



What's It About

UNDERSTANDING Residential Electricity Costs



2 Types of Costs

Electric bills can be a bit confusing, especially if you are trying to find out how you are being charged and how to reduce it.

If you have an ENMAX bill, look at page 3 of the bill for these details.

Variable Costs

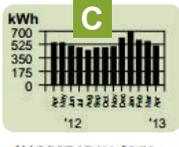
These are based on the amount of electricity you use each month. If you use less electricity, your bill will be lower.

Fixed Costs

These are charged monthly and are NOT affected by how much electricity you use.

Lower your bill!

Reduce your electricity use to reduce all the the Variable Costs (marked in blue)

YOUR ENERGY AND UTILITIES STATEMENT		PAGE 3 OF 4	
		First name Last name 123 Address City Province Postal Code	Account Number: Previous Bill Date: 2020 March 20 Current Bill Date: 2020 April 22
ELECTRICITY Provided by EasyMax			
DAYS BILLED: A 28	RATE ERTMP	PREVIOUS READING DATE B 7656.000 FEB 25	PRESENT READING DATE 8168.000 MAR 24
METER #: 100793-00060945		SITE ID: BC MULT A 1.00000	USE(kWh) 512.000
New Charges			
Electric Energy Charges - ENMAX Energy Co. (EasyMax E ed Rate) F		AV COST / DAY \$2.76	
Energy Charge	512.000 kWh @ \$ 0.0800000 / kWh	\$ 40.96*	
Administration Charge		\$ 6.54*	
Delivery Charges - ENMAX			
Distribution Charge		\$ 13.19*	
Transmission Charge		\$ 9.97*	
Balancing Pool Allocation		\$ 2.90* CR	
Rate Riders		\$ 2.89*	
Local Access Fee		\$ 6.72*	
Summary		\$ 77.37	

- A** Meter #: the unique number for your household electrical meter
- B** Reading: the meter reading before and at the end of the billing period.
The difference between the 2 meter readings is the amount of energy you will be charged for (see D).
- C** Bar Graph: shows your electricity use at a glance for the past year.
- D** Amount: the electricity that was used during the billing period in kilowatt hours (kWh).

- E** Rate: what you are being charged for your electricity - the same rate as ALL Albertans.
- F** Cost: the electricity used x your energy rate (This is variable, which means if you use less electricity, this cost will go down.)
- G** Administration: covers billing and customer service. This is a fixed cost.
- H** These four charges are mostly variable - they change with the amount of electricity you use. For descriptions, see page 2.

H

Distribution Charge: The costs of building, operating and maintaining the distribution system (power lines, transformers, sub-stations, etc.) in your area. *A portion of this has a fixed cost.*

Transmission Charge: The costs of building, operating and maintaining the provincial power grid.

Balancing Pool Allocation: This hands back the costs and benefits resulting from deregulation to ratepayers.

Rate Riders: Adjustments to cover differences between the actual cost of electricity and the approved rate. (This can be either a credit or a charge depending on the market conditions.)

I **Local Access Fee:** On behalf of local government, the electric company collects this fee to access municipal land.



Consider some energy efficiency improvements:

- ◆ Install LED lighting.
- ◆ Use a smart or advanced power bar.
- ◆ Improve the weatherstripping around doors and windows.
- ◆ Change your furnace filters.

How to Lower Your Electric Bill

Change how you do things:

- ◆ Turn off the lights when you're not in a room.
- ◆ Only open the fridge door briefly.
- ◆ Lower your thermostat when you sleep or when you leave during the day.
- ◆ Use a low heat setting on your dryer.
- ◆ Clean out your dryer vent.
- ◆ Only run full loads in the washing machine or dishwasher.
- ◆ Wash clothes with cold water.
- ◆ Use an indoor drying rack.

Useful Links:

Enmax: <https://www.enmax.com/home/understanding-your-bill>

Enmax: <https://www.enmax.com/business/customer-care/business-services/billing/how-to-read-my-bill-page-3>

Link: <https://linkenergy.com/faq/>

ATCO: <https://energy.atco.com/en-ca/blog/understanding-your-bill.html>

