

Information for SCE&G Customers

# Energy Wise

## Electricity still a good value

Over the past 25 years, the average household's use of electricity has increased by almost 25 percent. Not only are our homes larger today, but the electric appliances and gadgets we use – personal computers, DVD and MP3 players, cordless telephones, digital cameras and high definition televisions – weren't around back then.

Electricity has remained a good value despite rising demand and the soaring costs of producing and delivering power to homes and businesses. In fact, the cost of electricity has risen at a much slower pace in the last 10 years than other consumer goods, including gasoline, housing, food and transportation.

The decision to raise rates is not something SCE&G takes lightly. Earlier this year, the company filed its first requested increase to base rates since 2004. This request was necessary because the cost of serving our customers safely and reliably has gone up significantly in the last three years.

It's reasonable for you to ask, "Why should customers be responsible for SCE&G's rising costs?" To meet the growing energy needs of its customers, SCE&G must continue to build and maintain its system. The Public Service Commission and Office of Regulatory Staff review and evaluate all of the costs we incur to generate, transmit and distribute electricity to the homes and businesses of

our customers. If they are prudently incurred, we are allowed to recover those costs.

### Plugged In

The typical American household uses 21 percent more electricity today than in 1978. Here's why:

- 92%** have more than 2 televisions per household
- 84%** have DVD players
- 82%** have cordless telephones
- 76%** have at least one cell phone
- 62%** have digital cameras
- 32%** have MP3 players
- 25%** have high-definition TVs
- 17%** have more than 2 refrigerators

Sources: [getenergyactive.com](http://getenergyactive.com)  
Energy Star

That said, there are some simple steps you can take to help control your energy costs. Set your thermostat to 78 or higher in the summer, 68 or lower in the winter. Check air filters once a month and replace them regularly. Consider replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.

You can also visit [sceg.com/energytips](http://sceg.com/energytips) for more cost saving ideas.

SCE&G is committed to serving its customers with safe, reliable energy. By using that energy wisely, we all have a part in keeping costs under control.



Sincerely,

Kevin Marsh  
President, SCE&G

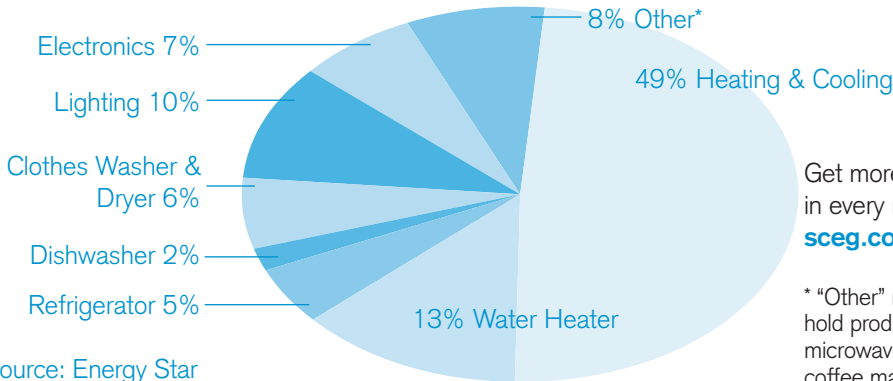


**SCE&G**  
A SCANA COMPANY  
The Heart of Energy<sup>SM</sup>

# By the numbers



Small changes can make a big difference when it comes to saving energy. Here's a typical breakdown of your energy usage:



Get more tips for saving energy in every room of your house at [sceg.com/energytips](http://sceg.com/energytips)

\* "Other" represents an array of household products, including stoves, ovens, microwaves, and small appliances like coffee makers and dehumidifiers.

Source: Energy Star

## CFLs save watts



Did you know that replacing just one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb can save you more than \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb?

In fact, ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs:

- Use about 75 percent less energy than standard incandescent bulbs.
- Last up to 10 times longer than regular bulbs.
- Produce about 75 percent less heat, so they're safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with cooling.

Other facts to consider:

If every home in America replaced just one incandescent light bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified CFL, it would:

- Save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes for a year;
- Save more than \$600 million in energy costs;
- Prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of more than 800,000 cars.

Source: Energy Star

For more information about florescent bulbs, visit [energystar.gov/cfls](http://energystar.gov/cfls)

## Budgeting made easy

Take the guesswork out of budgeting for your monthly energy bill. Sign up for the Easy Payment Plan.

We'll estimate your bills for the next 12 months and spread that amount into 12 equal payments. For each of the next 12 months, your bill will show your actual usage, your total amount due, and your special EPP amount. You simply pay your EPP amount.\* Get the details online at [sceg.com](http://sceg.com), or call our Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234.

\*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.

## We're looking for ways to save too!

SCE&G is looking into plug-in hybrid vehicles as an alternative way for the company to travel. The car averages 100 miles per gallon while reducing emissions up to 60%.

