

## MANAGER MESSAGE: FACTORS THAT IMPACT ELECTRICITY PRICES



The daily cost of living seems to have increased across the board throughout our state and country.

Just as inflation has

impacted everything, from the price of gasoline to the price of eggs, costs for the fuels required to produce electricity have also risen. This is a timely topic, so I wanted to help explain some of the factors impacting electricity prices (and energy bills) in this month's message.

While there is no short answer, a few key elements impact electricity prices and rates. Some of these factors Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative can manage, some of them you can impact and other factors are beyond our control. So, let me break it down.

There are two primary parts to your monthly electric bill: a base charge and an energy consumption or kilowatt-hour (kWh) charge. To understand your total energy costs and what impacts your bill, let's unpack one piece at a time.

The first is a fixed monthly base charge, which covers the

costs associated with providing electricity to your home. This includes equipment, materials, labor and operating costs necessary to serve each meter in Mor-Gran-Sou Electric's service territory, regardless of the amount of energy used.

To ensure the reliable service you expect and deserve, we must maintain the local system, including power lines, substations and other necessary equipment. Like many other businesses, we've experienced supply chain issues and steep cost increases for some of our basic equipment. For example, the cost for a distribution transformer (which looks like a long metal can at the top of a power pole) increased from \$1,000 in 2021 to \$1,500 this year, and wait times to receive this essential equipment are up to 20 weeks or longer.

Because we are a not-for-profit cooperative, some of these expenses must be passed on to our members. I should note the base charge is the same for everyone in the rate class and the costs are shared equally across the membership in that rate class.

Another component of your monthly bill is the kWh charge, which covers how much energy you consume. You've likely noticed the amount of energy you use can

vary from month to month and is typically impacted by extreme temperatures. When temperatures soar or dip, your cooling or heating equipment operates longer, which increases your home energy use. Regardless, energy consumption is an area you have some control over, and you can lower your monthly bill by actively reducing energy use. Your thermostat is a great place to start, experts suggest to keep it close to 78 degrees during summer months and 68 degrees in the cooler months.

I hope this information sheds light on some of the factors impacting electricity prices. While we can't control the weather or the rising costs of fuels, please know Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is doing everything possible to keep internal costs down.

We're here to help you, too. Contact us if you have questions about your energy bill or for advice on how to save energy at home.

### Mor-Gran-Sou Electric

202 6th Ave. W. – P.O. Box 297  
Flasher, ND 58535-0297  
701-597-3301 | 701-663-0297  
1-800-750-8212  
info@morgransou.com

**Underground Line Locates**  
Toll-free: 1-800-795-0555 or 811

### Officers and Directors

Chair..... Steve Tomac  
Vice Chair..... Chad Harrison  
Secretary-Treasurer..... Pam Geiger

### Directors:

Mark Doll, Rodney Froelich,  
Bob J. Leingang, Ryan Petrick,  
Kathy Tokach, Casey Wells

### Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Travis Kupper  
Jason Bentz



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# HOW TO READ YOUR NEW BILLING STATEMENT

**A** Informational and account level messaging can be found here. Examples include the message listed in this bill sample, annual meeting dates, and other important information.

**B** The total account balance bubble features an account balance as well as the due date, or autopay date.

**C** The bill summary contains the billing date, when the current charges are due, the previous balance, when a payment was received, any past due balance, the current charges for this billing period, and the total account balance.

**D** This table details specific meter information including which rate class the meter is in, the meter number, reading dates, the previous kWh reading, current kWh reading, multiplier, and the usage for the billing period.

**E** A demand reading on an electric bill indicates the highest amount of power (kW) used by a member during a specific time, often measured in 15 or 30-minute intervals.

**F** This chart details the past 13 months of usage and the monthly high and low temperatures throughout those months. Usage is represented with the grey and green bars, and temperature is shown as red (high) and blue (low) lines.

**G** Here, you'll discover information about your current service, including a breakdown of charges.

**H** A new, key feature of the bill is the energy usage timeline that details the kWh usage and the number of days calculated for this month. In the next bubble members can compare their usage quickly with how much kWh they used last month, and then a yearly comparison with this month last year.

**I** If you're paying by check, tear off and send in this section so a member service representative knows which account to credit.

**Important Messages**  
Your 2022 Capital Credit Allocation is: \$1,723.33.

**Total Due**  
**\$608.34**  
Due Date: 07/20/2023

**Member Name:** JOHN DOE  
**Account #:** 00000000  
**Billing Date:** 07/05/2023  
**Current Bill Due Date:** 07/20/2023  
Previous Balance \$592.78  
Payment Received -\$592.78  
Balance Forward \$0.00  
Current Charges \$608.34  
Total Due 07/20/2023 \$608.34

Rate	Meter No.	Reading Date From	Reading Date To	Previous Reading	Current Reading	Multiplier	kWh Usage	Demand Usage kW
831	54321	05/31/2023	06/30/2023	1204	1255	80	4080	17.200

**Current Service Detail**  
Meter # 1135 2147113332M  
Basic Charge \$100.00  
kWh Charge 4,000 kWh @ 0.1150 \$460.00  
kW Charge 80 kW @ 0.0680 \$5.44  
kW Charge 15.0 kW @ 0.0000 \$0.00  
kW Charge 2.2 kW @ 19.5000 \$42.90  
Total This Service \$608.34  
Total Current Charges \$608.34

**Energy Usage Comparison**  
This Month: 4,000 kWh / 30 days  
Last Month: 3,500 kWh / 31 days  
This Month Last Year: 4,320 kWh / 30 days  
Avg Daily Use: 136 kWh  
Avg Daily Cost: \$20.28  
Avg Daily High: 72°F

Account Number	Total Due 07/20/2023	Amount Due After 07/20/2023
00000000	\$608.34	\$617.47

Visit us at: [www.morgransou.com](http://www.morgransou.com)  
Contact us at: (701) 597-3301  
8:00 - 4:30 CT Mon-Fri (701) 663-0297  
Email Address: info@morgransou.com (800) 750-8212

5 02 1 AV 0.498 5 502  
JOHN DOE  
123 ANYWHERE ST  
MORRIS MANOR ND 00000-0000

*The above example bill is subject to minor changes.*

More information and details can be found on your SmartHub account.

