



POWER COST ADJUSTMENT INCREASE TAKES EFFECT ON JANUARY BILLS



RECNEWS

January 2022

Starting with bills received in January 2022, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative's (REC) Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) will rise due to a modest increase in the cost of power purchased for distribution to our member-owners.

REC purchases most of the power that it delivers to member-owners from Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC). Rising energy costs due to increases in fuel for generation are affecting ODEC. As a result, those increases are being passed through to REC through the PCA.

"REC experiences changes in its power costs each year and adjusts the PCA to account for those changes," said Brian Doherty, Managing Director, External Affairs.

"Over the past two years, we have been very fortunate to pass through cost decreases," Doherty said. "Because of the past decreases, we are hopeful that this year's PCA increase will not impact members as much as it could have."

| What to Expect:

Most residential members will see their bills increase by less than 5%.



The PCA reflects the price REC pays for electricity each month. It is known as a pass-through cost. That means REC charges members the same amount that it pays for the power.

The increase will show up on electric bills under the line item titled Power Cost Adjustments. In addition to the Electricity Supply Service rate, the PCA recovers the costs to generate and transmit power. These costs vary from year to year. The increase will vary depending on a member-owner's electricity use.

"We want to be transparent about these increasing costs," Doherty said. "Although these increases are outside of REC's control, we are committed to controlling costs in other areas. Your cooperative is dedicated to delivering reliable and affordable energy to all members."

Pending final review from the Virginia State Corporation Commission

Cold weather Affects Your Bill - But You can **FIGHT BACK!**

A cold wind whips through trees in the back yard.

Hot chocolate is almost ready.

And visions of a warmer home dance through your head.

You eye the thermostat, just across the room, and can almost feel the extra warmth coming out of the vents as you reach for the setting.

REC's energy experts have some advice for you: *Don't do it.*

Create your MyREC SmartHub profile



Monitor your energy use in SmartHub using the My Usage tool. You can monitor events in your home – such as a long shower, using the oven for an hour or doing laundry – to see how much energy you are using. Track the details by the month, day or even by the hour, and use the information to make changes to reduce your energy usage.

GET STARTED TODAY: myrec.smarthub.coop



Set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower in the winter.

If you have a programmable thermostat, set it to adjust 4 to 6 degrees lower when no one is home or when sleeping. Then set it to increase the temperature in stages, but limit the increase by 1 to 2 degrees at a time.



Use space heaters only in small rooms – or, preferably, not at all.

Did you know? To run one space heater for 12 hours every day for a month could cost around \$76.



If you have a crawl space, close the foundation vents and seal the crawl space access door with weather stripping.

That will help to keep the cold air from entering underneath the house and ultimately into the conditioned area of your home that you want to keep warm in the winter.



Avoid using a wood-burning fireplace.

While cozy to sit by or watch, a roaring open-hearth fire will draw out the warm air from a 3,000-square foot house in just one hour. Overall, it serves as an energy drain. REC recommends reducing their use as much as possible.



MORE TIPS: Find more energy-saving tips and recommendations at myrec.coop/save