

Electricity rate hike effective August 1, 2022

As you may know, the Eversource default rate will rise dramatically August 1. The NH Public Utilities Commission approved a six-month energy supply rate of 22.566 cents per kilowatt hour for residential customers (effective August – January 2023). The total kilowatt-hour cost will add up to about 32 cents – up from 19 cents: 23 cents for electricity supply plus about 9 cents to deliver it. On top of a \$14 customer charge.

You have options. There are many factors that led up to this situation, including the region's dependency on methane (natural gas) and lack of diversification in energy supply. While this news is very concerning as we look ahead to fall and winter, Dublin residents do have options to help cope with the increase. (Thank you to Harrisville's Electric Aggregation Committee for providing helpful material and links for this summary.)

Reduce electricity consumption. This approach will serve you well no matter what contract is in place for energy supply. Low-to-more-expensive on the checklist include:

- Switch to LED light bulbs
- Find and manage household energy drips (start in the home office or entertainment center)
- As you replace old appliances look for Energy-Star rated appliances (and NH Saves rebates)
- Insulate ... the attic, the basement, the hot water pipes
- Consider an energy audit to identify energy that you may be paying for but not using (see <https://nhsaves.com>)
- For a more comprehensive list of energy saving tips, check out <https://nhsaves.com/learn/2021/10/25-tips-to-reduce-your-homes-energy-use/>

Check out competitive suppliers. You can select another provider for electricity supply. (Eversource maintains electricity delivery.) These suppliers offer different supply rates and percentage of renewable mix. They also offer different contract terms. When evaluating these offers, please be careful to understand the terms of the contract, and watchful not to fall into a scam or fall for deceptive marketing — especially now with so much financial stress and uncertainty about the future.

As you look over providers, bear in mind that while we know what Eversource will charge for electricity supply August 1 to January 31, 2023, we don't know what that rate will be in the next six-month cycle (February – July 2023). We do know future rates could be the same, higher, or lower. Look out for fees. A plan that does not charge a cancellation fee would be ideal. Here's more —

- [How to shop for cheaper electricity in the Granite State](#)
- [A way to shop for cheaper electricity](#)
- [List of suppliers authorized to sell to Eversource customers](#)
- [PUC on what to look for in contract terms](#)

Review income based assistance. If you are concerned about what this rate increase will do to your monthly bill, participate as fully as possible in the Home Energy Assistance (HEA) program that is part of NHSaves (<https://nhsaves.com>). Southwestern Community Services is a local point of contact for these energy assistance programs (click here to review [income criteria](#) used to determine program eligibility):

- [Electric Assistance](#)
- [Fuel Assistance](#)

Generate your own electricity. There are a lot of possibilities and configurations worth scoping and planning to install now or to add to the list of household projects for the future.

Know about Eversource bill payment plans. Finally, another option is to check out the bill payment plans that Eversource offers, one of which will smooth monthly pay amounts into equal amounts throughout the year. Again, be sure to know the payment-plan rules. [Click here to view payment plans.](#)