

**HOW TO CALCULATE  
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC BILLS  
(Idaho)**

Effective:

10/1/2020



**Calculating, or Estimating, Your Monthly Residential Electric Bill**

1. Find, or estimate, the number of kilowatt hours (kWhs), and kilowatts (kws) if applicable, you used for the billing month. (Your bill shows them under "metering information.")
2. Find the appropriate rate schedule below.  
(Your bill identifies the rate schedule each meter is billed under.)
3. Compute the charges for your electric usage, or estimated usage, by following the steps outlined for the appropriate rate schedule.  
(The energy charges already include the effect of Schedules 59, 66, 75, and 91.)
4. Calculate and add any franchise fees that you may have to pay for your electricity usage.  
(The various franchise fees are identified below, as well as on your monthly bill.)

**Computing Your Electric Usage**

- \* Subtract your previous meter reading from your present meter reading.
- \* Multiply the difference by the multifactor shown for your meter.  
This is your electricity (kilowatt hour) usage for the period.
- \* Compute the charges by using the rate schedule shown on your bill, or an example shown below.

**Explanation of Terms**

**Basic Charge:**

Customers billed under some rate schedules are charged a fee which helps to pay the basic costs which are a natural part of keeping electricity available to all our customers. Examples include meter reading and billing costs and the cost of maintaining company equipment on the customer's premises. The basic charge is added into the total charge for your use.

**Minimum Charge:**

If a rate schedule lists a minimum charge we will bill at least that amount each month, even if the actual charges for your use were less than that amount. The minimum charge, like the basic charge, is designed to help pay basic costs of keeping electricity available to our customers.

**Kilowatt Hour (kWh):**

The measure used to determine how much electricity is used. The kilowatt hours on your bill equal the rate, or speed, of use (kilowatts) x the length of time (hours) electricity was used. One kilowatt hour equals 1000 watt hours. Burning a 100 watt light bulb for ten hours uses one kilowatt hour of electricity. Running a 5000 watt (5 kilowatt) dryer for two hours uses 10 kilowatt hours.

**Multifactor:**

Each electric meter has its own multifactor. Meters which count each kilowatt hour have a multifactor of 1. Meters which count kilowatt hours by tens have a multifactor of 10. Other common multifactors are 40, 120, and 240. Your bill tells what the multifactor of your meter is.

**Demand:**

Demand is another word for the rate or speed at which electricity is used. It is measured in kilowatts (kws). Most residential accounts use electricity at a low rate and do not have demand meters. Accounts which require a high rate of energy at certain times are measured and billed for their demand (kilowatts) as well as for their total kilowatt hour use. Generally speaking, demand meters are present on commercial and industrial accounts only. If demand is being measured and charged on an account, it will be clearly stated on monthly bills.

Franchise Fees					
CITY	%	CITY	%	CITY	%
Coeur d'Alene	5.0	Kootenai	1.0	Ponderay	1.0
Clark Fork	1.0	Kooskia	1.0	Post Falls	1.0
Dalton Gardens	1.0	Lapwai	1.0	Potlatch	1.0
Dover	1.0	Lewiston	1.0	Priest River	1.0
Elk River	1.0	Moscow	3.0	Rathdrum	1.0
Hayden	1.0	Mullan	1.0	Sandpoint	1.0
Hayden Lake	1.0	Oldtown	1.0	Spirit Lake	1.0
Kamiah	1.0	Orofino	3.0	St. Maries	1.0
Kellogg	1.0	Osburn	1.0	Wallace	1.0
Kendrick	1.0	Pierce	1.0	Worley	3.0

**Rate Schedule 1 - Residential Service \***

(\* For service supplied through one meter for domestic use in an individual residence.)

<u>Monthly Charges –</u>				<i>(Includes effect of Schedules 59, 66, 75, &amp; 91)</i>
\$6.00	Basic Charge (Monthly Minimum),	Plus		
\$0.08584	per kWh for the first	600	kWhs	
\$0.09635	per kWh for all additional kWhs			

Example -

If you used 1500 kWhs of electricity, your bill would be calculated like this:

\$6.00	Basic Charge	=	\$6.00
\$0.08584	x 600 kWhs	=	\$51.504
\$0.09635	x 900 kWhs	=	\$86.715
Charge for 1500 kWhs		=	<u>\$144.22</u> <i>(franchise fees not included)</i>

Optional Seasonal Monthly Charge

A \$6.00 monthly charge shall apply to customers who close their account on a seasonal or intermittent basis, provided no energy usage occurs during an entire monthly billing cycle while the account is closed. Customers choosing this option are required to notify the Company in writing or by phone in advance and the account will be closed at the start of the next billing cycle following notification. If energy is used during a monthly billing cycle, the above listed energy charges and minimum charge of \$6.00 shall apply.

**Rate Schedule 12 - General Service \***

(\* For service supplied through one meter which is used for multiple family dwellings, add'l meters at same residence, joint residence/commercial building, farms or outbuildings such as shops or garages.)

<u>Monthly Charges –</u>				<i>(Includes effect of Schedules 59, 66, 75, &amp; 91)</i>
Basic Charge	\$13.00	plus		
Energy Charge	\$0.09026	per kWh for the first 3650 kWh		
	\$0.06361	per kWh for all additional kWhs		
Demand Charge	No charge	for first 20 kw or less.		
	\$6.00	per kw for each additional kw.		

Minimum Charge

The demand charge, but not less than \$13.00 for single phase service, and \$20.10 for 3-phase service.)

Example -

If you used 8100 kWhs and had a demand of 30 kws, your bill would be calculated like this:

Basic Charge	=	\$13.00	
Energy Charge			
\$0.09026 x 3650 kWhs	=	\$329.45	
\$0.06361 x 4450 kWhs	=	<u>\$283.06</u>	
Charge for 8100 kWhs	=		\$625.51
Demand Charge			
\$0.00 x 20	=	\$0.00	
\$6.00 x 10	=	<u>\$60.00</u>	
Charge for 30 kws	=		<u>\$60.00</u>
Total Charge for service	=		<u><u>\$685.51</u></u> (franchise fees not included)

**Rate Schedule 22 – Large General Service \***

(\* For large general service supplied through one meter installation for use at multiple family dwellings or farms.)

Monthly Charges –

(Includes effect of Schedules 59, 66, 75, & 91)

Energy Charge	\$0.06021	per kWh for the first 250,000 kWh
	\$0.05079	per kWh for all additional kWhs
Demand Charge	\$425.00	for the first 50 kw or less
	\$5.50	per kw for each additional kw.

Power Factor Adjustment

Where customer's kilowatt demand is 50 kw or more, and customer's maximum 15 minute reactive kilovolt amperes demand for that month is in excess of 60 percent of the kw demand, customer will pay \$0.25 for each reactive kilovolt ampere of excess. The reactive kilovolt ampere demand may be determined by permanently installed instruments or periodic tests.

Primary Voltage Discount

\$0.20 per Kva if service is at 11 kv (wye grounded) or higher.

Minimum Charge

The demand charge (\$425.00) unless a higher minimum is required under contract to cover special

Example -

If you used 24,000 kWhs and had a demand of 65 kws, your bill would be calculated like this:

Energy Charge			
\$0.06021 x 24,000 kWhs	=	<u>\$1,445.04</u>	
Charge for 24,000 kWhs	=		\$1,445.04
Demand Charge			
\$425.00 for 50 kws	=	\$425.00	
\$5.50 x 15 kws	=	<u>\$82.50</u>	
Charge for 65 kws	=		<u>\$507.50</u>
Total Charge for service	=		<u><u>\$1,952.54</u></u> (franchise fees not included)

(Notice: Neither power factor adjustment nor primary voltage discount is presented on this sample bill.)

**Rate Schedule 32 – Pumping Service***(Includes effect of Schedules 59, 66, 75, & 91)*

Monthly Charges                   \$    11.00 Plus

  \$ 0.09777 per kWh for the first 85 kWhs per kw of demand.

  \$ 0.09777 per kWh for the next 80 kWhs per kw of demand, but not more than

  \$ 0.08270 per kWh for additional kWhs

Annual Minimum

\$12.00 per kw of the highest demand established in the current year, ending with the November billing cycle. If no demand was established during the year, the annual minimum will be based on the highest demand established during the most recent year having a demand.

Example:

If you use 12,500 kWhs of electricity and had a demand of 45 kws, your bill would be calculated like this:

First 85 kWhs x 45 kws =	3,825	kWhs to bill at Step 1.	
Next 80 kWhs x 45 kws =	3,600	kWhs (limit 3000 kWhs) to bill at Step 2.	
Total kWhs used -			12,500
Minus Step 1 use			-3,825
Minus maximum Step 2 use			-3,000
kWhs to bill at Step 3	=		<u>5,675</u>
Basic Charge	=	\$	11.00
<u>Step 1</u>			
\$0.09777 x 3,825	=	\$	373.97
<u>Step 2</u>			
\$0.09777 x 3,000	=	\$	293.31
<u>Step 3</u>			
\$0.08270 x 5,675	=	\$	<u>469.32</u>
Charge for 12,500 kWhs			<u>\$ 1,147.60</u> <i>(franchise fees not included)</i>