

# Exploring Time-of-Use Rates



An interactive guide to saving **energy** and **money**.

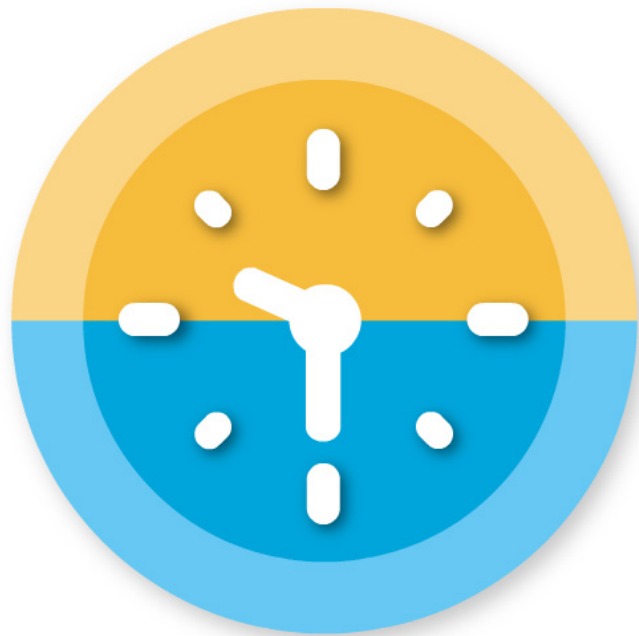


Together, Building  
a Better California



# Time-of-Use

One plan, many benefits.



Time-of-use rate plans provide businesses like yours with the opportunity to save money. With Time-of-Use, your electricity rates will be higher during weekday summer afternoons when the demand peaks. And your rates will be lower at all other times.

PG&E is implementing time-of-use rate plans at the direction of the California Public Utilities Commission. **By aligning prices with the cost of generating electricity at various times of the day, time-of-use rates:**

- **Ensure more reliable power**
- **Benefit the environment**
- **May help you lower your energy bills**



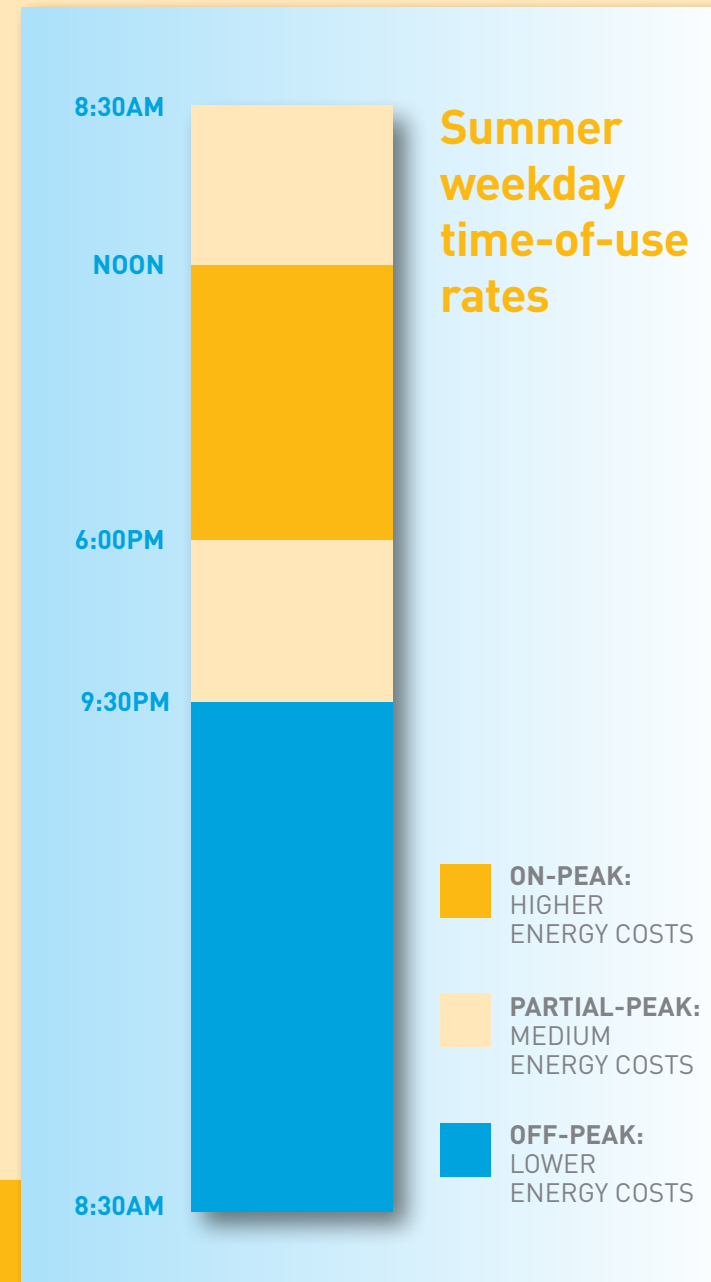
## Planning your summer energy use will save you money.

From May 1 to October 31, there are three different rates in effect on weekdays, depending on the time of day.

- On-peak rates, which are noon to 6 p.m. on weekdays, are higher.
- Partial-peak rates are in effect from 8:30 a.m. to noon, and 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., each weekday.
- Off-peak rates are the lowest, and they're in effect from 9:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. every weekday and all day on weekends.

The chart at the right shows how the rates change over the course of a summer weekday.

[SEE INTERACTIVE CHART](#)





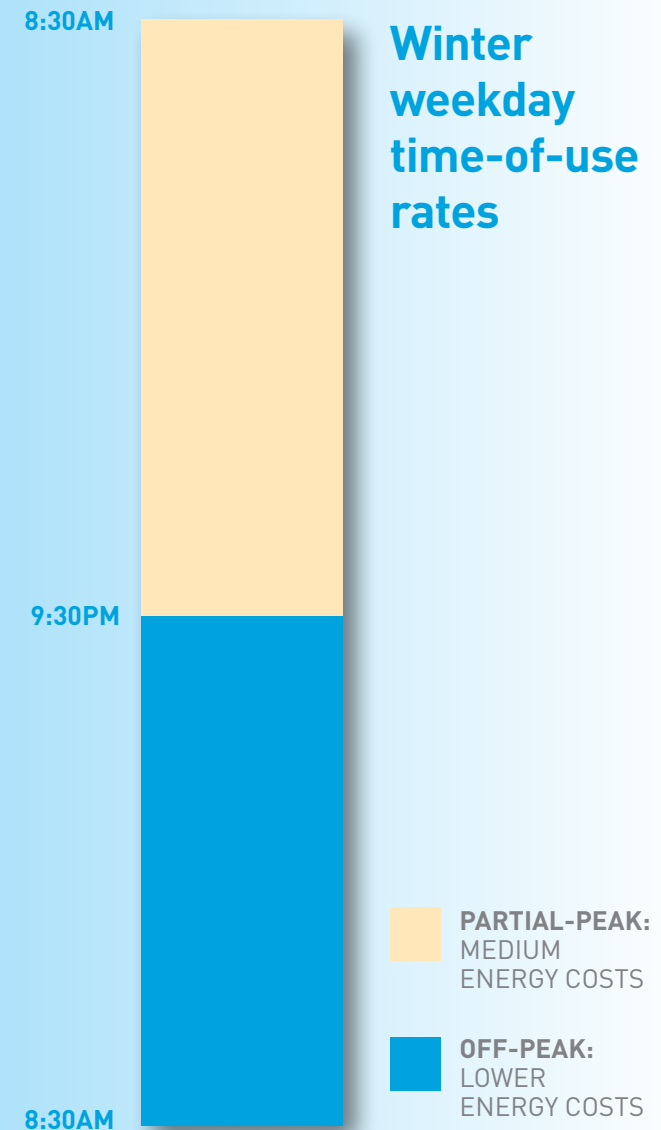
## Cut costs by making informed choices about winter energy use.

From November 1 through April 30, there are two different rates in effect on weekdays, depending on the time of day.

- Partial-peak rates are in effect from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., each weekday. This is the higher of the two rates.
- Off-peak rates are lower, and they're in effect from 9:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. every weekday and all day on weekends.

The chart at the right shows how the rates change over the course of a winter weekday.

[SEE INTERACTIVE CHART](#)





# Find out which rate option is right for your business.

The screenshot shows the PG&E 'My Rates' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'My Account' and 'My Usage' tabs, and a 'My Rates' sub-tab. Below this, a 'My Rates' section displays a table of rate options. A yellow banner at the top of the table states: 'As mandated by the California Public Utilities Commission, many small and medium businesses' flat electric rates will be replaced by time-of-use rates starting in November 2012.' The table lists eight rate options with their estimated annual costs. A green 'Lowest Cost' badge is placed over the 'A1 Time-of-Use' option.

Rate Option	Estimated Cost (/yr)	Notes
Your current rate A1 Standard	\$715	Prices stay the same all day.
A1 Peak Day Pricing	\$710	Prices change by time of day. Prices are higher 9 - 15 days annually. This rate has extra options.
A1 Time-of-Use	\$715	Prices change by time of day. (Marked as 'Lowest Cost')
A6 Peak Day Pricing	\$800	Prices change by time of day. Prices are higher 9 - 15 days annually. This rate has extra options.
A6 Time-of-Use	\$835	Prices change by time of day.
A10 Peak Day Pricing	\$2740	Prices change by time of day.
A10 Time-of-Use	\$2800	Prices change by time of day.
E19 Peak Day Pricing	\$3070	Prices change by time of day.

We offer several different rate plans for businesses. Use the [My Rates tool](#) to examine your historical energy use and compare your current rate plan against other eligible rate plans, so you can choose the plan that helps lower your annual bill.

Here's an overview of the types of rate plans available:

## Time-of-Use

With time-of-use rates, the cost of electricity varies by both the time of day and the season. Prices are higher during summer weekday afternoons when electricity demand is higher, from noon to 6 p.m., May through October. In return, time-of-use rates are lower at all other times.

## Peak Day Pricing

This pricing program works in conjunction with time-of-use rates to encourage energy conservation when demand is higher.

[Find out more.](#)



# Understanding your bill

You'll have one of these three types of bills, depending on your rate plan. **Click on your bill for a detailed explanation.**

**A1 TOU.** This rate is designed for businesses that can be flexible about how and when they use electricity. Rates vary by season and according to the time of day electricity is used.

**A10 TOU Medium General Service TOU Service.** This rate is designed for businesses whose peak demand remains under 500 kilowatts each month.

**E19V Medium General Demand-Metered TOU Service.** This optional rate is available for businesses whose peak monthly demand is less than 500 kilowatts.



## A1 Time-of-Use Energy Statement

Click the number  
tabs for a detailed  
explanation.

1

Total Electric Charges show you the total cost for your electricity use in this billing period. Energy Charges detail how much energy you have used during peak, partial-peak, and off-peak time periods and the cost per kilowatt hour (kWh) during each time period.



## ENERGY STATEMENT

[www.pge.com/myenergy](http://www.pge.com/myenergy)

Account No: 1023456789-0  
Statement Date: 09/01/2015  
Due Date: 09/18/2015

### Details of Electric Charges

08/01/2015 - 08/29/2015 (29 billing days)

Service For: 1234 Commercial Road  
Service Agreement ID: 9876543210  
Rate Schedule: A1X Small General Time-of-Use Service

#### 08/01/2015 - 08/29/2015

Customer Charge	29 days @ \$0.32854	\$9.53
Energy Charges		
Peak	1,265.252400 kWh @ \$0.23120	292.53
Part Peak	1,294.476000 kWh @ \$0.22358	289.42
Off Peak	3,035.117300 kWh @ \$0.20041	608.27
Energy Commission Tax		1.62

**Total Electric Charges \$1,201.37**

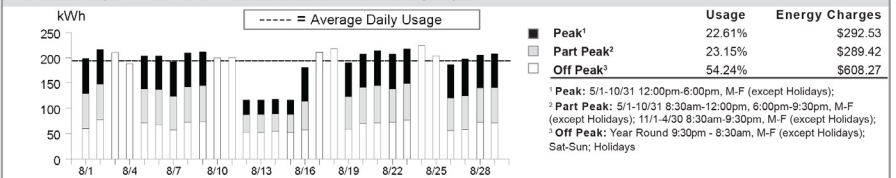
### Service Information

Meter # 1098765432  
Total Usage 5,594.845700 kWh  
Serial H  
Rotating Outage Block 130

### Additional Messages

**Time-Of-Use Customers:** In 2015, Daylight Saving Time ends on November 2. To adjust for this, from October 27 - November 1, 2015 your time-of-use periods will begin and end one hour later.

### Electric Usage This Period: 5,594.845700 kWh, 29 billing days





## A1 Time-of-Use Energy Statement

Click the number  
tabs for a detailed  
explanation.

2

This usage chart visually shows which days you used the most electricity in the billing period, and how much energy you used at peak, partial-peak and off-peak rates.

You may use this chart to visually understand when you are using more energy, and make decisions about how to spend less on your energy usage. Time-of-use rate periods are also detailed in this section.



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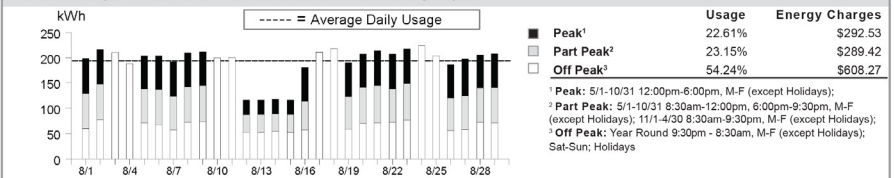
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### Additional Messages

**Time-Of-Use Customers:** In 2015, Daylight Saving Time ends on November 2. To adjust for this, from October 27 - November 1, 2015 your time-of-use periods will begin and end one hour later.

### Electric Usage This Period: 5,594.845700 kWh, 29 billing days







## A10 Time-of-Use Energy Statement

Click the number  
tabs for a detailed  
explanation.

1

Total Electric Charges show you the total cost for your electric use in this billing period. Total Electric Charges include a monthly Customer Charge, a Demand Charge, Energy Charges and the Energy Commission Tax.

The Demand Charge reflects the maximum kilowatt load you required over the course of the billing period. Energy Charges show you how much energy you have used during peak, partial-peak, and off-peak time periods and the cost per kilowatt hour (kWh) during each time period.



## ENERGY STATEMENT

[www.pge.com/myenergy](http://www.pge.com/myenergy)

Account No: 1023456789-0  
Statement Date: 09/13/2015  
Due Date: 09/30/2015

### Details of Electric Charges

08/14/2015 - 09/12/2015 (30 billing days)

Service For: 1234 Commercial Road

Service Agreement ID: 9876543210

Rate Schedule: A10SX Medium General Demand-Metered Service - TOU

#### 08/14/2015 - 09/12/2015

Customer Charge	30 days	@ \$4.59959	\$137.99
Demand Charge	36.640000 kW	@ \$13.34000	488.78
Energy Charges			
Peak	4,097.377000 kWh	@ \$0.15910	651.89
Part Peak	4,397.045000 kWh	@ \$0.15237	669.98
Off Peak	6,359.473000 kWh	@ \$0.13191	838.88
Energy Commission Tax			4.31

**Total Electric Charges \$2,791.83**

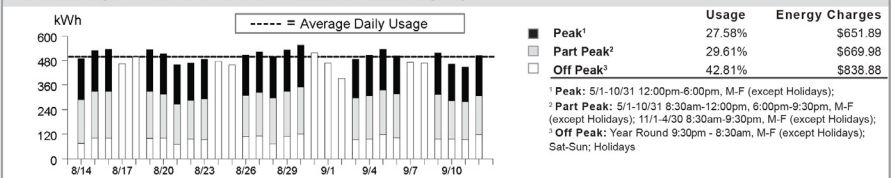
### Service Information

Meter # 1098765432  
Total Usage 14,853.895000 kWh  
Serial S  
Rotating Outage Block 50

### Additional Messages

**Time-Of-Use Customers:** In 2015, Daylight Saving Time ends on November 2. To adjust for this, from October 27 - November 1, 2015 your time-of-use periods will begin and end one hour later.

### Electric Usage This Period: 14,853.895000 kWh, 30 billing days



Visit [www.pge.com/myenergy](http://www.pge.com/myenergy) for a detailed bill comparison.

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## A10 Time-of-Use Energy Statement

Click the number  
tabs for a detailed  
explanation.

2

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## ENERGY STATEMENT

[www.pge.com/myenergy](http://www.pge.com/myenergy)

Account No: 1023456789-0  
Statement Date: 09/13/2015  
Due Date: 09/30/2015

### Details of Electric Charges

08/14/2015 - 09/12/2015 (30 billing days)

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Rate Schedule: A10SX Medium General Demand-Metered Service - TOU

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Demand Charge	36.640000 kW	@ \$13.34000	488.78
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Off Peak	6,359.473000 kWh	@ \$0.13191	838.88
Energy Commission Tax			4.31

**Total Electric Charges \$2,791.83**

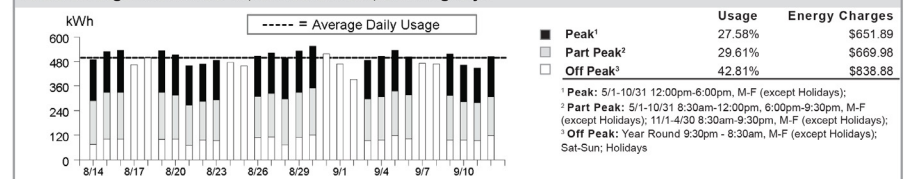
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Meter # 1098765432  
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Serial S  
Rotating Outage Block 50

### Additional Messages

**Time-Of-Use Customers:** In 2015, Daylight Saving Time ends on November 2. To adjust for this, from October 27 - November 1, 2015 your time-of-use periods will begin and end one hour later.

Electric Usage This Period: 14,853.895000 kWh, 30 billing days



Visit [www.pge.com/myenergy](http://www.pge.com/myenergy) for a detailed bill comparison.

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## E19 Time-of-Use Energy Statement

Click the number  
tabs for a detailed  
explanation.

1

Total Electric Charges show you the total cost for your electric use in this billing period, including your monthly Customer Charge, Demand Charge, Energy Charges and the Energy Commission Tax.

The Demand Charge reflects your maximum kilowatt load and pricing. Energy Charges show you how much energy you have used during peak, partial-peak, and off-peak time periods and the cost per kilowatt hour (kWh) during each time period.



## ENERGY STATEMENT

[www.pge.com/MyEnergy](http://www.pge.com/MyEnergy)

Account No: 0123456789-0  
Statement Date: 06/16/2015  
Due Date: 07/03/2015

### Details of Electric Charges

05/15/2015 - 06/15/2015 (32 billing days)

Service For: 1234 Commercial Road

Service Agreement ID: 9876543210

Rate Schedule: E19S Medium General Demand-Metered TOU Service

#### 05/15/2015 - 06/15/2015

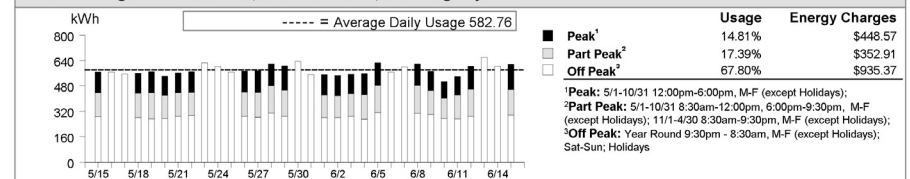
Customer Charge	32 days	@ \$4.59959	\$147.19
Demand Charge			
Max Peak	30.336000 kW	@ \$19.04000	577.60
Max Part Peak	37.936000 kW	@ \$4.42000	167.68
Max Demand	37.936000 kW	@ \$15.07000	571.70
Energy Charges			
Peak	2,763.336000 kWh	@ \$0.16233	448.57
Part Peak	3,239.776000 kWh	@ \$0.10893	352.91
Off Peak	12,645.240000 kWh	@ \$0.07397	935.37
Energy Commission Tax			5.41

**Total Electric Charges \$3,206.43**

### Service Information

Meter # 1098765432  
Total Usage 18,648.352000 kWh  
Serial S  
Rotating Outage Block 6I

### Electric Usage This Period: 18,648.352000 kWh, 32 billing days





## E19 Time-of-Use Energy Statement

Click the number  
tabs for a detailed  
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2

This usage chart visually shows which days you used the most electricity in the billing period, and how much energy you used at peak, partial-peak and off-peak rates. You may use this chart to visually understand when you are using more energy, and make decisions about how to spend less on your energy usage. Time-of-use rate periods are also detailed in this section.



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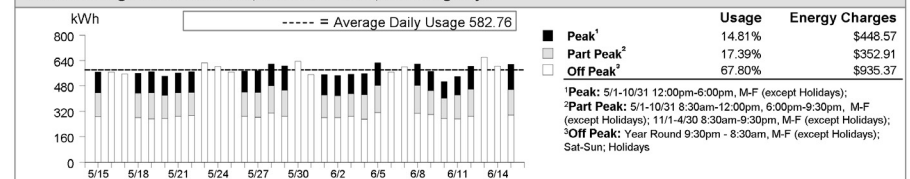
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**Total Electric Charges \$3,206.43**

### Service Information

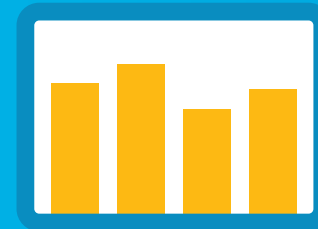
Meter # 1098765432  
Total Usage 18,648.352000 kWh  
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Rotating Outage Block 6I

### Electric Usage This Period: 18,648.352000 kWh, 32 billing days





PG&E offers  
many tools to  
help you save.



**My Usage** lets you view your usage history and identify the times and activities that impact your bill so you can make energy- and cost-saving decisions for your business.

[LEARN MORE](#)



PG&E offers  
many tools to  
help you save.



**My Rates** examines your historical energy use to estimate your costs. Use the My Rates tool to compare your current rate plans against other eligible rate plans, so you can lower your annual bill.

[LEARN MORE](#)



PG&E offers  
many tools to  
help you save.



**Business Energy Checkup** lets you compare your energy costs with similar-sized businesses. You can also create a customized energy savings plan to help identify the most cost-effective energy-efficient upgrades and recommendations for your business.

[LEARN MORE](#)



PG&E offers  
many tools to  
help you save.



**Energy Efficiency Financing** provides you with ready access to the cash you need to make energy-efficiency improvements—all at 0% interest. Loans can be up to \$100,000 and you have up to five years for repayment.

[LEARN MORE](#)





## Shift usage away from on-peak hours to cut costs.

It's amazing how much you can save just by moving tasks to different times of the day.

**MOUSE OVER THE TOPICS BELOW FOR MONEY-SAVING TIPS.**



12AM



12PM



12AM



## Even more ways to save money with smart energy choices.

These tips aren't tied to a specific part of the day. You can get them working for you anytime.



### **THERMOSTAT**

Set thermostats at 78°F for cooling in the summer and 68°F for heating in the winter.



### **HVAC MAINTENANCE**

Regularly clean and perform maintenance on HVAC units, cleaning condenser coils, replacing air filters and checking ducts and insulation.



### **MOTION DETECTORS**

Install motion detectors to control lighting in frequently unoccupied areas, such as restrooms.



### **SEAL YOUR WORKSPACE**

Add weather stripping, caulking or foam around windows and doors to reduce drafts.



### **HIBERNATION CAPABILITIES**

When buying desktop computers and similar equipment, look for ENERGY STAR® models that hibernate after periods of inactivity.



### **COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTS**

Replace incandescent lamps with compact fluorescent lamps to save energy.



### **EXHAUST FANS**

Turn off exhaust fans unless health codes require them.



### **OUTDOOR LIGHTING**

Replace high-intensity discharge and incandescent outdoor fixtures with LED lighting to keep overnight energy use to a minimum.



### **THE RIGHT TEMPERATURE**

Watch your refrigerator/freezer settings. Recommended temperatures are 37-40°F for the fresh food compartment and 5°F for the freezer.



## Lepe's Foods:

Cutting energy costs with fresh thinking.

For food distributors like Lepe's Foods, the freshness of their products is essential for success. Refrigeration is a large percentage of their operating costs. In 2010, before upgrading their facility, their energy bill was on average about \$3,400 per month.

### Teamwork

Entrepreneur Marco Lepe partnered with his local PG&E representative to identify ways to reduce his energy bills. Together, they identified incentive plans that helped cover upgrade costs. Mr. Lepe put a comprehensive plan in place, including installing strip curtains for his walk-in refrigerator, upgrading to energy-efficient refrigeration equipment, and shifting forklift charging periods to night time off-peak hours.



### Results

In just over six months, the energy savings had offset Mr. Lepe's out-of-pocket investment. Lepe's Foods is now enjoying a standard annual energy savings of \$12,000. And Mr. Lepe remains vigilant. "If we can make anything more efficient, we will."

**Lepe's Foods  
is now saving  
\$12,000 a year  
in energy costs.**

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



# Children's Recovery Center:

Saving energy and changing lives.

Donna Walker at Children's Recovery Center reached out to PG&E when potential funding cuts threatened the future viability of their facility. The Center had to work hard to find ways to cut operating costs.

## Teamwork

Working closely with their PG&E representative, they identified laundry as a place they could cut costs by going on a time-of-use rate plan and shifting the hefty laundry energy costs to late evening. Together with HVAC maintenance changes and switching to more energy-efficient lighting, Donna was able to see real savings. And with the help of Ecology Action's RightLights and PECL's AirCare Plus® programs, the Center was able to make those upgrades at no cost.



## Results

Children's Recovery Center saved \$5,600 in energy costs in the first year as a result of energy-efficiency measures and time-of-use rates. That's money that can be used to make a real difference in the life of a sick child.

The \$5,600 annual energy savings can go towards caring for sick children.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



# FAQs

Why is my business on a time-of-use rate plan?

Why does my time-of-use rate plan vary?

What are peak periods?

What is the difference between summer and winter time-of-use rate plans?

How can I save money on a time-of-use rate plan?

Are all California businesses on a time-of-use rate plan?

Am I getting charged a different rate than a neighboring business?

What is the Demand Detail charge on my bill?





# FAQs

## 1 Why is my business on a time-of-use rate plan?

To ensure greater power reliability and a better energy future, the California Public Utilities Commission has set forth a plan to make time-of-use rates the commercial standard for all of the state's major electric utilities.



# FAQs

2

## Why does my time-of-use rate plan vary?

Time-of-use rate plans are structured the way they are to better align the price of energy with the cost of energy at the time it is produced.

Lower rates during partial-peak and off-peak hours offer an incentive for customers to shift energy use away from more expensive on-peak hours, which can help you save money and reduce strain on the electric grid.



# FAQs

On-peak periods occur from **noon to 6 p.m., May through October**, when time-of-use rates are higher to align with increased demand.

For full details on rates, [click here](#).

3

What are peak periods?







# FAQs

4

**What is the difference between summer and winter time-of-use rates?**

**The summer period, from May through October, has three rates:** off-peak, partial-peak and on-peak.

**The winter period, which covers November through April, has two rates:** off-peak and partial-peak.

Rates are highest on weekdays, from noon to 6 p.m., May through October. At all other hours, rates will be lower.

For full details on rates, [click here](#).



# FAQs

**On a time-of-use rate plan, you can lower your bill by shifting when you use energy to partial-peak and off-peak hours.**

Rates during partial-peak and off-peak hours are lower than the rates during on-peak hours. This puts you in the driver's seat so you can have more control over your bills.

PG&E can help you identify ways to shift energy use away from on-peak hours and conserve energy in your business with rebates for making energy efficiency upgrades.

**5 How can I save money on a time-of-use rate plan?**





# FAQs

**Time-of-use rate plans are already in effect for PG&E's Large Commercial, Industrial and Large Agriculture customers.**

Many of PG&E's Small and Medium Business customers and Small and Medium Agriculture customers have also transitioned to time-of-use rate plans.

There are other rate plans available as well, like Peak Day Pricing. To learn more, [click here](#).

**6 Are all California businesses on a time-of-use rate plan?**



# FAQs

**The rate plan you are on is based on the amount of energy your business uses every month.** A neighboring business may be on a rate that is better suited for their needs, so they may be on a different rate than you.

You can learn more about your rate options by visiting **My Rates** for an online rate analysis. Just [click here](#).

7

**Am I getting charged a different rate than a neighboring business?**



# FAQs

If you are on an A10 time-of-use rate plan, you'll see a Demand Charge on your bill. This Demand Charge is a charge **based on the maximum load (expressed in kilowatts, or kW) placed on PG&E's system by your equipment at any interval during the billing period.**

Your monthly Demand Charge will vary depending on the equipment you use from month to month. One way to manage your monthly Demand Charge is to stagger times at which you switch equipment on, rather than doing it all at once; this helps minimize spikes in demand.

8

**What is the Demand Detail charge on my bill?**



## Ready to start saving money?

Just start putting into practice the techniques we've been discussing in this guide. You'll be surprised at how quickly the savings can start adding up. If you'd like to learn more, we have more resources available online.

[LEARN MORE](#)

