

Understanding Your Residential Electric Bill

The Energy Charge

Electricity is sold in units called **kilowatt-hours**, with each kilowatt being equal to 1000 watts. When one kilowatt (kW) is used for an hour, the energy used is called one kilowatt-hour (kWh). For example, ten 100 watt lightbulbs running for one hour equals one kWh.

Your energy charge is the primary component of your bill. It is determined by the residential **energy rate** multiplied by the **kWhs** used. For example, if you used 500 kWhs at \$0.10 per kWh, your energy charge would be \$50.00 (500 x \$.10 = \$50.00).

The Customer Charge

The customer charge covers the cost of reading the meter, calculating and printing the bill, postage, etc. As of this writing, the customer charge is **\$8.05** per month or **\$16.10** per bi-monthly bill.

Purchased Power Adjustment

Concord Light buys its electricity from a number of generating sources such as gas, oil, nuclear and hydro. However, because the costs associated with each source's generation are not constant, i.e. the price of gas or oil changes, we compensate for any difference through the purchased power adjustment (PPA).

New York Power Authority Credit

The New York Power Authority Credit is based upon the savings we obtain by purchasing hydroelectric power from the New York Power Authority. Under Federal law, this savings is passed on only to residential customers. It should be noted that power consumed by residential customers is more than 20% green.

RCS Charge

The Residential Conservation Service (RCS) charge covers the cost of running the state-mandated home energy audit program. Currently, the charge is \$0.32 per month, or \$0.64 per bi-monthly bill.

Underground Surcharge

The Underground Surcharge is a 2% fee used to help offset the cost of placing existing overhead wires underground. Undergrounding all utilities in Concord is a Town bylaw.

For more information about our current rates, please visit our website at www.concordma.gov/cmlp