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**ComEd Wins MEEA Inspiring Efficiency Impact Award for
Retro-Commissioning Program**

Chicago – Northern Illinois utility supplier Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) received the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA)'s 2011 Inspiring Efficiency Impact Award for its groundbreaking retro-commissioning program.

In three years, ComEd's program has gone from a small niche pilot to one of the largest, if not the largest, programs of its kind in the country.

ComEd's retro-commissioning program seeks to reduce energy consumption in large buildings and systems by optimizing use of existing equipment rather than encouraging capital investment.

The program pays the fee for a retro-commissioning service provider to conduct studies to identify no- and low-cost operational strategies to optimize the performance of a commercial or industrial building's HVAC, lighting and other systems. When possible it also seeks to educate building staff to ensure that energy savings are sustained going forward.

The program serves a wide range of customer segments and building types, from large office high-rises to hospitals, schools and industrial buildings. This program is one of the most cost-effective in the ComEd portfolio, and has been able to help customers significantly reduce energy waste and operating costs.

So far, the program has helped participating customers reduce their energy consumption by an average of 7 percent. Additionally, the money saved on utility bills has allowed customers to recover their initial investment (\$10,000 to \$20,000 depending on project size) within approximately seven months.

By creating a new stream of business for retro-commissioning service providers, ComEd's program also encourages these service providers to further promote the program by way of their own proactive business development.

Through the program's first two years, nearly 9 million Kilowatt hours were saved through the participation of 17 facilities.

“Sometimes the way a building is used changes over the years, or an older building has new system installed,” said Ryan Stoianowski, ComEd’s Senior Program Manager for Retro-commissioning. “This program ensures all the building’s systems are functioning optimally, and effectively improves energy efficiency without requiring additional capital investment.”

Stoianowski accepted the Inspiring Efficiency Impact Award at MEEA’s annual Midwest Energy Solutions Conference, www.meeaconference.org, on January 13 in Chicago.

“ComEd’s innovative retro-commissioning program is a runaway success,” said MEEA Acting Executive Director Jay Wrobel. “It’s affordable, effective, makes a great business case for energy efficiency.”

Bestowed annually, MEEA’s Impact Award is presented to an organization that has made a significant contribution to energy efficiency market transformation, either through the implementation of a specific program or a policy change.

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Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, www.mwalliance.org, is a collaborative network advancing energy efficiency in the Midwest to support sustainable economic development and environmental preservation.

MEEA promotes the market transformation of energy efficiency technologies, processes and best practices within a 13-state area, through policy advocacy, program design and facilitation and piloting of energy technologies. MEEA bridges the gap between policy adoption and program implementation.