Current Comments

February 2023

Making energy work for YOU

Understanding Demand in Customer Connect Usage Charts, Alerts Can Help You Control Your Energy Usage

In November 2022, Midwest Energy's Board of Directors approved the adoption of a three-part rate structure for residential and small business (General Service Small) electric customers. The new rate structure continues two previous components - a monthly customer charge, and an energy charge based on the number of kilowatt hours (kWh) used, and introduces a

third component, a demand charge. Demand refers to the amount of electrical power being used at a given time. Demand is based on the intensity at which energy is used (or the "demand" one puts on the grid) in kilowatts (kW).

Starting in Janu-

You can use Customer Connect to see your 'peak demand,' or the maximum amount of electrical power used during a billing period.

ary, customers began seeing demand listed on bills. The "Billing Demand" is your peak demand, or the maximum number of kilowatts you used during a 15-minute period that billing cycle. For all of 2023, there will be a \$0 demand charge to allow residential customers time to understand their demand. The easiest way to lower demand is by spreading out the use of large appliances.

However, if you would like more detailed data on your demand, you can use Customer Connect to see your current and historical demand online. To access Customer Connect, visit www.mwenergy.com and click the "login" button to access your Midwest Energy account. Once logged in, click the Customer Connect

logo, which takes you to your usage dashboard. Once in Customer Connect:

- Click "Reports" on the upper left of the screen
- Click "Meter Usage Chart"
- **Select "Register"** from the Overlay dropdown
- **Select "KW"** from the Channel dropdown. This will show you the peaks and valleys of your demand over a

period of time.

- Select "KW Peak" from the Channel dropdown to see a peak demand line on the chart. The peak demand line will stay constant, increasing only when new peaks are set. At the end of the billing cycle, peak demand resets.

This program also allows customers to

configure usage alerts, letting you know when usage targets you define are reached. To set up alerts:

- 1) Select "User Profile" under Settings.
- 2) Click "Add Email" and enter your email address.
- 3) Click "Add Notification."
- 4) Select the commodity you would like to be alerted for (either Electric or Gas), select your notification period and your target electric usage in KWH, or gas in Therms, and click "Save."

Lastly, any customer wanting to know estimated impacts of demand rates based on their 2022 usage can get a detailed printout by calling Ryan Hammerschmidt at 1-800-222-3121.

\$9.3 Million Paid to Counties for 2022 Property 1

While Midwest Energy is a 501(c)(12) cooperative exempt from federal income tax, the co-op still pays sales and property taxes. Some of the money you're billed each month comes back to your home county. Last year, Midwest Energy paid \$9.36 million in local property taxes on facilities and land owned by the cooperative. Below is a county-by-county breakdown of the property taxes paid in 2022:

Barton	\$1,038,360.46	Hodgeman	\$138,529.22	Reno	\$147,882.06
Cheyenne	\$76,513.84	Kearny	\$49,012.64	Rice	\$710,578.20
Decatur	\$58,490.38	Lane	\$16,195.49	Rooks	\$73,280.31
Edwards	\$319,066.29	Lincoln	\$34,382.90	Rush	\$236,171.63
Ellis	\$2,736,169.58	Logan	\$274,544.03	Russell	\$219,730.08
Ellsworth	\$73,713.48	McPherson	\$4,298.22	Saline	\$0.00
Finney	\$28,186.60	Morton	\$657.43	Scott	\$80,396.43
Gove	\$191,083.62	Ness	\$105,984.70	Sheridan	\$230,281.45
Graham	\$230,584.54	Norton	\$70,944.12	Smith	\$4,777.24
Grant (KS)	\$12,500.69	Osborne	\$5,661.48	Stafford	\$299,971.96
Grant (OK)	\$262.00	Pawnee	\$439,647.08	Thomas	\$631,515.40
Gray	\$13,378.05	Phillips	\$77,695.69	Trego	\$210,480.92
Greeley	\$15,140.86	Pratt	\$20,094.92	Wallace	\$113,954.63
Hamilton	\$9.50	Rawlins	\$148,428.90	Wichita	\$40,059.82
Haskell	\$7,710.15	Republic	\$770.96	Total:	\$9,360,418.63

Cold Weather Rule for Non-Disconnects Ends Apr

Midwest Energy observes the Kansas Corporation Commission's winter non-disconnect period. which ends April 1st. If your account is past due, your payment must reach us before April 1st to avoid disconnection of service and additional charges.

Financial assistance may be available through Kansas Department of Children and Family's Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) by calling 1-800-432-0043. Applications for assistance will be accepted from late lanuary through late March.

The Midwest Customers Care program can also provide help. This program is funded by donations from Midwest Energy customers and employees.

Recipients must have a household income of less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level and can receive up to \$200 per season. Assistance is available Jan. I through Aug. 31, or when the funding is exhausted, whichever comes first. To apply for Midwest Customers Care, please call the Salvation Army at 1-816-756-5392. Ext: 3.

If you wish to make a payment by credit or debit card, please call 1-800-222-3121 or go to www. mwenergy.com 24 hours a day, 7

days a week. If you have additional questions, please call us at 1-800-222-3121.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.

Atwood, KS • Colby, KS • Great Bend, KS • Hays, KS



Phillipsburg, KS • Scott City, KS • WaKeeney, KS



