

WHAT DRIVES SUMMER ELECTRIC RATES?

When the temperature soars, your energy bill often does too.
But what's really behind those higher summer rates?

THE HEAT IS ON

Summer's warm weather means your air conditioner and other cooling systems work overtime to keep your home comfortable. This extra effort requires a lot of electricity, driving up the overall demand across the region. When demand surges, the price SEI REMC pays for wholesale electricity also rises, especially during peak hours when everyone is using energy at the same time.

THE GRID FEELS IT TOO

Think of the electric grid like a busy highway. On hot days, everyone's appliances are "driving" at once. Power plants have to produce more electricity, and sometimes that means bringing on additional, more expensive generators to meet the need. The grid itself also has to handle the extra load, which can require extra maintenance and upgrades to ensure everything keeps running smoothly. All of this adds up to higher costs for your cooperative and, ultimately, for you.

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Take steps to manage your energy use and keep your bills in check:

- Turn your thermostat up a few degrees and use fans to circulate cool air
- Close curtains and blinds during the hottest part of the day to block out heat
- Unplug devices that aren't in use to reduce "phantom" energy use
- Use heat-generating appliances, like ovens and dryers, in the cooler early morning or evening hours

SEI REMC also offers a range of programs and rebates designed to help you save energy and money. From load management options to incentives for energy-efficient appliances, there's something for everyone. Explore these programs at www.seiremc.com/programs and find out how you can keep your home comfortable and your bills manageable all summer long.

