

PUCN Connection

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

December 2022 Edition

Winter Natural Gas Bills

The cost of natural gas is rising and Nevadans may be feeling it in their winter utility bills. The reason for the rising costs is global and not just unique to Nevada.

Southwest Gas provided the information below to help explain the increase.

- Supply/demand imbalance combined with the residual effects of winter storm Uri have put upwards pressure on gas prices.
- Current US natural gas demand is well above available supply.
 - * Early in the pandemic, overall demand was reduced due to lockdowns and caused decreased drilling.
 - * In 2021, increased worldwide economic activity drove an increase in demand.
 - * In 2022, the Russian invasion of Ukraine increased demand for US Liquefied Natural Gas.
 - * US Liquefied Natural Gas exports are up close to 50% from where they were in 2021.
 - * Lagging US production means that supply is not able to keep up with domestic and worldwide demand for US Liquefied Natural Gas.
 - * Supply and demand are not currently balanced, which is driving up prices.

The price consumers are charged monthly for natural gas is updated quarterly, which could mean an increase on your bill if the cost of natural gas increased.

Natural gas and electric utilities provide notice of any upcoming rate changes through inserts in monthly bills and on the utilities' websites.

Nevada law does not allow utilities to profit on the cost of natural gas. Utilities must pass the cost on to consumers on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

PUCN CALENDAR

December 13 | 10 a.m.

Regular Agenda Meeting

PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas & live streamed on the PUCN website

[More Info](#)

December 26

Closed for Christmas

December 27 | 10 a.m.

Regular Agenda Meeting

PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas & live streamed on the PUCN website

[More Info](#)

View the full PUCN calendar at

<https://pucweb1.state.nv.us/puc2/PUCCalendar.aspx>

Annually, utilities are required by Nevada law to apply to the PUCN for a determination that their fuel and purchased power costs for the previous calendar year were prudent.

For more information, download the PUCN's "[Fuel & Purchased Power Costs](#)" fact sheet.

TIPS TO HELP WITH WINTER UTILITY BILLS

Southwest Gas provides the tips below to help consumers mitigate the rising cost of natural gas.

- Set the daytime thermostat between 65°F and 68°F, health permitting, and the nighttime temperature at a lower setting. Every degree that a heating system is adjusted affects its daily energy use and, in turn, a customer's energy bill.



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Winter Bills: *continued from page 1*

- Regularly change or clean air filters as required. Heating units use less energy and work more efficiently when filters aren't clogged or dirty.
- Kitchens are particularly vulnerable to excessive warming, especially from the extra heat generated by cooking. Adjust the kitchen vents, if you have them, until the room is comfortable.
- To help keep warm air inside the home and the cold air out, seal leaks and cracks around doors, windows and other openings with caulk or weather stripping. Proper insulation and sealants can help save up to 20 percent on heating costs annually.
- Curbing the use of non-essential natural gas features, including pool and spa heaters, Tiki torches or other decorative fire features, can help conserve natural gas.

Energy Assistance Programs

- Energy Assistance Program (EAP) Nevada dwss.nv.gov/Energy/1_Energy_Assistance/
- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) housing.nv.gov/programs/Weatherization/
- Energy Share Program swgas.com/en/energy-share
- Call 211, a resource to connect Nevadans to health and human services information, including energy assistance programs. You can also text TXT211 or 898211 or visit nevada211.org.
- Call Southwest Gas at 877-860-6020 to discuss assistance programs.

Dockets Opened at the PUCN in November 2022

Visit puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/ to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
22-11001	11/1/2022	Registration of Unity Wireless, Inc. as a commercial mobile radio service provider.
22-11002	11/1/2022	Notice by Eolus Project Holdings LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Jean Lake Solar Project consisting of a 750 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a battery energy storage system, a 230 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
22-11003	11/1/2022	Comcast IP Phone, LLC of its intent to request numbering resources for the Reno rate center from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator.
22-11004	11/2/2022	Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff for an order to appear and show cause why Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity, Licenses, or Permits should not be revoked, why administrative fines should not be imposed, and/or why administrative action should not be taken on certain companies that have not timely met their regulatory obligations for calendar year 2021 and/or the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.
22-11005	11/2/2022	Application of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale, filed under Advice Letter No. 2074, to revise Tariff No. C to modify Special Access Service Schedule No. C7-A to discontinue Special Access Program Audio Service.
22-11007	11/2/2022	Filing by Global Connection Inc. of America d/b/a STAND UP WIRELESS of biennial audit report submitted to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") pursuant to the FCC's Final Lifeline Biennial Audit Plan.
22-11008	11/3/2022	Filing by Telrite Corporation d/b/a Life Wireless of biennial audit report submitted to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") pursuant to the FCC's Final Lifeline Biennial Audit Plan.
22-11009	11/2/2022	Filing by Q LINK WIRELESS LLC of biennial audit report submitted to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") pursuant to the FCC's Final Lifeline Biennial Audit Plan.
22-11010	11/4/2022	Filing by Sage Telecom Communications, LLC d/b/a TruConnect of biennial audit report submitted to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") pursuant to the FCC's Final Lifeline Biennial Audit Plan.
22-11011	11/14/2022	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Root-O-Matic, Inc. ("Root-O-Matic") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Root-O-Matic.
22-11012	11/10/2022	Filing by Spark Energy Gas, LLC to update license information regarding civil, criminal or regulatory sanctions or penalties that have been imposed by any state.
22-11013	11/10/2022	Notice by Skybeam, LLC, JAB Wireless, Inc., and GI DI Iris Acquisition Inc. of a transaction that will result in a transfer of control of a telecommunication company.
22-11014	11/14/2022	Application of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. 27, to revise Tariff No. 1A to increase Flat Rate Exchange Services rates for business and residential customers pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 22-06011.

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Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
22-11015	11/14/2022	Application of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. 55, to revise Access Services Tariff No. 2 to modify switched access service rates pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 22-06011.
22-11016	11/15/2022	Arah Muaba Bey vs. Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy. Complaint regarding consumer disputing that he is considered a customer of the utility as defined in NAC 704.303 and should not be subject to the utility's tariffs.
22-11017	11/15/2022	Application of Southwest Gas Corporation for authority to establish the Accumulated Deferred Interest rate in Southern Nevada pursuant to the Variable Interest Expense Recovery mechanism, Unrecovered Gas Cost Expense rates, system shrinkage rates, excess Imbalance Commodity and Reservation Charges, Renewable Energy Program Rates, General Revenues Adjustment rates, Conservation and Energy Efficiency rates, Mesquite Infrastructure Expansion Rates, and Spring Creek Infrastructure Expansion Rates.
22-11018	11/15/2022	Application of Round Mountain Gold Corporation, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct a 230 kV line tap to an existing 230 kV transmission line, a substation, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
22-11019	11/16/2022	Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy filed Notice No. 22-04 to adjust the Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective January 1, 2023.
22-11020	11/16/2022	Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy filed Notice No. 22-04(E) to adjust the Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective January 1, 2023.
22-11021	11/16/2022	Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy filed Notice No. 22-04(G) to adjust the Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective January 1, 2023.
22-11022	11/16/2022	Notice by Boomerang Wireless, LLC d/b/a enTouch Wireless of possible service interruption for certain Lifeline customers due to decommissioning of the Verizon Wireless 3G CDMA network.
22-11023	11/18/2022	Application of Great Basin Water Co. for authority to modify Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 2692 Sub 9 to expand its water service territory for its Pahrump Division to include 20 acres of proposed development of Tim Birk d/b/a Two Medicine RV Park, LLC's property contiguous to its existing water service territory located in Pahrump, Nye County, Nevada.
22-11024	11/18/2022	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale, Windstream New Edge, LLC, and Talk America, LLC for approval of Amendment No. 1 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
22-11025	11/17/2022	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Sierra") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violation of NRS 704.865 by Sierra.
22-11026	11/18/2022	Application of Pershing Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct the Trinity Peak Switchyard consisting of a 345 kV switchyard and associated facilities to interconnect the Pershing Solar Project to the Valmy-Tracey transmission line to be located in Pershing County, Nevada.
22-11027		Filing by TracFone Wireless, Inc. d/b/a SafeLink Wireless, Simple Mobile, NET10, Total Wireless, Page Plus Cellular, TelCel, and Straight Talk of biennial audit report submitted to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") pursuant to the FCC's Final Lifeline Biennial Audit Plan.
22-11028	11/21/2022	Notice by Naturgy Candela Devco LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Cathedral Solar Project consisting of a 205 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, an up to 820 MWh battery energy storage system, a 230 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
22-11029	11/21/2022	Southwest Gas Corporation filed Notice, under Advice Letter No. 532, to adjust Northern and Southern Nevada Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective January 1, 2023.
22-11030	11/22/2022	Joint Application of Great Basin Water Co., Corix Infrastructure (US) Inc., and SW Merger Acquisition Corp. for approval of a proposed transaction that will result in the transfer of control of a water company.
22-11031	11/23/2022	Notice by Electric Lightwave, LLC d/b/a Allstream and Zayo Group, LLC of a transaction that will result in a transfer of control of a telecommunication company.
22-11032	11/30/2022	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of the fourth amendment to its 2021 Joint Integrated Resource Plan.

Prior editions of PUCN Connection are available at puc.nv.gov/About/Media_Outreach/PUCN_Connection/.

For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Consumer Outreach Director Dawn Rivard at drivard@puc.nv.gov or Communications Director Peter Kostas at pkostas@puc.nv.gov.