

2017 general rate application

Yukon Energy has filed an application with the Yukon Utilities Board for its first rate change since 2013. The Corporation is asking for a nine percent increase over two years (2017 and 2018). Yukon Energy hasn't had a rate change in four years, meaning this increase would equate to 1.75 percent a year between 2014 and 2018.

The increases would affect all customer classes (residential, commercial, industrial and government) and would impact all electricity customers throughout Yukon.

Why is a rate increase necessary?

- » We are facing increased costs to modernize our aging infrastructure and ensure reliable energy during winter peaks. As well, we are seeing inflation in some of our operating expenses. Without enough revenue, we can't continue to provide the service that Yukoners deserve and expect. Delaying an increase would just compound the problem and mean higher increases down the road.
- » We have completed a number of projects since our last general rate application (GRA) and it is appropriate to now put those into rates. The projects include the new substation at Takhini, the Whitehorse LNG project and major repairs to the elevator shaft of our Aishihik hydro facility.
- » A GRA is necessary before we can pass on the savings from cheaper LNG fuel (vs diesel) to ratepayers.

What has Yukon Energy done to keep rates low?

Over the last five years Yukon Energy has worked hard to keep electricity costs affordable. We have:

- » Renegotiated our outstanding debt at a substantially lower rate. This is saving ratepayers \$1.5 million per year.
- » Generated revenues through our Secondary Sales Program that has helped offset rate increases to our firm customers. In 2016 that yielded \$370,000 and this year we expect that number to be \$640,000.
- » Replaced two of our diesel generators with LNG engines, resulting in significant generator fuel savings.

I can't afford to pay my bill now. How am I going to cope with an increase?

We know that even a small increase is a hardship for some people. There are steps most Yukoners can take to keep their bills affordable. Our inCharge program provides rebates and tips, as does the Good Energy Program managed by the Yukon government's Energy Branch. Visit inchargeyukon.ca as a starting point, or contact us.



How much will my monthly bill go up if this rate increase is approved?

If the Yukon Utilities Board approves the full rate increase, an average monthly residential bill (based on 1,000 kilowatt hours a month) will go up \$12.29 this year, and an additional \$2.83 next year.

How do my electricity rates compare with other costs?

Here are some typical daily household costs in Whitehorse and the percentages they have increased over the last few years. The inflation in electricity pricing between 2012 and 2015 was in line with inflation of other services such as telephone/internet and water/sewer.

Services	2012	2015	% increase
Housing	\$49.95	\$55.22	10.6
Electricity	\$4.01	\$4.51	11.6
Clothing	\$8.41	\$9.69	15.2
Telephone/ Internet	\$6.69	\$7.74	15.7
Water/Sewer	\$1.35	\$1.59	17.8

*Data provided by Statistics Canada

How do Yukon rates compare with other jurisdictions?

Yukon's residential electricity bills are the lowest in the north and are competitive with other jurisdictions in Canada. Here are some examples of monthly bill amounts from around the country and the north.

In Yukon, all communities pay the same residential bill as Whitehorse for the first 1,000 kWh per month. The Whitehorse bill in the table below is before the Yukon government subsidy known as the Interim Electrical Rebate (IER) is applied. The IER provides residential customers with a maximum rebate of \$26.62 per month for the first 1,000 kilowatt hours of power used.

Location	April 2012	April 2016	Change \$/month	Change %
Whitehorse (before increases)	\$139.57	\$149.15	\$9.58	7%
Yellowknife	\$254.29	\$315.18	\$60.89	24%
Iqaluit	\$541.90	\$568.30	\$26.40	5%
Vancouver	\$87.77	\$107.03	\$19.26	22%
Edmonton	\$129.04	\$103.69	-\$25.35	-20%
Regina	\$125.38	\$146.45	\$21.07	17%
Winnipeg	\$74.55	\$84.29	\$9.74	13%
Toronto	\$135.72	\$178.08	\$42.36	31%
Charlottetown	\$145.07	\$160.17	\$15.10	10%
Halifax	\$150.06	\$158.83	\$8.77	6%

*Northern data provided by individual utilities. Data for Southern Canada provided by Hydro Quebec. Numbers are based on 1,000 kWh/month consumption, before rebates and taxes.

Want more information?

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