

Frequently Asked Questions

What did you file with the PSC?

On Sept. 3, the company filed annual projected costs for fuel and other clauses with the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC). The PSC is expected to vote on the issue after a hearing scheduled to begin Nov. 3. If the PSC approves the request as filed, the average residential customer's monthly bill would be \$105.25 for 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of use, which is less than customers paid in 2018 and 20 percent below national average.

How will it affect customer bills?

If the PSC approves the fuel adjustment request as filed, the average residential customer's monthly bill would be \$105.25 for 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of use, which is less than customers paid in 2018 and 20 percent below national average. It would be an increase of about 8 percent, or \$7.56 per month, compared to current bills, which are lower than typical. Commercial and industrial customers also would see bills increase between 7 percent and 11 percent compared to current bills, depending on usage.

Why do you need to increase bills?

The pandemic initially caused reduced demand for natural gas, which drove prices to historical lows. As demand increases this winter and into 2021 due to an anticipated economic recovery, natural gas prices are expected to increase. Fuel costs are passed through from fuel suppliers to our customers with no markup or profit to Tampa Electric.

The proposed increase is largely the result of rising natural gas prices and the Storm Protection Plan, which will install some power lines underground to increase electric reliability after severe weather. It also includes the addition of a new utility-scale solar project that will come online in January.

Why are you seeking higher bills now, when people still haven't recovered from the pandemic?

The increase would not take effect until January 2021. We know that any increase can be difficult, and we encourage any customer, who is having trouble paying their electric bill, to call us. We work with customers to make payment arrangements, and we can refer them to [social service agencies](#) that may be able to help.

Are there things I can do to help me save energy and money?

Tampa Electric offers more energy-saving programs than other electric company in the state. An [Energy Audit](#) can help you pinpoint specific steps you can take in your home to save energy. With our [Budget Billing](#) program, you can better plan your expense every month by paying an average amount each month, instead of the actual energy cost which can vary from season to season.