVERAGE AMOUNT OF EMISSIONS and AMOUNTS OF NUCLEAR WASTE per 1000 kilowatt-hours (kWhs) PRODUCED from KNOWN<sup>1</sup> sources for the 12 months ending June 30, 2009

Carbon Dioxide	1859 lbs
Nitrogen Oxides	1.74 lbs
Sulfur Dioxide	3.94 lbs
High-Level Nuclear Waste	<.0001 lbs
Low-Level Nuclear Waste	<.0001 ft <sup>3</sup>

#### Footnote

<sup>1</sup> 1% of the total electricity supplied was purchased from other suppliers and the amounts of emissions and amount of nuclear waste attributable to producing this electricity is not known and is not included in this table.

Additional information on companies selling electrical power in Illinois may be found at the Illinois Commerce Commission's Web site ([www.icc.illinois.gov](http://www.icc.illinois.gov)). The disclosure of this information is required under Section 16-127 of the Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law of 1997 and the rules of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 83 Ill. Adm. Code 421.