



Information for SCE&G Customers

Energy Wise

In today's economy, we're all looking for ways to tighten our belts. As SCE&G is working to build new generation to continue meeting your energy needs, we're also taking steps to cut costs in our day to day operations. I can't think of a better time to share something that we have in common – finding ways to save money and still keep the household running, today and in the future.



I know it may be hard to see how a big company like SCE&G and your own household budget compare. But controlling our operating costs is not so different from managing your monthly budget. It's important that we're cost conscious in everything we do. We owe that to you as a customer.

In 2009, we cut 40 million dollars in our operational and maintenance costs. Here are some of the other things we've done:

- eliminated 34 percent of our contract positions
- eliminated pay increases for two years straight for salaried employees
- limited the hiring of new employees
- offset nearly 77 percent of the cost of federally-mandated Lake Murray Backup Dam through tax credits, saving customers like you \$254 million that we did not have to collect through rates

As SCE&G continues to serve South Carolina's energy needs, we do it with you in mind every single day. That's the bottom line and I wanted you to hear it from me. – Kevin Marsh, President, SCE&G

We understand - rates are complicated, but how it works and how it affects your energy bill is important. On this Web site, sceg.com/ratefacts, we've put together some information that might help explain how it works and what your hard earned money goes towards when you pay your energy bill.

Have an energy efficiency question?

Visit sceg.com/energywise for more energy tips. Or stop by sceg.com/blog and ask our Energy Team. Also find out how to get energy saving tips delivered right to your inbox!



Don't let saving energy take a vacation

While you're enjoying your summer vacation, your home may be busy – wasting energy. Here are some tips for managing your energy costs while you're away this summer.

Turn up your thermostat. Set the thermostat a few degrees above the recommended 78°. For each degree you raise the temperature, you could save as much as two to three percent on the cooling portion of your energy bill.

Turn off your water heater. Electric water heaters can be turned off at the breaker switch or, if you prefer to leave it on, set it to the lowest temperature setting possible. For gas water heaters, the simplest option is to switch the unit to “vacation setting.” Just remember to reset the unit when you return.

Unplug electronics and appliances. Plasma television sets and entertainment systems still use power when plugged in, even if they're turned off. Lights, toasters, coffee pots, hair dryers and other small appliances should also be unplugged, as well as your washer and dryer.

Guess who just got a \$300 bill credit?

If your old, inefficient electric water heater needs replacing, SCE&G offers great incentives for you to switch to natural gas. Get a \$300 bill credit when you switch to a natural gas water heater.

Making the switch to natural gas water heating may also qualify you for SCE&G's ValueRate, our lowest natural gas rate.

Visit www.sceg.com/value for details.



Call Before You Dig

Before you or someone you hire start digging — for a landscape project, a building project or for any other reason — call 811, a “Call

Before You Dig” number that will connect you to the Palmetto Utility Protection Service (PUPS).



South Carolina law requires that you call to have your lines marked at least three working days (72 hours) prior to beginning any type of excavation project. Upon notification, SCE&G will send a representative to your property to mark the location of our utility lines so that you or your contractor can easily avoid them while working on your project. Line marking is provided free of charge and is good for 10 working days after it has been processed by PUPS.

For more information, visit www.sceg.com/digsafely.

ASK THE ENERGY TEAM

Misconception: Ceiling fans should run counter clockwise in summer.

Truth: Ceiling fans do not cool a room; they only circulate air to make you feel cooler and often enable you to be more comfortable with a higher thermostat setting in the summer. Although the counter clockwise motion does push the air down making you feel cooler, it is a personal preference and truly does not matter which direction your ceiling fans run.

Misconception: You should set your thermostat at one temperature and leave it.

Truth: If you're gone from your home eight or more hours a day, you could benefit from turning your thermostat up a few degrees in the summer or lowering your thermostat in the winter. Using a programmable thermostat can help you manage your energy usage while you're away from home.

Misconception: Drying clothes and cooking are a large part of your monthly bill.

Truth: Appliances (refrigerator, dishwasher, clothes washer, dryer, etc.) only make up 13% of your annual energy costs.

Misconception: I'm never home and I don't cook at all.

Truth: Unless you turn off everything in your home (particularly the larger energy consumers like your HVAC unit and water heater) you are still incurring energy usage in your home even when you are not there.

Have a specific question for our Energy Team? Visit sceg.com/energywise for more energy tips. Or, ask one of our energy experts a question on the EnergyWise® blog at sceg.com/blog.



Matt, SCE&G Energy Team