COOPERATIVE MEMBERS,

We are a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative and we strive every day to hold down costs while still providing the safe and reliable service you expect.

Unfortunately, the macroeconomic environment over the past few years continues to put upward pressure on our operating costs, and we need to implement our first rate increase since 2017.

We don't take this rate increase lightly and have done everything possible to minimize its impact on you, our member-owners. However, to continue providing safe and reliable service, we will implement an 8 percent rate increase that will take effect during the March billing cycle.

As your cooperative, we are committed to minimizing the impact of increasing power costs on your household. Contact us to learn how to save more energy throughout your home and also to learn more about our energy efficiency rebates, incentives and loans.

This handout is intended to answer your questions about the increase, but if you have additional questions, please give us a call or stop by one of our offices.





RATE INCREASE Q&A

- When was Southeastern Electric's last rate increase?
- A Our last rate increase was in 2017. (7 years ago).
- Why are rates increasing?
- A The rate increase is attributed to the current macroeconomic environment, including:
 - The higher interest rate environment will add about \$1 million in additional interest rate expense next year.
 - High inflation increasing our operating expenses.
 - Continued investments to reliably generate and deliver power to cooperative members affected power costs.
- Q How much will rates increase?
- A 8 percent. For an average household using 1,200 kWh, that would mean an additional \$9-\$13 per month.
- When will my bill change?
- A The change will appear on your monthly statements effective January 1, 2017.
- How will this rate increase affect the co-op's profits?
- A We are a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative. We exist to serve our members with safe and reliable power and any margins (profits) we receive are invested into the electric system or returned to you in the form of capital credits.
- What can I do to mangage my bill?
- A There are several ways to manage your energy use. Learn ways to save energy at: southeasternelectric. com/energy-resources. You can also contact us to learn more about our energy efficiency rebates, incentives and loans.



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Read more about the rate increase online: southeasternelectric.com

