

Energizing your lives

It seems simple, really. You flip the switch in your living room and the lights come on. Getting that electricity to you, though, is a complicated, expensive process. It is one in which we take great pride in providing to you virtually every minute of every hour of every day of every month.

Your current electric bills consist of three main parts. A **facility charge** that covers a portion of the costs associated with actually being able to provide you with electricity. This line item is similar in nature to the monthly access fee you pay on your phone bill.

The **energy charge** is a lumped together, per kilowatt/hour amount that includes the wholesale costs of producing energy, transmitting it from the power plants to our substations, distributing it throughout our system to your home or business, and even some of our fixed costs.

Finally, we have a **power cost adjustment** that allows for the month-to-month variations in the cost of producing electricity.

Because we have seen changes in how our wholesale power provider, Prairie Power, Inc., charges us, and with our investment in a new power plant in southern Illinois, now seems like a good time to restructure our rates so that what - and how - we are charging you better reflects how things are actually billed and expensed.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the coming months, we will begin highlighting new rates which will take effect in April of next year. The main goal in our rate restructuring plan is to offer you rates that better reflect the current energy marketplace and make it easier for you to understand what you are actually paying each month.

Instead of putting many types of charges together into a larger amount (like the energy charge above), we will soon unbundle your monthly bills. Line items on your unbundled bills may include the following: facility; delivery; generation; energy; and transmission.

I know that list seems a bit overwhelming, but please know that you are already paying these charges in your bundled bill. One of our main goals with this rate restructuring plan is to make it as easy as possible for you to understand the rates you pay for your electricity.

In the coming months we will have more information about this plan available to you, and we will also offer several member meetings throughout our service territory to explain things in more detail.

Dave Champion

Eastern Illini's President/CEO

Wishing you, our member/owners, a

Merry Christmas

and a **BRIGHT** holiday season filled with wonder and joy!



Holiday Hours: Our Paxton office will be closed Dec. 24, 25, and 31 so our employees can spend the holidays with their families.

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