

## Be an energy star

Save money on your energy costs with your next appliance purchase

Next time you buy an electric or natural gas appliance, look for models with the ENERGY STAR™ label. Household appliances that have earned the ENERGY STAR meet strict efficiency guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

With the help of ENERGY STAR, Americans saved enough energy in 2007 to avoid greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 27 million cars and saved \$16 billion on their utility bills.\* Go to [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) for an ENERGY STAR home appliance shopping guide, as well as valuable tips for improving your home's energy efficiency.

As an ENERGY STAR partner, SCE&G is committed to helping customers reduce their energy costs.



\*Source: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)



## Small changes can make a big difference

**Do your part. Pay your bill online and help the environment.** It's as easy as changing a light bulb, driving less, walking more, or even taking advantage of paperless billing from SCE&G.

Paperless billing not only saves paper, it saves the energy used to produce, transport and dispose of paper. But what do you get for going paperless?

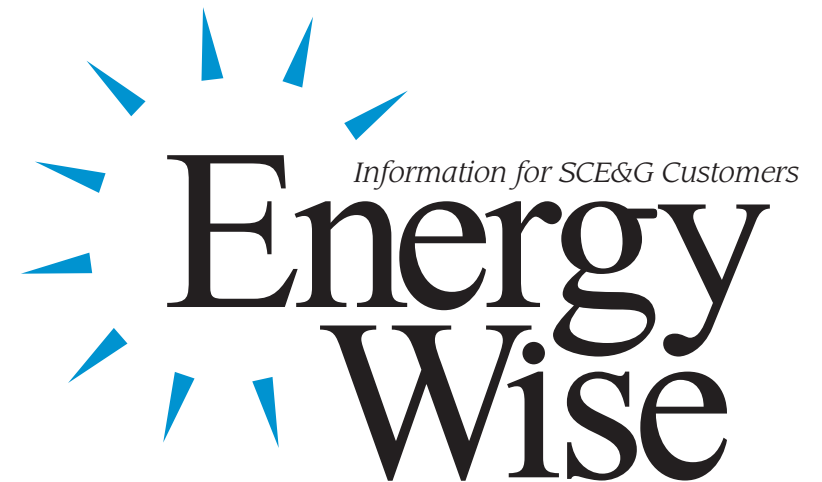
- **Control** – view your bill online whenever and wherever you want.
- **Convenience** – choose how and when to pay your bill.
- **Confidence** – make payments instantly knowing your information is always secure.
- **Conservation** – feel great knowing that you're doing your part to make the environment better for future generations.

No more stamps, checks, envelopes or lost bills. And better yet, no more worries about last minute payments.

**Go to [sceg.com](http://sceg.com) to get started. Big or small, you can make a difference.**



[www.sceg.com](http://www.sceg.com)



## Energy for generations to come

Across South Carolina, the demand for electricity continues to rise as new residents and businesses move into the state. SCE&G has forecast a need for new large scale electric generation to be available by 2016 and 2019. As a result, we are preparing to build two new nuclear plants at the V.C. Summer Station in Jenkinsville in partnership with Santee Cooper. When completed, the new nuclear plants will more than triple our generating capacity.

We believe nuclear power must play a part in meeting South Carolina's future energy needs. Currently, more than half of the state's electricity generation is supplied by four existing nuclear plants. Nuclear power is the best choice for SCE&G because it's clean, safe and efficient. You can learn more about SCE&G's nuclear plans on our Web site.

But new generation is not the only answer. Energy conservation and the development of new resources are also important. SCE&G has a number of "green" initiatives underway. SCE&G is part of Palmetto Clean Energy (PaCE), a non-profit organization that encourages the development of renewable energy sources. SCE&G customers can now support "green power" through PaCE. Learn how you can get involved in this edition of Energy Wise on page 2.

In addition, SCE&G is a member of Plug-in Hybrids Coalition of the Carolinas, which works to encourage

automakers to develop the technology and produce environmentally friendly vehicles. A plug-in hybrid vehicle is now part of the company's fleet, and we're looking for opportunities to incorporate other hybrids and compressed natural gas vehicles to help the company with fuel efficiency.

On the following pages you'll also find tips for reducing your energy costs, discover how making energy upgrades to your home could qualify you for a lower electric rate and learn about SCE&G's new energy audit tool.

Working together, we can take steps to use our energy resources wisely and ensure that South Carolina has the power it needs for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Kevin Marsh



## Go green with PaCE

As an SCE&G customer, you have a unique opportunity to join in our efforts to protect the environment. SCE&G has teamed up with other regional power suppliers to form Palmetto Clean Energy (PaCE), a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the development of renewable energy resources – or “green power” – in South Carolina.

By making a tax-deductible contribution to PaCE, you can support the future development

of renewable sources such as biomass, hydro, solar and wind energy. SCE&G makes it easy for you to contribute to PaCE:

- To make recurring tax-deductible contributions of as little as \$4 per month to PaCE via your SCE&G bill, call toll-free **1-800-251-7234**.
- To make a one-time tax-deductible contribution for any amount to PaCE directly, visit the PaCE Web site at **www.palmettocleanenergy.com**.

## Do you qualify for a lower electric rate? *If you've made energy upgrades to your home, you might.*

SCE&G's **Rate 6** program rewards homeowners who upgrade their homes to a high level of energy efficiency with a reduced electric rate – one that's lower than the regular residential rate.

In addition, the natural gas **Value Rate (Rate 32V)** is for customers who use natural gas in their homes year-round. To qualify, you must use an average of 10 therms of gas per month during

June, July and August. Newly constructed homes with natural gas water heating are placed on the value rate automatically and are reviewed annually.

To see if you qualify for either of these cost-saving rates, go online to **sceg.com** and click on customer service center under the residential services section. Or call customer service toll-free at **1-800-251-7234**.

## Pay the easy way

Better manage your energy costs by enrolling in the Easy Payment Plan (EPP). With EPP, you can avoid fluctuations in your SCE&G bill each month.

SCE&G will estimate your bill for the upcoming 12 months and divide that amount into 12 equal payments. For the next year, your bill will show your actual usage, total amount due, and the special EPP amount. You simply pay the EPP amount. After 12 months, your EPP payment will be recalculated based on actual usage.

If the total amount you paid during the 12-month period is less than your actual billing amount (you owe us), then you can either pay the difference in full or have the difference added

to your recalculated EPP for the next 12 months. If the total amount you paid is more than your actual billing amount (we owe you), then we'll apply that amount to your recalculated EPP for the next 12 months.

Get more details about EPP at **sceg.com** or call customer service at **1-800-251-7234** to enroll.

For added convenience, pay your bill online. SCE&G's eDraft and ePay are easy to use, secure and free. With eDraft, you can pay your SCE&G bill automatically the same day every month. eDraft gives you the flexibility to pay your bill any time before the due date.

Look in your local newspaper for the next edition of **SCE&G's Comforts of Home** in September. In this issue,

you'll read about the “green” advantages of natural gas; the positive side of the new home market; and discover even more ways to lower your energy bill. Plus, there's an award-winning recipe to try and much more.



## Conserving energy: what can you do?

SCE&G remains committed to providing you with safe and reliable energy that enhances the quality of your life. Here are some simple things you can do to stay comfortable this fall and conserve energy:

- Keep your fireplace damper closed when not in use.
- Wash clothes in cold water and use your dryer only when you have a full load. Keep lint filters clean.
- Have your heating system tuned up by a professional heating contractor.
- Open shades and drapes on sunny days to help warm the house. Close them at night to retain heat.
- Add attic insulation, caulk around windows, and replace old weather stripping around doors.



- Make sure your water heater is set to the “normal” or “medium” setting (usually 120 degrees).
- Remember to turn off the kitchen or bathroom ventilation fans to prevent heat from being drawn outside.

## Share the warmth

ProjectSHARE is a program of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and is sponsored by SCE&G. Through contributions, SCE&G employees and customers provide assistance to low-income customers for winter heating bills and, in extreme health-related cases, summer bills. Since the program began in 1986, contributions of nearly \$7 million dollars have helped more than 41,000 needy customers in towns and communities served by SCE&G.

It helps needy South Carolinians pay their heating bills during the winter. The need for support is great,

yet it costs so little to help – even one dollar a month will go a long way toward keeping someone warm.

All contributions to ProjectSHARE are used specifically for the purchase of electricity, gas, kerosene and other fuels for those in need. To participate, please complete the form below and return it with your payment, or drop it off at any SCE&G office. Your next bill will show your contribution amount. You can also make a one-time gift. Donations are tax deductible and can be stopped at any time by advising us in writing.

## YES! I would like to help the less fortunate.

Please add the indicated amount below to my SCE&G bill each month and give it to ProjectSHARE.

\$1  \$2  \$3  \$4  \$5  Other (\$\_\_\_\_) OR

I would like to make a one-time contribution and my check payable to ProjectSHARE is enclosed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

SCE&G Account No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information on ProjectSHARE, call our 24-hour Customer Care Center at 1-800-251-7234, visit your local SCE&G office or go online at [sceg.com](http://sceg.com).

Cut along dotted line. Please return this form with your bill payment.