

We encourage you to attend our Special Board Meeting & Public Rate Hearing on Monday, September 9th at 5:30PM in the HBPW Conference Center!



# OCTOBER 2024

## Proposed Electric Rate Increase FAQs

### AT A GLANCE

Impact on Average Residential Customer Utilizing 1,200kWh of Electricity Per Month:

#### NOW

Per kWh Charge:  
\$0.09871  
+  
Customer Charge:  
\$23.25  
=  
Total Electric Charges:  
\$141.70

#### 10/01/2024

Per kWh Charge:  
\$0.10408  
+  
Customer Charge:  
\$43.25  
=  
Total Electric Charges:  
\$168.15

Difference: +\$26.44

### WHY IS THE HBPW PROPOSING AN ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE?

The HBPW, among other utilities across the country, has experienced an unprecedented increase in the cost of purchased electricity due to a decrease in base load generation (primarily coal plants) and an increase in electric usage. The amount of available electric power is decreasing because of coal plant retirements while the electricity needs continue to grow (national electrification, electronics, data centers, etc.) The grid is stressing at peak times - causing our capacity charges to climb exponentially.

### HOW DID THE HBPW DETERMINE WHAT THE PROPOSED ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE WOULD BE?

The HBPW team continually monitors revenues, expenses, debt covenant requirements, capacity costs, projects, and more. Every aspect must come together to keep the electric fund on track and in good standing. Considering all facets, a 16% overall increase in revenue is what is estimated to be needed for the rate increase. A third party consultant is verifying the rate and allocation of the increase.

### WHEN WILL THE PROPOSED ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE GO INTO EFFECT?

The proposed electric rate increase will go into effect October 1, 2024.

### IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THIS? I ALREADY HAVE DIFFICULTY PAYING MY MONTHLY BILL.

The HBPW encourages our customers to use less of our product because conservation is the primary way to achieve lower utility bills. On our website, we offer resources on how to conserve energy and water and therefore, save money. If you haven't already done so, sign up for a SmartHub account where you can monitor your energy consumption and adjust habits accordingly. We also offer a budget billing option that allows you to equalize your monthly billing plan over a 12-month period. \*Note: Lower utility bills can only be achieved by conserving usage. The Budget Billing Plan does NOT lower your utility bill. However, it does provide a method to budget your monthly expenses. Please contact our Customer Service department at 573-221-8050 to learn more.



To learn more, watch the Proposed Electric Rate Increase Presentation video on our YouTube channel: @hbpw

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