



NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE
effective on November 1, 2023 billing

Dear Member,

Just as inflation has impacted everything, costs for the fuels required to produce electricity have also risen. External factors such as supply chain issues have created cost increases to Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative. We understand that our daily lives have been impacted by inflation on all fronts, so it is difficult to announce that your cooperative must slightly increase rates. Rates have not changed in several years while our costs have grown at unprecedented rates. We have adjusted to cope with some of the cost increases, but we have reached a point where we must utilize credit to pay monthly bills. Continued growth of debt is unsustainable, so we are introducing a rate change effective on your November 1, 2023 billing. Please find the rate changes below. As always, feel free to call DETEC Member Services at (936) 229-4000 or 866-392-2547, and we will be happy to discuss these changes with you. You are also invited to attend a Public Meeting at 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 14th to be held at the Augus Theatre, Downtown San Augustine, TX.

RATE CLASS	CURRENT RATE	EFFECTIVE NOV 1	CHANGE TOTAL
Residential			
Monthly Customer Charge	\$17.00	\$22.00	\$5.00
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.082500	\$0.085070	\$0.00257
Additional Monthly Minimum	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$0.00
Commercial – Public Buildings			
Monthly Customer Charge	\$20.00	\$27.50	\$7.50
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.090000	\$0.091300	\$0.001300
Additional Monthly Minimum	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chicken Houses			
Monthly Customer Charge	\$17.00	\$27.50	\$10.50
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.082500	\$0.091300	\$0.008800
Additional Monthly Minimum	\$3.00	\$0.00	(\$3.00)
Large Power			
Monthly Customer Charge	\$25.00	\$40.00	\$15.00
Demand Charge, per billing kW	\$6.50	\$8.50	\$2.00
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.057500	\$0.052540	(\$0.004960)
Municipal Pumping			
Monthly Customer Charge	\$27.50	\$35.00	\$7.50
Energy Charge, per kWh		\$0.087300	\$0.002633
First 1,000 kWh per month	\$0.091500	no tiered rates	<i>Difference based on collective average of current rate</i>
Next 2,000 kWh per month	\$0.087500		
Over 3,000 kWh per month	\$0.075000		
Municipal Wholesale			
Monthly Customer Charge	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Demand Charge, per billing kW	\$6.25	\$10.25	\$4.00
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.053100	\$0.044350	(\$0.008750)
Outdoor/Security Light			
Monthly Non Metered Charge	\$8.50	\$9.00	\$0.50
Monthly Metered Charge	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$0.25
Monthly Roadway Light Charge	\$11.25	\$11.75	\$0.50



FAQs

When will the new rates become effective?

The revised rates will be used to calculate your November 1st bill and thereafter.

When was the last rate increase?

In 2014, the Monthly Customer Charge was increased. The per kWh rate has not increased since 2009. We work very hard to assure we are doing everything possible to control costs and keep your monthly bill affordable.

How is my residential bill calculated?

Energy Charge - Your electricity usage is measured in kilowatt hours. It is the amount of electricity required to power a 1000-watt device for one hour. For example, a 100-watt light bulb burning for 10 hours would consume 1 kilowatt of electricity. On your bill you will see a space that indicates your total KILLOWATT USAGE. The Kilowatt Usage is your Energy Usage for that given Service Period. To calculate the ENERGY CHARGE, your Kilowatt Usage is multiplied by the per kWh rate. After you multiply the rate by your Kilowatt Usage, the Monthly Customer Charge is added. The Customer Charge covers all costs associated with bringing power to your home such as expenses to maintain and read the meter, poles, electric lines, billing, etc. - everything that must be in place for you to have electricity. For example, if your home uses 1,000 kilowatts - your Energy Charge would be calculated by multiplying 1,000 by \$0.085070 for a total of \$85.07. The \$22 Customer Charge is then added, bringing the total Energy Charge to \$107.07. You've likely noticed the amount of energy you use varies from month to month based on the weather. When temperatures soar or dip, your cooling and heating equipment runs longer, which increases your energy use. Energy consumption is an area that you have some control over, and you can lower your monthly bill by actively reducing energy use.

PCA – Power Cost Adjustment

Below the "Energy Charge," you will see "PCA" followed by a rate. The PCA is the Power Cost Adjustment. The PCA is the same amount for all co-op members but fluctuates over time. Just over 6 cents of the per kWh rate goes directly to the Generation and Transmission Cooperatives (G&T) we purchase our electricity from. The remaining two cents covers our operating and maintenance costs that coincide with kilowatt usage. The PCA represents the difference between what we must pay to buy power and the 6 cents mentioned above. For example, if our G&T's charge us 9 cents for electricity in a given month, we have a 3 cent shortfall in our base rate that must be collected from members to ensure we are able to cover our power bill. The PCA increased in 2022 because of higher power prices that the co-op had to pay. The PCA accounts for power cost fluctuations without having to continually restructure our base electricity rates. We have seen a downward trend in natural gas prices in recent months and hope to see this continue. Our PCA also includes one cent to recoup the cost of Winter Storm Uri. That storm cost the co-op over \$45 million dollars, ten times what we would have normally paid in the month of February 2021. Rather than hit the membership with that power cost all at once, we are recovering it with a one cent PCA charge until fully repaid. As of this writing, we have recouped approximately 40% of that cost.

Non Metered Outdoor/Security Lights

Outdoor/Security Lights are billed \$9.00 monthly each. 80 kWh each is added to your PCA cost to account for the Outdoor/Security Light use. If your light is not working properly, please contact DETEC as they are maintained at no additional charge to members.

What is DETEC doing to control expenses?

- Utilize competitive bidding for materials, power line contractors, tree trimming contractors, pole testing
- We are a member of regional G&T cooperatives who balance generating facilities that we own with market-based pricing to ensure the lowest possible costs for all East Texas Co-ops
- We utilize long-term planning for system development and technology to ensure the lowest possible cost
- Implementing new technology where practical to maximize efficiency

Why can't I choose my electric provider?

This topic is one that is discussed often as we all like to have choices and the freedom to select providers of various services that meet our specific needs and ability. However, it is a discussion that is much more complicated as it is managed under the grid provider (ERCOT, MISO or SPP) and government legislation. While most of Texas is served out of the ERCOT grid, the DETEC service area is unique in that parts of our service territory cross over all three boundaries of ERCOT, MISO and SPP. It is first important to understand that deregulation only affects power generation. DETEC is a transmission and distribution cooperative and does not generate power. With that, we are unable to opt into deregulation due to MISO and SPP not implementing deregulation. In conclusion, opting into deregulation is not an option for DETEC at this time and beyond DETEC's control. DETEC is proud to be your electric provider and aims to provide dependable, safe and affordable power to the best of its ability.