

Decoding Your Power Bill

Whether through email, an app or an envelope in the mail, everyone that has electric service receives a bill, usually about every month. But do you understand all of the items that appear on your bill? Let's look at some of the most common terms that appear on power bills and provide easy-to-understand explanations.



- 1. Total Amount Due/Balance Due:**
The total dollar amount based your usage, fees and services. This line item is usually accompanied with a due date when the payment must be processed.
- 2. Kilowatt-hours (kWh):**
A watt is a measure for electric power and a kilowatt (kW) is one thousand of those. A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is equal to 1,000 watts of power for a one-hour time period.
- 3. Days Served:**
Billing period for which your electric meter was read. Usually 30 or 31 days, but this can vary.

- 4. Average Monthly/Yearly Temperature:**
Weather has a big impact on your energy usage, as half of your bill could go toward heating/cooling. The greater the difference between your thermostat setting and the outside temperature, the more energy you're using. During extreme temperatures, your bill will likely be higher.
- 5. Usage/Consumption:**
The difference between your previous and current meter readings is the electricity usage for the current billing period.

- 6. Electric Usage History (Chart/Graph):**
A chart that depicts your past energy use, detailing important information like average daily usage, cost per day for the current bill or total usage by month. This is a great tool for learning more about your usage patterns.
- 7. Meter #:**
Your meter number is unique to your electric meter and is usually stamped or printed at the bottom of the face plate of the meter on your home.
- 8. Meter Readings:**
Most bills include both the previous month's meter reading and the current month's meter reading. The difference between the two is the kWh utilized in the current period.
- 9. Multiplier/Constant:**
This is applied to certain types of customers to determine usage. For most homes, the multiplier is 1. If you don't see this on your bill, it's not something to be concerned with as it has greater relevance to business customers.
- 10. Next Scheduled Read Date:**
This is the scheduled date for your electricity meter to be read and charted for your next bill. Smart meters have allowed power companies to remotely read meters, saving time and resources usually needed to read meters in person.

- 11. Other Fees:**
Meter Charge, Customer Charge/ Energy Charge. These are usually fixed costs to help recover your power company's costs of serving you, including meter reading, billing and administration. Like the T&D charges, these will vary depending on region.

- 12. T&D:**
Distribution Delivery Charge, Transmission Service Charge/Cost Recovery. These charges and fees have to do with the cost to deliver electricity from power-generating facilities to electric substations and then ultimately to your home. These will vary significantly depending on your region but will often include "distribution" or "transmission" in the name.

*See term description on page 2.

MyPowerCo

JOHN Q PUBLIC
123 ANY ST
Account # 0000-000-0000

Due Date	Amount Due
11/26/2021	\$129.26

Bill Summary

Bill ID: 000000000003 Date Prepared: 11/01/2021

Previous Account Balance \$134.41
 Payment(s) Received as of 09/28/2021 -\$134.41
Balance Forward \$0.00
 MyPowerCo Charges \$56.06
 Supply Charges - LIGHT ENERGY \$73.20
AMOUNT DUE BY 10/26/2021 \$129.26

Service Type: Residential

Usage Comparison Chart

Period	Total kWh Usage	Avg Daily kWh Usage	# of Days	Avg Daily Temp (F)
Current Month	724	25	30	68
Last Month	1212	41	31	75
Same Month Last Year	1009	33	31	70

Average Monthly Usage for the last 12 months: 1054 kWh
 Total Annual Usage for the last 12 months: 12750 kWh

Meter Reading Usage Information

Meter Number	Read Type	Present	Prior	Difference	Meter Multiplier	Total kWh Used
987654321	Act	10/19/2021	09/19/2021	724.0980	1	724.0980
		11,680.6810	10,956.5830			

Next read date: 11/19/2021

Current Bill Details

Customer Charge	\$12.45
Distribution (724.0980 kWh @ .071383)	\$51.69
DSIC Surcharge (2.67%)	\$1.72
Generation - Trans (724.0980 kWh @ .1149000)	\$83.20
Renewable Charges* (724.0980 kWh @ .000300)	\$0.22
SUMMARY - CURRENT SERVICE TOTAL	\$129.26

Online: www.mypowerco.com Phone: 123-456-7890

Please return this portion with your payment. Please enclose check facing forward.
 Make payment payable to MyPowerCo in US Currency.
 A late charge of 1.25% may be assessed after 11-30-2021

Due Date	Amount Due
11/26/2021	\$129.26

Account # 0000-000-000 USD Amount Enclosed

JOHN Q PUBLIC
123 ANY ST
ANYWHERE NY 10345

Please mail payment to:
 MYPowerCo
 PO BOX 3456
 ANYTOWN NY 10123-4567

00004 000000000000 000000892881 000000892881

Decoding Your Power Bill, continued

13. Ways to Pay/Payment Plans/Options:

Your power company may provide various ways to pay your bill, such as through an app, the mail or at an in-person location. Your power company may also offer payment plans if you're having difficulty paying your bill.

14. Financial/Government Assistance:

In some cases, power companies provide assistance when you're having difficulty paying your electric bill. If you are already receiving benefits from a government assistance program, you may qualify for bill payment assistance.

15. Electric Supply Choices:

Information on how to choose a supplier – if that's something available in your area. Even if you're not interested in choosing a different supplier, you could learn more about the rate you pay and learn about additional ways to conserve energy in this section.

16. Tips for Energy Efficiency:

Energy efficiency involves making changes that maintain your home's comfort while reducing energy use. Sometimes, power companies will include these types of tips on your bill to encourage you to take energy-efficient actions at home.

17. Home Energy Audit:

A free or low-cost energy assessment can help you find many ways to improve the comfort and efficiency of your home. Power companies sometimes include information on how to begin on your bill.

18. Rate(s):

You may have the option to enroll in a variety of pricing plans that make it possible to save money by controlling how much electricity you use at different times of the day or week.

19. Renewable Energy Adjustment:

Your area may have legislation that requires a certain percentage of renewable energy, such as solar and wind. This line item helps fund those measures.

MyPowerCo JOHN Q PUBLIC
123 ANY ST
Account # 0000-000-0000

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13 Ways to Pay/Payment Plans/Options
Auto Pay Makes Paying Bills Easier. For an easy way to pay your bill, consider Auto Pay. To learn more or enroll, please visit [MyPowerCo.com](#), or call 1.800.755.5000 to request a brochure.

14 Payment Assistance
MyPowerCo partners with Dollar Energy Fund to provide assistance to customers who struggle to pay their electric bill. If you would like to support the Dollar Energy Fund and your neighbors in need, make a tax deductible monthly pledge at [MyPowerCo.com](#)

15 Details from Your Electric Supplier
ELECTRIC SUPPLY PRICE TO COMPARE: The MyPowerCo supply price to compare is shown below. This price does not include a purchased electricity adjustment factor, a value expected to fluctuate but remain small for the foreseeable future. Learn more about the components involved in getting electricity to you as well as other electric supply topics at [www.MyPowerCo.com](#).

	0-800 kWh	>800 kWh
October-May Cents per kWh	4.707	4.468

16 Tips from MyPowerCo
Make sure your fridge isn't losing cold by placing a dollar bill in your refrigerator's seal and closing the door. If you can pull the bill out easily, it's time to replace the seal.

17 Home Energy Audit
Want to improve the comfort and efficiency of your home? Contact us today for a free Home Energy Audit. This is an inspection and evaluation of your home's energy efficiency level and will provide you with no- and low-cost next steps that you can take to lower your energy usage.

18 Explore Your Rate Options
Did you know that MyPowerCo offers several rate options, such as Time of Day or Even Billing, that could be a better fit for your consumption? Contact us to get a free rate analysis to see which rate will work best for you.

Online: [www.mypowerco.com](#) Phone: 123-456-7890

Now that you better understand your power bill and your home's energy usage, you've taken a great first step to better managing your electricity usage.

To learn more about how you can become more energy efficient or take advantage of clean energy sources, visit [whatissmartenergy.org](#).