

# WHY ARE MY ELECTRIC BILLS HIGHER?



Higher energy costs are impacting everyone, including utilities. In the last year wholesale energy prices have more than doubled in cost. Several reasons have contributed to that price increase. Here are a few of them.

## Natural Gas

Natural Gas prices have increased dramatically in 2022.

- Natural gas accounts for an average of 38% of U.S. electricity
- War in Ukraine is disrupting trade in energy
- Increased Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports
- Natural Gas prices has more than doubled in 2022

## Other reasons

- Inefficiencies moving power on the electric grid (congestion)
- Increased demand on electricity throughout 2022
- Challenges incorporating alternative energy into the market

# HOW TO SAVE ON YOUR ELECTRIC BILLS?



**Seal it up.** Check for leaks around windows, doors, and other openings to the outside. Seal these leaks with caulk to keep the warmth in.

**Furnace Checkup.** Have your furnace and heating system inspected annually to check for leaks or other problems.

**Insulate.** Wrap old water heaters with proper insulating jackets and set the temperature to 120°F (or lower). Insulate your plumbing.



**Use mother nature.** When it's cold outside but also sunny, open the blinds during the day to let the sun help heat your home.

**Wash cold.** Whenever possible, use the cold water setting on your washing machine.



**Check and replace HVAC filters.** New filters usually only cost a few dollars. Dirty filters cost more to use, overwork the equipment, and result in lower indoor air quality. The filters should be replaced regularly.

**Control the temperature.** Set the temperature to 68°F or lower in the winter. A programmable thermostat can make it easy to set back your temperature.