

Midwest Energy, Inc.

Current Comments

June 2023

Making energy work for YOU

When In Doubt, Smooth It Out!

Spreading out high-consumption appliances lowers demand and bills

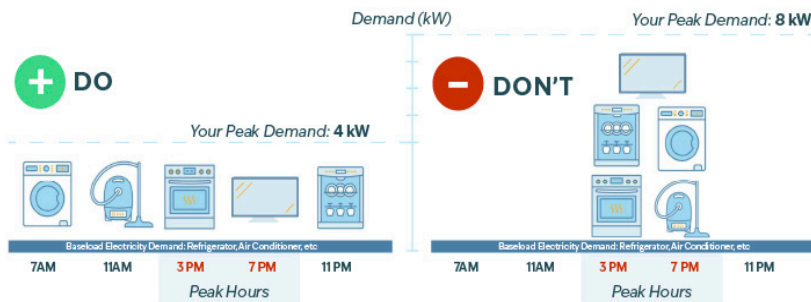
Midwest Energy residential and small commercial customers began seeing a line for "Billed Demand" on their electric bills starting in January 2023. However, the demand charge is \$0 until January 2024, to allow customers to familiarize themselves with demand.

Demand measures the intensity of the electricity used at a point in time. The more appliances you operate at the same moment, the higher your demand will be.

To familiarize customers with this concept, we have started a promotional campaign, to remind customers that demand takes into account how many appliances are used at once, but also what times they're using them. When it comes to appliance use, remember this saying: "When In Doubt, Smooth It Out!"

We have scheduled customer learning events at several towns in our 40- county service area. Events are at www.mwenergy.com/residential/demand-rates, or in

Spreading out the use of major appliances is the easiest way to manage your demand and control your electric bill.



May's Current Comments. For those unable to attend these events, we are starting an easy-to-use microsite on www.mwenergy.com, with everything you need to know about demand rates. The site includes a demand

calculator, where you can toggle 'on' appliances to see estimated impacts demand might have on an electric bill; the calculator is at www.mwenergy.com/residential/energy-demand-calculator.

Beginning in 2024, the demand charge will be higher from June through September, but only from the hours of 3-7 p.m. This means that if you move your highest demand outside of that four-hour window, you won't be charged for it. By spreading out the use of large appliances, you can reduce your demand charge. Running the dishwasher before you leave for work, starting the clothes dryer before you go to bed (when your A.C. isn't working as hard) are two simple ways to save. Large

Continued

Midwest Energy Receives Laser Gas Leak Detection Grant

Midwest Energy was recently awarded \$580,800 for upgraded natural gas leak detection devices through a federal grant under 2021's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Midwest Energy was the only entity in Kansas to receive a share of the funding.

The funds awarded will be used to purchase 20 handheld laser gas leak detection devices and four all-terrain vehicles to aid leak detection surveys. Using laser detection, gas leaks can be identified as far as 100 feet away from the source. Current gas leak detection devices

require surveyors to walk right up to a meter or gas line. With more than 3,000 miles of gas pipeline to maintain, this equipment will improve the efficiency and safety of gas leak surveys, especially in rural areas.



A gas maintenance worker uses laser detection to find a gas leak at the house.



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Youth Tour Scholarship & Trip Recipients Selected

Midwest Energy is proud to give opportunities to area high school students. Students compete for trips or scholarships based on the Board of Director district they live in.

This June, Midwest will be sending two high school juniors to Washington, D.C., for the week-long Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Selected for the 2023 Youth Tour were:

Ethan Gruenbacher, Quinter High School - District 2

Elizabeth Showalter, La Crosse

Demand: When in Doubt, Smooth it Out

appliances like central air conditioning units, heaters, clothes dryers, ovens/stoves, dishwasher, etc., are common high-demand appliances. During the summer, by rearranging the usage of your appliances to be spread out over the day, you have more ways to save.

High School - District 3

Additionally, Midwest awarded ten \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors for the secondary education program of their choice.

This year's scholarship winners are:

Claire Walker-Helsel, Wallace County High School- District 1

Will Schmidt, Oakley High School- District 1

Zoie Beckman, Hill City Junior/Senior High School- District 2

Brynna Hammeke, Central

Plains High School- District 3

Emma Elliott, Lyons High School- District 3

Taigen Kerr, Stockton High School- District 3

Janessa Pfeifer, Thomas More Prep Marian High School- District 4

Jessica Leiker, Hays High School- District 4

Brooke Strine, Scott Community High School- District 5

William Ast, Ingalls High School- District 5.

Uri Gas Cost Recovery Complete

Midwest Energy is the first Kansas gas utility to finish collecting excess gas costs from February 2021's Winter Storm Uri. During URI Midwest incurred \$9.691 million in excess natural gas costs.

To recover those costs, Midwest implemented the collection of an additional 14.3 ¢ per therm to

the Gas Supply Cost Adjustment. Recovery was expected to take 24 months, ending June 30, 2023; however, due to increased gas volumes this past year, recovery was completed a month ahead of schedule. May bills are the last to contain the Uri rider. Learn more at www.mwenergy.com/news.

2023 Board of Directors Nominations due July 7

The deadline to submit Board of Directors nominations is soon!

District 1 (1 position): Counties of Cheyenne, Sherman, Wallace, Greeley, Hamilton, Rawlins, Thomas, Logan and Wichita. **District 2** (1 position): Counties of Decatur, Norton, Sheridan and Gove. **District 4** (1 position): Counties of Graham, Trego and Ellis.

Nominees for these positions must be a resident in one of the counties in the district. Nominations

should be submitted online by July 7, 2023 at www.mwenergy.com or by sending the nominee's name, address and phone number to:

Juanita Stecklein
c/o Midwest Energy, Inc.
1330 Canterbury
Hays, KS 67601

The nominating committee will select nominees from the names submitted. Election winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting on October 16, 2023.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

Source: Dept. of Energy

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