

Planning for and Implementing Time-of-Use Rates

Presented by:

Mark Brown & Carolyn Justice-Hinson

Fayetteville Public Works Commission

About Fayetteville PWC

- Fayetteville Population: 207,300, 6th largest in NC; 4th most diverse community in U.S.
- Services: Electric, Water, Wastewater
- Electric Customers: 80,000 (total 113,000 customers)
- Home of Ft. Bragg very transient community
- PWC customer base turns over 20% each year
- 40% Rental Properties
- 1 of 4 electric utilities in Cumberland County: Duke, 2 EMCs





The Road to TOU Rates

- Strategic Plan (2009)
- Oracle Upgrade (2010-2014)
- AMI Planning/Installation (2012-2017)
 - AMI vendor-Sensus
 - Installation of towers, fiber, communications (2014)
 - 20 AMI Base Stations
 - Installation of 183,445 AMI meters (2014-2017)
 - 83,943 Electric
 - 99,502 Water





Why TOU Rates?

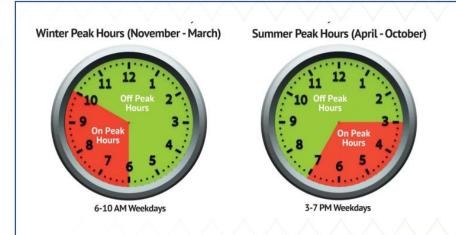
- Align Retail Rates with Wholesale Power Costs
 - Lower rate during hours when Wholesale Power Costs are lower
 - Large customers (Greater than 1,000 kW) CP rates
- Give Customers a Choice
 - Choose blend of comfort and savings
 - Choose current behavior vs. savings
 - Create opportunity for lower bills
- Lower Customer Bills
- Educate Customers
 - Impact of weather on their bills





About PWC TOU Rates

- TOU billing began May 1, 2019 (June Bills)
- Mandatory for Residential, Small Power
- On-Peak- 4 hrs Weekdays (\$.13 kwh)
- Off-Peak- 20 hrs Weekdays (\$.091 kwh)
- Weekends, PWC Holidays Off-Peak
- Small Commercial Less Than 35 kW (On-Peak (\$.135 kwh) Off-Peak (\$.096)



Winter Peak:
November-March 6-10 am

Summer Peak:

April-October 3-7 pm





TOU Rate Structures

- Mandatory Formula Based Coincident Peak (CP) Rates
 - All customers greater than 1,000 kW
 - CP capacity charge passed directly to the customer
 - CP capacity charge changes automatically when DEP bill determinants change
 - CP capacity charges subject to annual cost true-up
 - Energy costs set by commission action





Customer Opportunities

- 20 Hours Each Weekday and All Weekends
 - TOU Price 10% Less than previous rate
 - TOU Price 32.5% Lower than On-Peak rate
- Move Discretionary Consumption to Off-Peak hours
 - Dishwasher
 - Clothes Washer
 - Clothes Dryer
- Use or install Programmable Thermostats and/or Water Heater Timers to reduce consumption during On-Peak Hours



Communicating TOU Rates

- TOU Rates adopted March 2018
- Customer communications began with rate adoption
- Early education to correspond with future summer peak hours
- Traditional-newsletter, website, social media, events,
 TV show, Radio, advertising, speakers bureau, events



TOU Educational Material









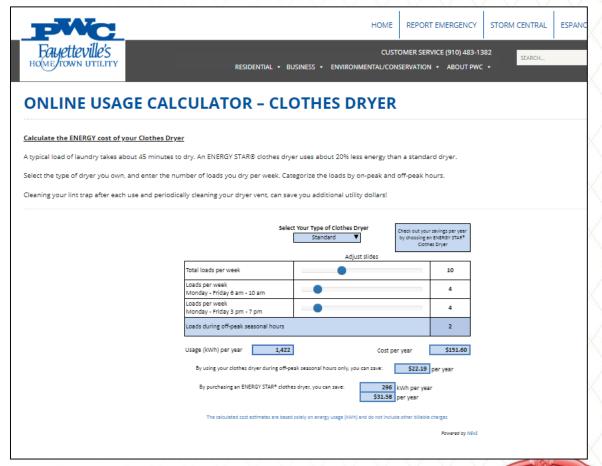
 Created educational material, magnets, videos, wall calendar

 Message: What was coming, how they could benefit, start changing habits now

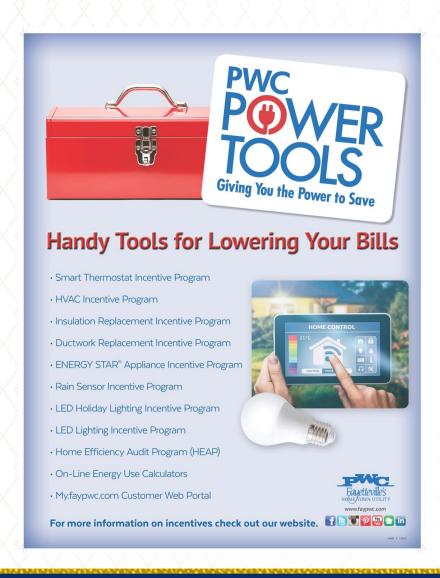


TOU Educational Material- Online Resources









Time-of-Use Tool Kit Incentive Programs, On-Line Resources





Time-of-Use Tools- On-line Account Manager

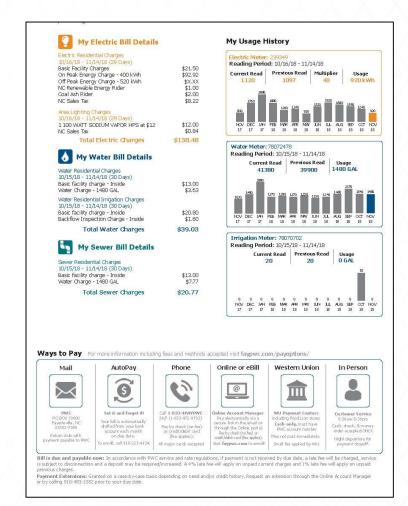


- Introduced in Fall 2018
- Spring 2019: Peak usage historical data
- View Daily Use (billed)
- Vendor: Milestone



Time-of-Use Tools- New Bill Design





- May, 2019-1 month prior to first bill with TOU usage
- Vendor: Utilitec



Time-of-Use Tools- Going Forward

POWER Tips to Save with Time-of-Use Rates

- Do laundry, run your dishwasher, use other appliances during Off-Peak hours.
- Limit hot water use during Peak hours. Or, turn your water heater off during Peak times; use a timer to do it automatically.
- Unplug unused devices to conserve energy. (cell chargers, laptops, game systems, etc.)
- During summer Peak hours, turn your A/C up (78° recommended); turn heat down (68° is great) during winter Peak times. Add a Smart Thermostat for automatic, reliable control of your temperature settings.

Visit www.faypwc.com for comprehensive tips to conserve and incentive tools to help you save.



16650 67M 6/19 (f) (e) (ii) (ii) (ii) (j) (iii)







- Direct Mail-Magnet
- Additional On-line Data (hourly), current (to be billed)
- Mobile App (Pay, View Data & Acct info)
- Targeted communications (off-peak weekends)
- More Incentive Programs
 - Expand Peak Savings Pilot Program
- Change of Peaks (November & April)
 - Digital Bill Boards



TOU Rates- Early Results

- Over the first two months of Time-of-Use rates, saw positive shift of usage from on-peak to off-peak period.
- 5% shift of electric usage to the less expensive off-peak period

May & June 2019: 15.6%

May & June 2017, 2018: 16.4%





TOU Rates- Early Results

 Average residential electric bill in May & June was 2% lower (\$2.57)

2018-\$115.21

2019-\$112.64

 Average residential cost per kwh in May & June was .01 lower

The energy behind public power

2018: 0.1010

2019: 0.0990

PWC electric bills decrease on average

But not everyone saw a lower bill in May and June

By John Henderson Staff writer

Fayetteville residents on average paid lower monthly electric bills in May and June electricity is higher, and a lower rate during times when demand for electricity is lower.

Before the program kicked off, PWC officials pointed out that customers who didn't make any changes in how they use electricity while using the same amount of power each

"I don't do laundry. I don't run any unnecessary appliances between 3 (p.m.) to 7 (p.m.)," he said. "I like it just because of the fact that I have the power to use less energy during that time, and I know my bill will be less."

... have been taking steps to use less power during the on-peak hours, such as not turning on the pool pump during those hours and shutting down the air for a couple of hours. "It is a matter of a lifestyle change," he said. "If you modify your lifestyle, those (electric bills) could go down."





Participate in conference discussions on Twitter: #ECAC2019





@ElectriCities NC

facebook.com/Electricities