

# THE INNOVATOR

Denison Municipal Utilities

January, 2017

## ELECTRIC RATE INFORMATION

On December 19, 2016 the DMU Board of Trustees approved a 2% increase in electric kWh rates that will be effective for the first utility billing following February 1, 2017. This notice provides additional information regarding the rate changes. The change in electric rates **did not** change the monthly customer charge, monthly cost of security lights, demand charges for large commercial customers, the power cost adjustment base factor, the credits allowed for controlled residential water heaters and air conditioning or the credits allowed for commercial controlled central air, water heaters, electric heat or controlled heat pumps.

The decision to change rates is never an easy one. Please be assured that the DMU Board of Trustees has made the decision based on keeping the DMU electric utility financially sound. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the increase in electric, we encourage you to call our offices at 712-263-4154. Thank you for continued confidence in DMU!

### ELECTRIC

Customer Class	Rate Components	Current Rates	February 2017 Rates
Residential (R-1)	Energy Charge per kWh: June—August	0.0800	0.08160
	September– May	0.0660	0.06732
Residential Controlled Heat (R-2M)	Energy Charge per kWh: June—August	0.0800	0.08160
	September– May	0.0610	0.06222
Commercial (C-1)	Energy Charge per kWh: June—August	0.0770	0.07854
	September– May	0.0625	0.06375
Commercial Controlled Heat (C-1M)	Energy Charge per kWh: June—August	0.0770	0.07854
	September– May	0.0575	0.05865
Large Commercial (ILU –1) Over 50 kW	Energy Charge per kWh: All Months	0.036	0.03672
	Rate Cap per kWh: All Months	0.100	0.110

### Saving Energy this winter on your electric bill.

- 1. Use the sun for free heat.** Open the curtains on your south-facing windows during winter days to bring free heat into your home. Close your window coverings when the sun goes down to keep the heat inside.
- 2. Adjust the thermostat at night.** According to the U.S. Department of Energy, you can save about 10 percent per year on your heating bills by turning your thermostat down 10 to 15 degrees for eight hours.
- 3. Only heat the rooms you use.** If you have rooms that you never use, like guest rooms or large storage areas, close and seal off the vents in those rooms to be more energy efficient and direct the flow of air to the rooms you use most.
- 4. Seal up the leaks.** Caulk leaks around windows and doors. Look for places where you have pipes, vents or electrical conduits that go through the wall, ceiling or floor. Check the bathroom, underneath the kitchen sink, pipes inside a closet, etc. If you find a gap at the point where the pipe or vents goes through the wall, seal it up.

### Email or Text Alerts for Customers participating in the Load Management programs offered by DMU

DMU has the ability to send an email or text alert to participating customers when the load management system becomes active if we have an email address or a cell phone number associated with your utility account.



This message would let you know the system is active and potentially save a phone call to your friendly electrician or plumber. Please let the DMU Business Office know if you are interested in receiving messages from DMU.

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DMU customers can now pay their bill through an Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) offered by Payment Services Network (PSN) for DMU.

Customers can dial 1-877-885-7968 to pay their bill anytime.

If the IVR system cannot locate your account information, you will be directed to a PSN Customer Service Representative.

The IVR system does have an option to hear the instructions in Spanish.



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**We're on the  
Web!**  
[www.dmuonline.com](http://www.dmuonline.com)

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"This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider and  
employer."



**DENISON MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**  
"Essentials For Life."

# It's all about energy.

**Bright Energy Solutions® provides rebates for installing energy-efficient equipment in your home - like lighting, furnaces, programmable thermostats and ENERGY STAR® appliances.**



Get a rebate application from your retailer or DMU office or at [brightenergysolutions.com](http://brightenergysolutions.com). You can apply online, or print and mail your application to your utility.



## How to prevent frozen Pipes and water meters.

Wicked winter weather can cause plumbing pipes to freeze and possibly burst, causing flooding and costly water damage plus a high water bill. Taking preventive measures can reduce and eliminate the risk of frozen pipes.

Pipes most at risk for freezing include: Exposed pipes in unheated areas of the home; Pipes located in exterior walls; Any plumbing on the exterior of the home.

Installing inexpensive foam pipe insulation is usually enough for moderately cold climates.

### Heading South for the Winter?

For folks leaving their houses for an extended period of time in winter, additional preventive measures must be taken to adequately protect the home from frozen pipes.

- ◆ Make sure the furnace is set no lower than 55 degrees.
- ◆ Shut off the main water supply and drain the system by opening all faucets and flushing the toilets.
- ◆ Call DMU to shut off the water at the curb box.

## College scholarships available



DMU in conjunction with Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) will be awarding scholarships this spring. The materials will be available in January with applications due in March. Any high school student whose parents are electric customers of DMU are eligible.

To encourage students to choose a career in electric line work and to then seek employment with municipal utilities, MRES is also offering one-time \$1,000 scholarships per year to a qualified student taking the Electrical Line Worker Program. This is for students entering the program at one of the following colleges: Minnesota West Community & Tech College, Northwest Iowa Community College, Mitchell Tech Institute, Minnesota State Community & Tech College, Dakota County Tech College. The scholarship needs to be used for tuition, books, and/or tools and supplies. For this particular scholarship, the students applying are not required to be electric customers of DMU. The scholarship is a one-time award only, students may not reapply.

More than thirty students from MRES member communities currently are benefiting from these programs, and we look forward to helping more students this spring.

Scholarship forms can be picked up at the Denison High School Counselors Office or for more information call our office at 712-263-4154.