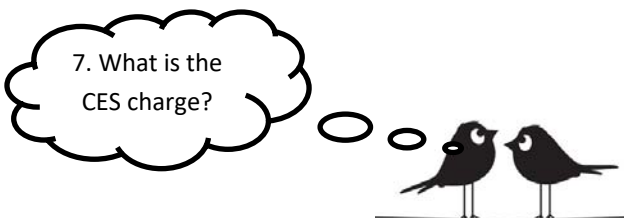


1. The PPAC is a calculated rate that allows the utility to collect the difference between the “base cost of power” included in the tariff and the actual cost of power paid by the utility each month, which includes transmission and State surcharges.
2. The Village of Churchville does not generate our own electricity, so to supply power to our customers, the Village must purchase the power. The Village has a contract with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) for an allotment of low-cost hydro power generated by the Niagara Project. However, in months where customer power use exceeds the allotment, additional power is purchased from the market.
3. Supplemental power is purchased from the New York Municipal Power Agency (NYMPA). This power is purchased from the open market, and its cost fluctuate based on current market conditions.
4. The power travels to the Village of Churchville through transmission lines. These transmission lines are owned by utilities throughout New York State, such as National Grid and NYSEG. The Village of Churchville must pay the utility to get the power into the Village.
5. In addition to market conditions, the PPAC fluctuates with the seasons. During the winter months, from November to April, usage tends to be higher. When more power is used throughout the Village, it can cause usage to exceed the allotment of hydro power from NYPA. Basically, the colder it is, the more supplemental power is needed. In addition, the colder it is, the more expensive that power is. This causes the total purchased power costs to be higher, resulting in a higher PPAC rate. In addition, each customer bill is higher, because their usage is typically higher as well.
6. No, the Village does not profit from the PPAC dollars collected from customers. The PPAC is a direct recovery of purchased power costs.



7. This Clean Energy Standards (CES) charge was added in April 2017 as a result of the Governor’s State Energy Plan. This charge is based on a percentage of our load.



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As we experience colder temperatures and stronger winds this winter, many of our customers have noticed an increase in their electric bills. We want to take a moment to explain the main factors that could be contributing to this rise and offer some tips on how to manage your energy use during these colder months.

Why Your Bill May Be Higher This Winter:

1. **Increased Heating Demand:** Cold temperatures often lead to higher energy consumption as heating systems work harder to maintain a comfortable temperature in your home. If you use electric heating, such as space heaters, baseboard heaters, or heat pumps, these devices can increase your energy use.
2. **Windy Conditions:** Cold winds can cause your home to lose heat more quickly, forcing your heating system to work longer and harder. If your home isn't fully sealed, gusty winds may cause temperature fluctuations that lead to higher energy consumption.
3. **Shorter Days and Longer Nights:** With less daylight, you'll likely be using more lighting and appliances, contributing to higher energy consumption. The longer nights during the winter months naturally lead to more usage of electric lights and devices.
4. **Holiday Lighting and Cooking:** The winter season also brings increased use of holiday lighting, cooking appliances, and extra household activities, which can all contribute to a temporary increase in your electric bill.

Tips to Lower Your Winter Electric Bill:

1. **Seal Windows and Doors:** Prevent drafts by checking and improving insulation, or use draft stoppers to keep cold air out and warmth in.
2. **Lower Thermostat Settings:** Consider lowering your thermostat by a few degrees or using a programmable thermostat to regulate your home's temperature more efficiently.
3. **Use Energy-Efficient Lighting:** Switch to LED bulbs and turn off lights when not in use.
4. **Close Unused Rooms:** Close doors to rooms that aren't being used regularly to focus heating on the areas you occupy most.
5. **Use Appliances Wisely:** Only run large appliances, such as ovens and dryers, during off-peak hours when energy costs may be lower.
6. **Replace appliances and Heat Pumps with Energy Efficient units:** Rebates are available for select appliances on our website, www.churchville.net/applications under Utilities Forms.



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