

# EMPIRE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

*Echoes of the Empire*

APRIL 2021

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## NEW RATES FINALIZED FOR SEPTEMBER IMPLEMENTATION

BY ANDY CARTER  
MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER



ANDY CARTER

The Empire Electric Association Board of Directors approved the new Time-of-Use Demand (TOUD) rate structure that will be implemented in September 2021. The new rate structure is designed to be more equitable in charging consumer-members for electricity use, will provide consumer-members more options for reducing their electric bill and will provide more financial stability for the co-op. The new rate will be for residential, general service single- and three-phase, and irrigation single- and three-phase services. Large power and transmission rates are already designed to equitably recover the expenses incurred by the co-op on their behalf and will remain the same.

Residential, general service single-phase, and irrigation single- and three-phase services will have an optional rate available that is structured the same way as EEA's current all-energy rates and will include a higher grid access charge as EEA moves to collecting fewer fixed costs in rate components that are variable in nature. General service three-phase services will continue to have the option of being served under the large power rate if they choose. Consumer-members who are net metered will have the rate options that are available for their otherwise applicable rate. In other words, if you are served under the residential net metered rate, you will have the same rate options as any other residential service would.

The table on page 8 shows a comparison between the optional all-energy rate and the TOUD rate for an average, low and high load factor service. I used a split of 40% on-peak and 60% off-peak which is what

<b>Residential Single-Phase, Time-Of-Use Demand</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$32.00/month
On-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.15115/kWh
Off-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.04428/kWh
Distribution Demand Charge.....	\$2.74/kWh

<b>Residential Single-Phase All-Energy</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$38.00/month
Energy Charge.....	\$0.09599/kWh

<b>General Service Single-Phase, Time-Of-Use Demand</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$32.00/month
On-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.13468/kWh
Off-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.04428/kWh
Distribution Demand Charge.....	\$6.92/kWh

<b>General Service Single-Phase, All-Energy</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$38.00/month
Energy Charge.....	\$0.10755/kWh

<b>General Service Three-Phase, Time-Of-Use Demand</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$51.87/month
On-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.15613/kWh
Off-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.04428/kWh
Distribution Demand Charge.....	\$8.00/kWh

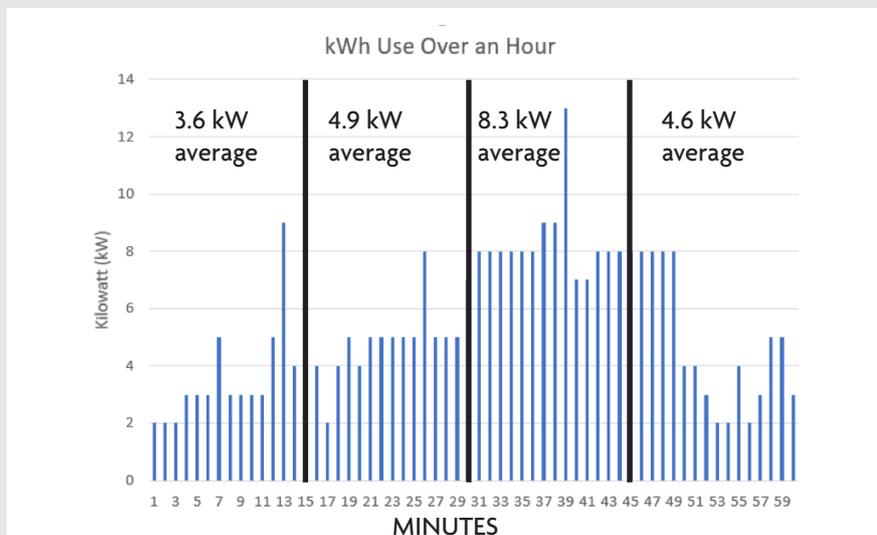
<b>Irrigation Single-Phase, Time-Of-Use Demand</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$33.00/month
On-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.15045/kWh
Off-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.04428/kWh
Distribution Demand Charge.....	\$6.85/kWh

<b>Irrigation Single-Phase, All-Energy</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$33.00/month
Energy Charge.....	\$0.11289/kWh

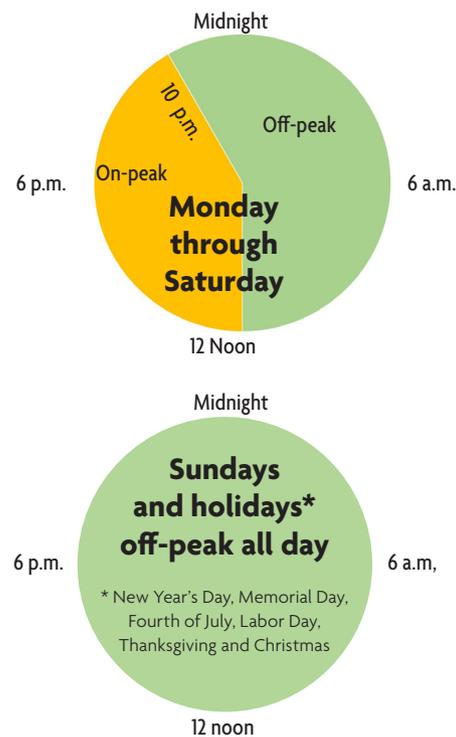
<b>Irrigation Three-Phase, Time-Of-Use Demand</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$48.90/month
On-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.16122/kWh
Off-Peak Energy Charge .....	\$0.04428/kWh
Distribution Demand Charge .....	\$8.00/kWh

<b>Irrigation Three-Phase, All-Energy</b>	
Grid Access Charge .....	\$48.90/month
Energy Charge.....	\$0.11404/kWh

**KWH USE OVER AN HOUR**



The distribution billing demand shall be the maximum average kilowatt load used by the customer for any period of 15 consecutive minutes during the period for which the bill is rendered. The graph above shows the kilowatt-hour usage every minute over an hour. Out of the four 15-minute periods in this hour, the maximum average kilowatt load is 8.3 kilowatts (kW) from 30 minutes past the hour to 45 minutes past the hour.



## Possible Billing Scenarios

EEA Average Residential Member	All-Energy			TOUD		
Grid Access Charge	\$38.00	1	\$38.00	\$32.00	1	\$32.00
Energy Charge	\$0.09599	600	\$57.59			
PCA Charge	\$0.00822	600	\$4.93			
On-Peak kWh				\$0.15115	240	\$36.28
Off-Peak kWh				\$0.04428	360	\$15.94
Maximum kW Demand				\$2.74	5	\$13.70
Monthly Cost			\$100.53			\$97.92

Low Load Factor	All-Energy			TOUD		
Grid Access Charge	\$38.00	1	\$38.00	\$32.00	1	\$32.00
Energy Charge	\$0.09599	350	\$33.60			
PCA Charge	\$0.00822	350	\$2.88			
On-Peak kWh				\$0.15115	140	\$21.16
Off-Peak kWh				\$0.04428	210	\$9.30
Maximum kW Demand				\$2.74	4	\$10.96
Monthly Cost			\$74.47			\$73.42

High Load Factor	All-Energy			TOUD		
Grid Access Charge	\$38.00	1	\$38.00	\$32.00	1	\$32.00
Energy Charge	\$0.09599	2,000	\$191.98			
PCA Charge	\$0.00822	2,000	\$16.44			
On-Peak kWh				\$0.15115	800	\$120.92
Off-Peak kWh				\$0.04428	1200	\$53.14
Maximum kW Demand				\$2.74	10	\$27.40
Monthly Cost			\$246.42			\$233.46

our residential rate class uses today. Keep in mind the all-energy rate has the same kilowatt-hour and power cost adjustment (PCA) charges that are currently in place, but the grid access charge has increased. The TOUD will not initially have a PCA charge because that revenue has been included in the new on- and off-peak kWh charges. In 2022 when we adjust for purchased power revenue requirements there most likely will be a PCA for the TOUD rate.

The rate structure change is revenue neutral or designed so that if consumer-members choose their most economical rate, EEA will collect the same revenue as the prior year. The TOUD rate provides more ways to reduce your bill by modifying your use. For example, a consumer-member on the TOUD rate can save \$6.41 per month by moving 60 kWh of on-peak use to off-peak use. They can do the same work, but at a different time. The same consumer-member on the all-energy rate must eliminate 60 kWh of use to achieve similar savings.

As we move toward the September 1 implementation date, we will continue to provide you with information and tools that will help you decide what rate option you should choose. We are hosting

a question-and-answer forum on April 8 where you can learn more. The forum will be at our Calvin Denton Room with an option to attend virtually. Attendance will be limited to allow for required social distancing. The forum time and virtual information will be available closer to the forum date. Please continue to read our bill messages, check [eea.coop](http://eea.coop) and follow us on social media to find opportunities to gather information and ask questions so you can be ready to take advantage of our rate options come September.

## My Co-op Calendar

### April 4 – Easter

**April 8 – EEA Rate Structure Change Forum.** Limited space for in-person attendance at EEA's Calvin Denton Room or via Zoom. Check [eea.coop](http://eea.coop) or call 970-565-4444 for more information.

**April 9 – EEA's board meeting** begins at 8:30 a.m. at its headquarters in Cortez. The agenda is posted 10 days in advance of the meeting at [eea.coop](http://eea.coop). Members are reminded that public comment is heard at the beginning of the meeting. Meeting restrictions due to health concerns may require the meeting to be held remotely.

### April 12 – Lineman Appreciation Day

### April 22 – Earth Day

EEA's Board of Directors approved edits to the Security Lighting and Overhead Street Lighting tariffs that will become effective May 1, 2021. A summary of the tariff edits is posted on EEA's webpage at [eea.coop](http://eea.coop).

## April 2021 Co-op Photo Contest Winner



▶ **"Cows at Sunset"**  
By Kelby Oliver



HANDLE WITH CARE

# IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT

ON THE FARM

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Irrigation watering pipes are often made of aluminum, a great conductor of electricity.

- When assembling irrigation systems, be extremely careful when handling long sections of pipe.
- Always consider your location and the length of the pipe you are holding.
- Make sure the pipe's long reach will not come near or into contact with power lines.
- If the pipe touches or comes too close to a power line, you could be electrocuted.
- Do not store, handle or assemble irrigation pipes under or near overhead power lines.

Talk to everyone in your family, including kids and teens, about the dangers of moving pipes. Teach irrigation safety to all staff and seasonal workers.

We care about your safety. Please pause and consider all power line locations before starting a job.



**Safe  
Electricity.org**