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# SCE Provides 2010 Rate Estimates for Business Customers

At the Fall Electricity Outlook sessions held in October, Southern California Edison (SCE) business customers learned that SCE rates are expected to increase in 2010, but not as much as initially expected. The lower-than-anticipated increase is mainly due to a continued decline in prices of natural gas, which makes up approximately half of SCE's energy portfolio.

Current projections indicate a system-wide average rate of 14.8¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh) in the first quarter of 2010, which would mark a 4.1% increase over rates that took effect in October 2009. Projected first-quarter 2010 rates by segment include:

- **Average Small and Medium Power:**  
15.7¢/kWh (increase of 4.4% from October 2009)
- **Average Large Power:**  
11.3¢ (increase of 3.2% from October 2009)
- **Average Agricultural and Pumping:**  
12.0¢ (increase of 3.1% from October 2009)
- **Average Street and Area Lighting:**  
19.7¢ (increase of 1.1% from October 2009)

Direct access (DA) customers are projected to see a first-quarter 2010 system-wide rate of 4.3¢/kWh on the SCE component of their bill, representing a 19.6% increase over October 2009 rates.

Upcoming regulatory filings could affect these rate changes, and individual customers' rates will vary, so contact your account representative to discuss your specific situation as 2010 draws closer.

## Energy Efficiency Updates: Expanded Savings Opportunities

SCE wants to help you reduce your energy usage, costs and your carbon footprint. We provide detailed rate analyses to assist you in making the best possible decisions for your business, and continue to offer a wide array of energy-efficiency and demand response programs and services to help you manage your electricity bills and improve your bottom line.

In September 2009, the California Public Utilities Commission issued a landmark final decision that adopts SCE's 2010-2012 energy-efficiency portfolio. The approved portfolio represents the largest investment in energy efficiency in SCE's history—a \$1.2 billion investment that will provide more than 4.7 billion kWh of annual energy savings and 975 megawatts of demand reduction, resulting in \$2.6 billion in benefits to our customers.

For current information on SCE energy-efficiency and demand response offerings, visit [www.sce.com/b-rs/rebates-savings.htm](http://www.sce.com/b-rs/rebates-savings.htm). Also, contact your account representative to learn how SCE can assist you into next year and beyond with expanded solutions tailored to meet your energy management needs.

The Power Bulletin newsletter is meant to be an aid in understanding programs and incentives administered by SCE to help your business reduce energy. Programs and incentives covered in this newsletter are subject to funding availability and policy changes. Please consult your account representative for more information on any incentives/programs mentioned in this issue.

## Express Efficiency Program Rebates

There's still time this year to take advantage of SCE's Express Efficiency Program, which offers business customers cash rebates toward the purchase and installation of qualified equipment that improves facilities' energy efficiency.

It's quick and easy to participate and obtain your rebate:

1. Purchase and install the qualified equipment, then
2. Complete and submit SCE's Business Incentives and Services Application.

Rebates are offered on a per-item basis and available up to 100% of the total measure cost.

You can find a list of qualified measures—covering lighting, air conditioning, food service equipment, refrigeration, agricultural equipment and premium efficiency motors—along with the application and additional information, at [www.sce.com/ExpressEfficiency](http://www.sce.com/ExpressEfficiency).

Submit your application today! For questions and assistance, contact your account representative.

## Demand Response Update:

### Interruptible Program Adjustment Window

The annual adjustment window for SCE customers on interruptible rates—the Time-of-Use Base Interruptible Program (TOU-BIP) and the Agricultural Pumping and Interruptible Program (AP-I)—will take place Nov. 1-Dec. 1, 2009.

If you're on TOU-BIP, during this time you can:

- Remain on the program with no changes
- Change your participation option (15-minute or 30-minute notification)
- Decrease or increase your Firm Service Level (requests for decreases may be placed on a waiting list)
- Terminate your TOU-BIP service and switch to another optional rate schedule and/or another demand response program
- Switch to a third-party aggregator's demand response program or a demand response contract
- Terminate your TOU-BIP service and return to your Otherwise Applicable Tariff

Updates: Effective Dec. 1, 2009, the maximum duration of TOU-BIP events goes from four to six hours and TOU-BIP penalties increase. On Oct. 1, 2009, summer credits increased, while winter credits decreased.

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For AP-I customers, you can:

- Remain on the rate with no changes
- Terminate your AP-I service and switch to another optional rate schedule and/or another demand response program
- Switch to a third-party aggregator's demand response program or a demand response contract
- Terminate your AP-I service and return to your Otherwise Applicable Tariff

*Updates:* Effective Oct. 1, 2009, AP-I credits differ for accounts on Time-of-Use and non-Time-of-Use Rates.

If you do terminate TOU-BIP or AP-I service, it may take longer to re-enroll at a later date. The California Public Utilities Commission recently ruled that these programs are capped at current levels, so new enrollment requests will be placed on a waiting list.

Review the annual adjustment window packet you received in October for details. If you did not receive a packet, or have any questions on your choices or rate program changes, contact your account representative immediately.

## GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONS SEGMENT FOCUS

### Meadowbrook Dairy Works With SCE to Crop Energy Usage

The Meadowbrook Dairy, based in El Mirage, Calif. (near Adelanto), takes an aggressive approach to energy savings that helps reduce its operational costs and showcases its commitment to resource stewardship.

With two locations covering about 2,000 acres, most of it used for alfalfa hay and related crops, the dairy pumps a significant amount of groundwater. So, every year, it uses SCE's no-cost groundwater pump test program to identify pump and motor units operating at a low efficiency level.

Dairy owner Eddie Imsand said that when a well goes below 55% efficiency, he knows it's time to take steps to get it back to the 60%-70% level so he's not wasting energy. That's where SCE's Agricultural Energy Efficiency Program can come in. Through the program, Meadowbrook has replaced pumps for several wells and installed pump variable speed drives, receiving nearly \$11,000 in incentives and saving approximately 135,500 kilowatt-hours.

"There's definitely electricity savings over time with more efficient pumps and more efficient wells," Imsand noted.

### Reusing Water, Saving Energy

The dairy also partnered with SCE through the Standard Performance Contract Program to install cooling towers as part of an overall cooling system that, Imsand said, allows the dairy to recycle water and reduce the amount pumped from the ground daily by some 40,000 gallons—the size of a large swimming pool.

In fact, Imsand added, the dairy uses the same water for several different operations, including for a cow wash tank, a cow flush tank, in a digester and for irrigation, with solids separated out after each step. The dairy also has installed variable frequency drives for milk, vacuum and cold water pumps to assist with greater cooling efficiency.

"Water is the critical resource we have in the desert," Imsand said. "The cooling towers help us cut down on resource usage."

To save further, the dairy participates in SCE's Agricultural and Pumping Interruptible (AP-I) Program, which offers a year-round monthly credit for temporarily interrupting electric service when load reductions are needed. *(Note: New agreements for AP-I are currently being placed on a waiting list due to a recent California Public Utilities Commission decision establishing a cap on megawatts of existing interruptible programs.)*



Meadowbrook Dairy uses a plug-flow digester (with the covered digester tank shown here) to generate electricity from cow manure. The digester connects to the electrical system through SCE's Net Metering Program.

### Offsetting Energy Costs On-Site

Meadowbrook used grant funding, including from the California Energy Commission, to install a plug-flow digester that generates electricity and captures greenhouse gas emissions from cow manure, as, Imsand said, "another part of trying to manage a dairy and utilize the nutrients we have to their fullest extent."

According to Imsand, the digester—one of fewer than a dozen in operation in California—has generated over 4 million kilowatt-hours over three-and-a-half years. The digester connects to the electrical system through SCE's Net Metering Program, and Imsand said it has helped offset the dairy's electric bill by more than 50%. It typically operates during high-peak periods, reducing demand on the overall electrical system.

Imsand credited SCE and account executive Caroline Lee for being "fantastic" in helping the dairy make its energy use more efficient, given that's one key factor he can control in his daily operations. He added that it's important to continue to focus on smart use of resources to remain viable for the future.

"We felt that we needed to show that we want to be good stewards of the environment and to be sustainable. That's been a lot of our focus. The only way we're going to stay in business as an industry is to take the long-term approach."

To learn more about how you also can benefit from SCE's wide array of energy management programs and services, contact your account representative or visit [www.sce.com/b-rs/large-business/](http://www.sce.com/b-rs/large-business/).