

# **Customer** Connection

Please visit us at www.sce.com

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# Southern California Edison's Electric Rate Options

Below are brief descriptions of various rate options for Southern California Edison's (SCE's) residential customers

SCE provides these descriptions to help customers understand what rate options are available to help manage monthly electric bills. Your current rate is listed at the top of your electric bill. Your bill separates the costs of generation and costs related to the delivery of electricity. The charges for generation include costs related to the operation of SCE's electric generating plants, plus the cost of purchasing power from other sources. In addition, generation charges include the cost of electricity obtained through the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). Minor adjustments in the charges on your electric bill from month to month reflect adjustments in the amount of electricity being provided by the DWR. The DWR buys electricity for California utility customers under long-term power purchase contracts. Eligibility requirements, terms and conditions apply and may vary for each rate. Please refer to SCE's Tariff Books for a complete list of terms and conditions of service at www.sce.com/tariffbooks.

For complete details and specific pricing, please visit **www.sce.com/rateoptions**, or call us at **1-800-655-4555** to see if you qualify for one of the optional energy and money-saving rates below.

#### **RATE SCHEDULES**

**Domestic (D):** This rate schedule serves domestic customers and is applicable to those who live in single-family dwellings (houses, townhouses, condominiums, apartments, rental units, manufactured houses or mobile homes) with cooking facilities and their own separate electric meters. Schedule D has a lower energy rate for all electricity used up to the Baseline\* amount. Energy used up to this point is considered Tier 1. Electricity used above Baseline (Tier 2 through Tier 5) is priced higher. Schedule D also has a daily "basic charge" that is independent of the energy charges, and covers a portion of costs for services such as meter reading and customer billing.

#### \* Baseline

"Baseline" refers to a specific amount of energy allocated to residential customers that is charged at a lower price than energy used in excess of that amount. California's regulated energy utilities are mandated to allocate a basic Baseline quantity to each residential customer, based upon that customer's geographic area, the season (winter or summer), and whether the customer has a single source of energy (i.e., if customer's home is "all electric") or a combination of gas and electric ("basic" service). The electricity consumed each month is priced across five tiers. Energy usage in Tier 1 is charged at the lowest possible rate, or Baseline rate. As usage increases and moves into Tiers 2, 3, 4 and 5, the price for energy in each tier is charged at a higher rate. Customers can check the "Details of Your Current Charges" section of their bills to see what tier their usage falls into each month.

Medical Baseline is an additional allowance of kilowatt hours (kWh) charged at the Baseline rate, and is available to customers or their household members who require the regular use of electrical life support or essential medical equipment, or have a qualifying illness. The standard Medical Baseline allocation is 16.5 kWh per day, in addition to the daily Baseline allocation residential customers receive.

Schedule D customers may be eligible for other pricing options that could further lower their electric bills, such as:

Domestic - California Alternate Rates for Energy (Schedule D-CARE): This program provides reduced rates for income-qualified customers. Schedule D-CARE rates are an average of 20 percent lower

than rates contained in Schedule D. Household income must be at or less than the CARE income guidelines, defined as 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Qualifying income guidelines are listed on the CARE application. This rate may also be applicable on other residential rate schedules.

Domestic - Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA): This program offers a discounted rate to qualified households. There must be a minimum of three or more persons residing in a household and the total household income must be at or less than 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Tier 3 kWh (usage exceeding baseline by 131 percent or more) will be billed at Tier 2 rates. Qualifying income guidelines are shown on the FERA application. FERA is not available to CARE customers.

**Net Energy Metering (NEM, BG-NEM, and FC-NEM):** These rates serve those who generate electricity to offset part or all of the electricity normally provided by SCE. A customer must produce electricity with a generating facility using biogas, fuel cell, solar, wind, or a hybrid system comprised of solar and wind turbines. The NEM customer's NEM-eligible generating *(continued on back page)* 

## **Holiday Safety Reminders**



As you begin preparing for the holiday season, we remind you to follow these important safety tips:

- Do not use decorative lighting with frayed cords and wires, broken fuses or broken lightbulbs.
- Use only Underwriters
  Laboratories (UL) approved
  lighting and extension cords.
- Plug no more than three strands of lights into each electrical cord/outlet.
- Keep live trees watered and keep watering pans away from electrical cords.
- Never use lighted candles on or near holiday trees or decorations.
- Remember to unplug decorative lights when you leave home and before going to bed.

We wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season. For more safety tips, please visit **www.sce.com/safety**.



# **Online Billing**

The most convenient way to receive your SCE bill

Visit <u>www.sce.com/mybill</u> to sign up!

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facility must be sized at 1,000 kW or less. Customers must execute a Net Energy Metering contract prior to receiving service under one of these rate schedules.

**Direct Access Service (DA):** As of September 20, 2001, the right of retail customers to obtain Direct Access (DA) service from other electricity providers was suspended by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). This option was available to customers who elected to purchase electric power and ancillary services through a direct transaction with an Energy Service Provider (ESP). SCE was ordered not to accept requests for DA service for any contracts executed, or arrangements entered into, after September 20, 2001.

#### **Bundled Service Customer Interval Meter Ownership (BSC-IMO):**

This option is available to Bundled Service customers (BSC) [those whose electric power, transmission, distribution, billing, metering and related services are provided by SCE] who replace an existing meter or install retrofit metering facilities in accordance with Schedule CC-DSF. Meter reading services and billing services under this schedule are provided solely by SCE. A BSC is a customer who is not served under DA.

Customer Choice Discretionary Service Fees (CC-DSF): This rate is available to customers who are already on the DA and BSC rates and purchasing metering services, electing a rate option that requires the use of interval metering facilities, or requesting interval metering and/or metering facilities in substitution for, or in addition to, standard facilities.

#### Apartment Building, Mobile Home, RV Park Customers

**Domestic Multi-family (DM):** This rate option applies to service to multi-family buildings with a single SCE meter, such as:

- Apartment buildings and duplexes constructed on or before June 13, 1978; and
- Residential hotels and qualifying RV parks.

Multi-family accommodations built prior to December 7, 1981 and served under this rate schedule may also be eligible for service under Schedule DMS-1. The rate schedules below are available when a single SCE meter serves multiple residences, and each single-family accommodation has a submeter provided by a landlord who owns and reads each submeter and bills the tenant(s) the same rates that SCE would have charged if the tenant(s) had an SCE meter and was or were directly billed by SCE. The submeter is used to measure and bill for electricity used by the occupants of each single-family accommodation separately.

Domestic Service Multi-family Accommodation – Submetered (DMS-1): This rate is for multi-family buildings with submeters. DMS-1 is closed to new construction as of December 7, 1981, but any building constructed for or converted to residential use prior to December 7, 1981, or served on Schedule DM prior to December 7, 1981 or any non-residential building converted to residential use after December 7, 1981 for which the conversion did not require a building permit, is eligible to take service under DMS-1 if submeters are installed in the building.

Domestic Service Multi-family Accommodation – Submetered (DMS-2): This option is available for mobile home parks or manufactured housing communities on a single premise with individually submetered units. DMS-2 is closed to new installations for which construction commenced after January 1, 1997.

Domestic Service Multi-family Accommodation – Submetered (DMS-3): This option is for RV parks where the spaces in the entire park, or all the RV spaces in a specific section of the park, are occupied by RV units used as permanent residences; reserved for prepaid month-to-month tenants; and submetered.

Multi-family Affordable Solar Housing Virtual Net Metering (MASH-VNM): This rate is applicable to qualified customers whose bundled service account(s) are located at a residential complex on the same premises where an eligible generator is installed, and where the owner

or operator of the complex has a contract with SCE for all eligible energy produced from the generator to be supplied to SCE to give allocated credits [in kilowatt hours (kWh)] to the residential complex's common area and/or tenant service accounts to offset energy usage. The owner or operator is also eligible for up-front incentives. This rate is available on a first-come, first-served basis until the first of the following events occurs: 1) the total rated generating capacity of generators participating under NEM and MASH-VNM exceeds 2.5 percent of SCE's aggregate system peak demand; 2) December 31, 2015; or 3) all funds available from the Multi-family Affordable Solar Housing (MASH) budget have been allocated.

For more information about any of our rate options, please call **1-800-655-4555**, visit our Web site at <u>www.sce.com/rateoptions</u>, or write to:

#### Southern California Edison

Consumer Affairs, G.O.1, Quad 2A P.O. Box 800 Rosemead, CA 91770.

Para solicitar una copia en español de esta notificación, por favor escriba a:

#### Southern California Edison

P.O. Box 800, G.O. 1, Quad 4A Rosemead, CA 91770

á la atención de Communicaciones Corporativas, o visita www.sce.com/avisos.

### **Strengthening Our Distribution Grid**

As part of our commitment to providing reliable electric service, SCE is upgrading and expanding Southern California's local electricity grid to maintain long-term reliability while building a smarter, cleaner and more efficient energy future for our customers.

This investment includes upgrades by SCE to our local distribution network that serves portions of the city of Diamond Bar and the city of Compton.

The Diamond Bar project consists of two phases. In early 2008, SCE completed an upgrade of our electric system serving the central part of the city. The remaining phase will be completed in late 2009. The upgrade will allow for additional circuit capacity and improve the operational capabilities of SCE equipment. When completed, the project will include the installation or replacement of three miles of underground cable and other underground equipment.

In July, SCE completed upgrading our electric system serving a residential area in Compton by replacing old and undersized electrical conductors with ones that have a much larger capacity, and by upgrading the equipment that supports them. SCE crews replaced approximately 1,800 feet of electrical line and two poles, installed switching equipment, and upgraded supporting hardware on 19 overhead poles.

The improvements will help minimize the likelihood of unanticipated service interruptions for residents and business owners within the city of Diamond Bar and the city of Compton, in addition to meeting future electrical demands within the cities.

Through 2013, SCE will invest \$9.7 billion to strengthen our systemwide distribution grid to ensure our customers continue to receive affordable, reliable power. In the process, SCE is creating one of the nation's most advanced grids including exploring emerging technologies that promise greater reliability, longer equipment life and reduced customer costs.

To learn more about SCE's infrastructure investments, visit <a href="https://www.sce.com/smartergrid">www.sce.com/smartergrid</a>.