

A customer asks ...

Why is my bill so much higher this month than last month?

Two Big Reasons:

- You used more because it was much colder – the coldest January in 6 years
 - 22% colder than this month last year
 - 26% colder than last month
 - 750 kwh avg bill, 26% more = 218 Kwh = **\$33**
 - 200 ccf avg bill, 26% more = 52 ccf = **\$96**
- You are bill for more days because weather delayed our meter reading
 - 35 days = 5 extra days
 - 750 kwh avg bill = 25kwh/day ... 5 days = 125kwh = **\$21**
 - 200 ccf avg bill = 7/day ... 5 days = 35ccf = **\$64**

And if they are comparing the bill to last year ...

- Electric customers are paying a higher fuel charge than last winter's bills
 - Purchase Power Adjustment (fuel charge) increase by 16% (that's 2.25 cents per kilowatt hour)
 - 750 kwh avg bill = **\$16.88**
 - Avg increase per day = **56¢**

The bill tells the story. Look for:

1. The number of days – will be higher than typical (*good news: next reading should be shorter*)
2. The usage per day – will be higher due to colder weather
3. The comparison to previous year – will be higher due to cold, # of reading days, higher PPA charge

A simple reminder ...

Electric bills for other towns served by Investor-owned Utilities like NStar and National Grid pay higher rates.

- NStar = 22¢ per KWH
- National Grid = 18¢ per KWH
- MG&E = 17¢
- MG&E Seniors = 16.5¢per KWH

Our fuel charges (PPA & PGA) don't drop like gasoline & oil prices. We fix our costs months ahead for the best year-round prices.