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WATT'S UP?



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Participants Speak Out

We received a number of replies to our July *Watts Up* newsletter, so we thought we'd share some of them with all of you.

A majority of you stated that the RRTP Program helps you continually focus on ways to save energy. Adopting what one Participant called "simple life style changes", and tracking the rates on theWattSpot.com to check when best to run her washer/dryer, she informs us she has been able to save money and help the environment, too.

We're happy to hear that!

In a similar account, another Participant said that she believes her household is actually using less electricity on RRTP than they did on ComEd's standard fixed rate because they are more conscious about how and when they use electricity.

Many have shifted the usage of their largest appliances – such as washing machines and dishwashers – by programming them to run during off-peak hours. One Participant offered that she always turns off the heated drying function on her dishwasher. Since she runs it at night, the dishes have plenty of time to air dry.

Several of you have installed automation instruments, such as delay timers on appliances. You've also switched regular incandescent light bulbs to CFLs.

Here's a story we found interesting. A Participant who identifies himself as being very "computer savvy" explained how he wired his home with all kinds of computer integrated lighting and HVAC automation. He also integrated theWattSpot.com into his home control systems, allowing him to download day-ahead predicted prices, the 5-minute real-time prices and hour-ending prices. The data then becomes processed, ultimately functioning to automatically turn things off in the house, such as lights that may have been left on, or forcing computers to go to sleep if they are not in use. The system also adjusts thermostat temperatures, and controls the maximum number of minutes per hour the air conditioning is allowed to run.

The future is now!

Another innovative tool is the Real Time Price Services Mobile Dashboard by Invaluable Technologies LLC., which provides a way to stay in touch with real-time day-of electricity prices for the ComEd region. The Dashboard is a lightweight browser-based application for web enabled cellular phones and PDAs. With the Dashboard, you can see current and historical five-minute or hour-ending prices of energy right on your phone! The Dashboard is especially attractive for those participants who want to know when prices are low (and not just high). Visit the Invaluable Technologies [Real Time Price Services page](#) to learn more about the dashboard and other Price Information innovations.

Not to be outdone, another enterprising Participant created a Google gadget that folks can install on their iGoogle page. This same technology is also available in a format compatible with the [Mozilla Firefox browser](#). Both allow users to conveniently monitor the current price of electricity on the ComEd RRTP program. For more information, visit [JayNick.com, LLC](http://JayNick.com).

By the way, Jay Nick has 30+ years of experience with the real-time electric market, metering, and Web 2.0 technologies. Softpedia reviewed Jay's toolbar and rated it 100% clean, which means that it does not contain any form of malware, spyware, viruses, Trojans, and backdoors. Read Softpedia's guarantee for yourself [here](#).

FYI, I downloaded the Google Gadget some time ago and love it!

Thank you for sharing your energy-saving ideas! We are always happy to hear from RRTP Participants.

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