

OKANOGAN PUD BILLS



Changes as of April 1, 2021

April bills will look a bit different, including different amounts for basic charges (the flat rate charged every month) and energy/demand charges (the amount charged depending on how much power you use). We will also add a new line on bills to designate state taxes. Although we have been paying these taxes to the state all along (about \$2.8 million per year), we have decided to show them specifically on bills so that we are more clear about where our customers' dollars go! You will see the state public utility tax (RCW 82.16) and state privilege tax (RCW 54.28) designated in a line item called "Washington State effective tax" on your bills.

New rates/charges are designated in blue below, compared to current rates/charges in black. Some were reduced to account for the state tax designation. Each customer class below shows the average percentage that bills will increase. However, the exact average increase of each bill varies by how much energy is actually used. Different adjustments were made per class to move toward a more equitable structure, in which each class pays based on its own actual cost of service. (Lighting class info is posted on our website.)

RESIDENTIAL
4.5%

Basic monthly charge:
\$38.81 **\$38.05**

***Energy charge:**
0-2,000 kWh
\$0.05165/kWh **\$0.05127**
2,000+ kWh
\$0.07248/kWh **\$0.06921**
*Tiered rates to be phased into a single rate over 5 years.

+State tax charge

SMALL GENERAL SERVICE
3.0%

Basic monthly charge:
\$44.20 **\$43.30**

Energy charge:
\$0.06315/kWh **\$0.06091**

Demand charge:
\$5.70/kW above 50 kW
\$5.42/kW above 50 kW
+State tax charge

LARGE GENERAL SERVICE
1.18%

Basic monthly charge:
\$22.64 **\$25.40**

Energy charge:
\$0.05325/kWh **\$0.05056**

Demand charge:
\$5.70/kW **\$5.42/kW**
+State tax charge

INDUSTRIAL
1.18%

Basic monthly charge:
\$88.40 **\$87.45**

Energy charge:
\$0.04400/kWh **\$0.04185**

Demand charge:
\$7.20/kW **\$6.84/kW**
\$7,200 min **\$6,840 min**
+State tax charge

IRRIGATION
2.5%

Basic monthly charge:
\$16.17 **\$16.45**

Energy charge:
Seasonal
\$0.05150/kWh **\$0.04951**
Interseasonal
\$0.07760/kWh **\$0.07461**

Demand charge:
\$4.10/kW **\$3.95/kW**
+State tax charge

FROST CONTROL
5.0%

Basic annual charge:
\$131.52 **\$129.81**

Energy charge:
Seasonal
\$0.03965/kWh **\$0.03910**
Interseasonal
\$0.07760/kWh **\$0.07652**

Demand charge:
\$4.60/kW **\$4.54/kW**
+State tax charge

Example residential bill


Similar to a city tax line item, the "Washington State effective tax" will be added to bills.

DETAIL OF CHARGES			
Basic Charge			\$38.81 \$38.05
kWh Charge	2000 kWh @	.045650 .05127	\$91.30
kWh Charge	10 kWh @	.066480 .06921	\$0.66
Cost of Power Adjustment	2010 kWh @	.006000 .00060	\$12.06
Omak City Tax			\$7.14
Total Charges			\$149.97
Total This Service			\$149.97

These charges will all adjust, depending on customer class. The Cost of Power Adjustment (COPA) will be added to the kWh charge, and adjusted to reflect changes in power costs. New rates are in blue.


Why do we need to raise revenue?

The main driver is upgrading and replacing our aging infrastructure - much of our system is at or beyond its expected lifespan. To increase reliability and prevent outages, we have a more aggressive 10-year capital plan. A few of the upcoming major projects:

OKANOGAN-BREWSTER TRANSMISSION LINE 


Estimated cost: \$13 million

Although FEMA will likely reimburse some of this cost, we have decided to upgrade from wood poles to steel for hardening against future fires, increasing the cost. About 40% of the line was destroyed by the Cold Springs Wildfire.

TONASKET SUBSTATION REBUILD 

Estimated cost: \$4.05 million

The Tonasket substation functions near capacity, so we need to both upgrade what we have and add capacity by putting a second transformer in the station. This will help us increase reliability for the north county.

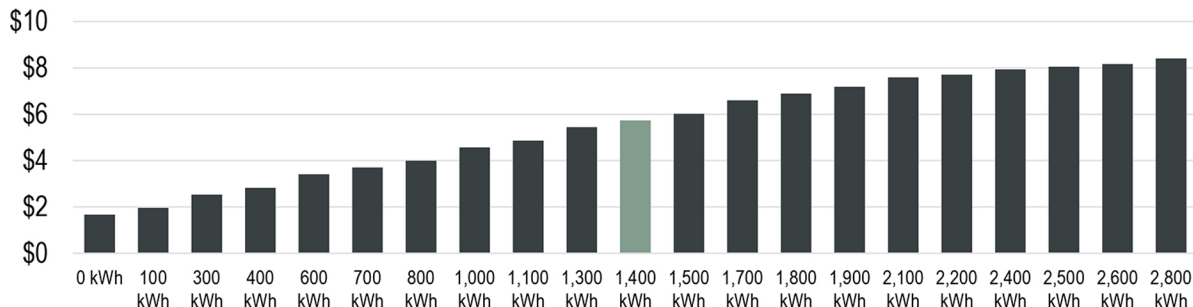
SUBSTATION POWER TRANSFORMERS 

Approximate cost: \$2.4 million

Several of our 16 substations need a new/upgraded power transformer to better serve our customers. Six were recently ordered and will be arriving over the next year or so (the average of \$400,000 each is better than our estimate!).

How much will my bill increase?

That depends on how much energy is used. This chart shows how much a **residential** bill will increase each month based on usage (1,400 kWh is average usage).



How do our bills compare to others?

Here is a sampling of several other Eastern Washington public power utilities' bills, based on 1,400 kWh used. Note: Chelan and Douglas PUDs have among the lowest rates in the nation!

