

Florida Public Service Commission Approves Conservation-Focused Fuel Rates

In November, the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) approved Tampa Electric's petition for an inverted (or tiered) fuel rate for residential customers. Beginning in January, you will pay 6.416 cents per kWh for fuel up to 1,000 kWh, and then 7.416 cents per kWh for usage over 1,000 kWh.

In Tampa Electric's base rate filing with the FPSC, the company has also proposed a tiered base energy rate for its residential customers. If approved by the FPSC, the proposed inverted base energy rate would go into effect in May 2009. This rate structure encourages customers to use energy wisely.

1000 kWh residential bill to rise \$11 less than expected

Starting in January, the bill for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity will

be \$128.44, compared to the original estimate of \$139.25 – almost \$11 less than originally projected. This is due to lower natural gas price projections for 2008 and 2009, as well as a result of our focus on managing our fuel costs. This includes maximizing our use of coal, a less expensive fuel. Other cost-management methods we pursue include competitively bid fuel contracts and a sound hedging program.

Tampa Electric is committed to helping customers manage energy costs through our many energy efficiency programs. You can learn more at tampaelectric.com – click *Residential* and then *Save Energy*.

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Sample fuel rate charges under tiered rate structure

Under Tampa Electric's tiered or inverted rate structure, beginning in January 2009, a residential customer will be billed at the approved first tier rate for usage up to 1,000 kWh, and at the second tier rate for the amount over 1,000 kWh.

The sample fuel charges shown below for 1,250 kWh of usage are solely to illustrate the tiered rate structure and do not represent a customer's entire electric bill. Fuel costs, which are passed through directly to the fuel suppliers with no profit to Tampa Electric, make up nearly half of a customer's electric bill. Other costs included in an electric bill are energy charges*, a customer charge, state taxes and, if applicable, franchise fees and local taxes.

Fuel Usage	Rate	Total Fuel Charge*
1,000 kWh	X 6.416 cents	\$64.16
<u>250 kWh</u>	X 7.416 cents	<u>\$18.54</u>
1,250 kWh		\$82.70

*Energy charges include conservation, environmental and capacity cost recovery charges.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Cool weather energy-saving tips

- Set your heating equipment's thermostat at 70 degrees or lower.
- Keep your heating system serviced and cleaned for maximum efficiency.
- Lower the thermostat on your electric water heater to 120-140 degrees, and install flow-restricting devices in showers and faucets.
- When appropriate, opening blinds on the southern or western exposures of your residence may allow sunlight to provide additional warmth.
- Close fireplace dampers when not in use.
- Change or clean the filter on your heating system monthly.



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tampaelectric.com/saveenergy

STREETLIGHTS

Notify us about a malfunctioning streetlight

Tampa Electric asks all of our customers to notify us if you see a malfunctioning streetlight. You can identify a streetlight by writing down the light's six- or ten-digit ID tag number on the pole. If the light does not have an ID number, Tampa Electric may not own or maintain it. If you can't read the ID number, simply note the street location of the light and the nearest cross street.

After you have the streetlight's ID number or its location, go to the *Lights Out* link at **tampaelectric.com**. Please include your contact information in case we need more information about the light's location. You can also alert us to a malfunctioning streetlight by calling the Customer Care phone number for your area as listed in the gray box on page three of *Open Lines*.

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Helping the community's furry friends

Sharon Espinola, a senior communications specialist in Tampa Electric's Human Resources department, has also, for the past eight years, served as president of Saint Francis



Society Animal Rescue. The nonprofit organization works to save the lives of sick, injured and stray domestic animals. It also spays and neuters animals and provides them with other medical services.

In 2007, Saint Francis Society saved almost 700 animals from euthanasia in the Tampa Bay area. For Espinola, this achievement is part of a bigger mission.

"One sign of a healthy community is that it treats its animals responsibly," she said. "I'm thankful I've had the chance to work with dedicated people who understand the beauty these dogs and cats can bring to the lives of people who are ready and able to love them."

New from Renewable Energy: One-time event option

The St. Pete Times Forum – home to the Tampa Bay Lightning – was the first Tampa Electric customer to take advantage of our new Renewable Energy one-time purchase plan. The Forum powered the Tampa Bay Lightning's Nov. 1 victory over the Ottawa Senators with electricity from natural sources such as the sun and biomass (yard clippings). The same one-time Renewable Energy purchase plan is available to you.

When you sign up for a one-time purchase of Renewable Energy, Tampa Electric provides the required number of 200 kilowatt-hour (kWh) blocks of electricity, generated from renewable sources, for \$5 a block. It's ideal for an event like a convention, civic meeting, expo or wedding – and it's an easy, affordable way to promote your dedication to the environment.

Our Renewable Energy program also offers standard monthly subscriptions of \$5 per 200 kWh

block of electricity. Your participation in Renewable Energy provides the following offsets:

- One block offsets the same amount of carbon dioxide as not driving an average passenger car for three months.
- Three blocks offset the same amount of carbon dioxide as planting an acre and a half of trees.
- Four blocks offset the same amount of carbon dioxide as removing an average passenger car from the road for one year.

Learn more about Renewable Energy and the new one-time purchase initiative at **tampaelectric.com** by clicking *Environmental* and then *Renewable Energy*.

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tampaelectric.com/environmental

WELLNESS TIP

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends effective hand washing as a way to help prevent illness, such as the flu. This includes using warm water, generously applying soap, rubbing hands together for 20 seconds, rinsing hands, using a paper towel to dry your hands, and then using that paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the restroom door.

Source: cdc.gov

To search for job openings, visit **tampaelectric.com** and click *Careers*.

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