PA Office of Consumer Advocate's Electric Shopping Guide



October 2008

PA Office of Consumer Advocate

5th Floor, Forum Place 555 Walnut Street Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923 (717) 783-5048 • email: consumer@paoca.org www.oca.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Consumers Call Toll-Free At: 800-684-6560

Sonny Popowsky, Consumer Advocate

A Residential Consumer's Electric Shopping Guide Includes:

- Introduction & How to Shop
- Price Comparison Charts:

Allegheny Power

Duquesne Light

Rate RS - Regular Residential Service

Rate RH - Residential Heating Service

Rate RA - Residential Add-on Heat Pump Service

Met-Ed (Formerly GPU Energy)

PECO Energy

Rate R - Regular Residential Service Rate RH - Residential Heat Service

Penelec (Formerly GPU Energy)

Penn Power

Penn Power RS without Demand Penn Power RS with Demand Penn Power RH

Pike County Light & Power

PPL

UGI

Residential Electric Shopping Guide

by the

Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate

ntroduction

Thanks to a new law in Pennsylvania, consumers can now choose the company that provides them with a portion of their electric service. This guide has been prepared by the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate to help residential consumers make that choice.

The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate is a state office whose job is to represent Pennsylvania consumers in matters involving their utility services.

It is important to understand that consumers will only have a choice as to a portion of their electricity service. The power lines that run down your street and into your home will still be operated by your local electric distribution company, and the rates for the delivery portion of your service will still be regulated by the Pennsylvania Public Utility

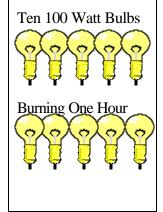
Commission.

But Pennsylvania consumers now get to choose the company that sells the electric power, or generation, that is delivered over those distribution lines. Some companies may offer electric generation service that is cheaper than the power sold by your local electric distribution company; some companies may offer types of generation that are cleaner to produce.



No matter who you buy your power from, the reliability and quality of your local electric distribution service will not change. In addition, only companies that are licensed by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission are allowed to sell electric generation to consumers in Pennsylvania.

How To Shop for Electricity



As a residential electric customer, you should have received a letter that includes a list of electric generation suppliers serving residential consumers in your area. That letter also includes a "price to compare," which is the price charged by your local utility for the portion of your service open to competition.

The "price to compare" is given in cents per kilowatthour (kWh). One way to think about a "kilowatthour" is the amount of electricity needed to keep ten 100-watt light bulbs burning for one hour. A typical residential customer may use about 500 kilowatthours of electricity every month for normal lighting and appliances. If you have electric heat, you are likely to use much more electricity in the winter months. If you have air conditioning, your usage will likely be higher in the summer months. The best place to find your own monthly usage is by looking at recent

bills you received from your electric distribution company.

Once you know your utility's price to compare and your own typical monthly usage, you can begin to shop for your electric supplier.

Again, all consumers should have received a list of the names and telephone numbers of licensed electric generation suppliers who have indicated an interest in serving residential customers in their area. By comparing the supplier's price per kilowatt hour with your electric distribution company's price to compare, you can find out whether or not you will save money by switching.

For example, as this table shows, if your electric distribution company's price to compare is 5ϕ per kWh and the competing electric generation supplier is charging 4ϕ , then you can save 1ϕ on every kilowatthour that you use. If you use 500 kWh in a month, then you will save \$5.00.

Price to Compare	5¢/kWh
New Supplier Price	- <u>4¢/kWh</u>
Savings	1¢/kWh
Savings	1¢/kWh
Monthly Use	X <u>500 kWh</u>
Savings per Month	\$5.00

How To Use This Guide

The purpose of this guide is to help residential consumers get started in shopping for their electric supplier.

We have collected information about each of Pennsylvania's major electric distribution companies as well as the electric generation suppliers who are presently offering service to residential customers in each area. We have attached a chart for each company showing the utility company's price to compare, and the comparable price being charged by the electric generation suppliers. We have also calculated the monthly bills for suppliers' services at three different usage levels -- 500 kWh, 1000 kWh, and 2000 kWh per month. If a

supplier includes a monthly or annual charge in addition to the price per kilowatt hour, then we have spread that charge over the applicable usage. For example, if a supplier charges \$5.00 per month, plus 5¢ per kWh; and if a consumer uses 500 kWh, then the monthly bill in our chart would be \$30.00.

It is also important to note that we have **not** included other parts of your electric bill in our comparison charts. All customers will **also** have to pay other charges to their electric distribution company to have the power delivered to their home. Those additional charges are the same regardless of

New Supplier Price per kWh	5¢/kWh
Monthly Usage	X 500 kWh
Monthly Usage Cost	\$25.00
Monthly Fee	+ \$5.00
Monthly Generation Bill at 500 kWh per month	\$30.00

who you buy your power from, however, so that does not change the amount of your monthly savings.



Our chart points out those electric generation supply services that are certified with a Green-e logo . The Green-e Renewable Electricity Certification Program is a program of the non-profit Center for Resource Solutions. The Green-e program was established to provide information and an objective standard for consumers to compare electricity products, and to verify that consumers get what they pay for. In order to qualify for Green-e certification, the electricity service must use at least 50% renewable energy supply and meet certain other standards. For more information, you can call the Center for Resource Solutions at (888)-63 GREEN, or check their website at www.green-e.org.

Finally, our charts only include basic residential and residential heating rates under which the great majority of Pennsylvania residential consumers are served. Some Pennsylvania electric distribution companies also offer special rates that vary based on time of day and by peak usage or that are associated with particular types of service, such as thermal storage or off-peak water heating. If you are currently served under one of these special rates, then you should check with the electric suppliers in your service territory to see if any of them are offering comparable services.

Now It's Your Turn

This document is only a guide to **start** you in the shopping process. We have tried to gather accurate information from all the residential suppliers that we are aware of in each territory, but there may well be additional products available. Also, **prices change**. You should always contact the supplier directly to make sure that you understand the price that you will have to pay as well as all other contract terms, such as the length of the contract and any other fees for switching to or from a particular supplier. Also, each electric distribution company's price to compare may change in the future.

Disclaimer of Liability and Endorsement

Neither the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate nor any of its employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of the attached charts.

Reference in the charts to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, or otherwise does not constitute or imply its endorsement or recommendation by the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate. The information contained in the charts shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes. The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate is not responsible for the contents of any off-site Internet web pages referenced.

We can help

If you have any questions, please contact our office by calling our **toll free number 800-684-6560** (Pennsylvania consumers only), or (717) 783-5048 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. The Office of Consumer Advocate also has a website at www.oca.state.pa.us which has other educational material available.

You can obtain a current list of suppliers serving your area, and a wealth of other information about the Pennsylvania Utility Choice Program, from the Program's website at www.utilitychoice.com or by calling toll-free 888-PUC-FACT (888-782-3228).

Allegheny Power		Rate RS	Regular Res	idential Serv	/ice
Allegheny Power 800-255-3443 www.alleghenypower.com	Prices in	Your M	onthly Generat	ion Bill	Green-e Certified?
	cents per kWh	<u>500 kWh</u>	<u>1000 kWh</u>	<u>2000 kWh</u>	
Price to Compare for					
<u>2008:</u>	5.01 ¢	\$25.05	\$50.10	\$100.20	
Licensed Competitive	ve Suppli	er Prices t	for <mark>New</mark> Cเ	ustomers	Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com					
New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable		Current supplier charge plus 2.5 ¢ per kWh, or \$2.50 for each 100 kWh block			Yes
*This product is available as an add-on current supply purchase	to your	*You must purchase a minimum of two 100 kWh blocks. This minimum purchase would increase your current generation bill by \$5.00 per month.			

Duquesne Light		Rate RS	Regular Resid	ential Servic	е
Duquesne Light 888-393-7100 www.duquesnelight.com Price to Compare for 2008:	Prices in cents per kWh 8.53 ¢	<u>500 kWh</u> \$42.65	\$85.30	<u>2000kWh</u> \$170.60	
Licensed Competitive	ve Suppi	ier Prices	s for <u>new</u> C	ustomers	Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable *This product is available as an add- current supply purchase	-on to your	\$2.50 for each *You must purch This minimum pu	er charge plus 2.5 of 100 kWh block ase a minimum of two archase would increase v \$5.00 per month.	100 kWh blocks.	Yes

Duquesne Light		Rate RH	Residential H	leating Serv	rice
Duquesne Light 888-393-7100 www.duquesnelight.com	Prices in cents per kWh	1	eneration & Tra Bill If You Use: <u>1000 kWh</u>		Green-e Certified?
Price to Compare for 2008:	6.92 ¢				
Summer (May-October)	8.08 ¢	\$40.40	\$80.80	\$161.60	
Winter (November - April)		\$40.40	\$67.15	\$120.65	
1st 500 kWh	8.08 ¢				
over 500 kWh	5.35 ¢				_
Licensed Competiti	ive Supp	lier Prices	for <mark>New</mark> C	Sustomers	s Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable *This product is available as an add-or current supply purchase	ı to your	\$2.50 for each and a syou must purcha	se a minimum of two	100 kWh blocks.	Yes

Duquesne Light		Rate RA	Residential Ad	dd On Heat F	Pump
Duquesne Light 888-393-7100 www.duquesnelight.com Price to Compare	Prices in cents per kWh	Monthly (Generation & Tr Bill If You Use <u>1000kWh</u>		Green-e Certified?
for 2008:	7.73 ¢	Φ 4 2 7 7 F	ΦΩ 7. 7.0	Φ1 7 1 00	
Summer (May-October)	8.55 ¢	\$42.75	\$85.50	\$171.00	
Winter (November - April)		\$42.75	\$70.60	\$126.30	
1st 500 kWh	8.55 ¢				
over 500 kWh	5.57 ¢				
Licensed Competiti	ve Suppli	er Prices	for New C	ustomers	Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable			ier charge plus 2.5 n 100 kWh block	¢ per kWh, or	Yes
*This product is available as an add-on current supply purchase	to your	*You must purch This minimum p	nase a minimum of two urchase would increase y \$5.00 per month.		

Met Ed		R	ate RS	Regular Reside	ntial Service
Met Ed 888-478-2300 www.firstenergycorp.com Price to Compare for 2008:	Prices in cents per kWh 6.57 ¢		eneration & T Bill If You Us 1000 kWh \$65.70	e:	Green-e Certified?
Licensed Competiti	,	•	·	•	Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable		Current supplie		.5 ¢ per kWh, or	Yes
*This product is available as an add-on current supply purchase	to your	*You must purchase This minimum purc generation bill by \$:	hase would increas		

PECO Energy	Rate F	? F	Regular Reside	ntial Service	e
PECO Energy 800-494-4000			eneration & Trai		Green-e
www.peco.com	Prices in cents per kWh	500 kWh	Bill If You Use: 1000 kWh	<u>2000 kWh</u>	Certified?
<u>Price to Compare</u> for 2008:	7.28 ¢				
Summer: (June - Septem	,	\$35.70	\$75.80	\$156.00	
First 500 kWh	7.14 ¢				
over 500 kWh	8.02 ¢				
Winter : (October - May) Each kWh	7.14 ¢	\$35.70	\$71.40	\$142.80	
Licensed Competi	tive Supplier F	Prices for I	New Custor	mers Onl	/ :
Commerce Energy, Inc. 877-226-5392					
www.commerceenergy.com	15.66 ¢ *	\$81.08	\$159.38	\$315.98	
	17.25 ¢ * *Plus \$2.78 per month	\$89.03	\$175.28	\$347.78	Yes
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com					
New Wind Energy TM ³ 100% renewable	k	Current supplier \$2.50 for each 1	charge plus 2.5 ¢ 00 kWh block	per kWh, or	Yes
*This product is available as an add- on to your current supply purchase			e a minimum of two 10 hase would increase y 5.00 per month.		
Energy Cooperative Ass	ociation				
of Pennsylvania					
800-223-5783 or 215-413	-2122				
www.theenergy.coop					
EcoChoice 100% renewable		\$81.00	\$162.00	\$324.00	

PECO Energy	Ra	te RH F	Residential Hea	ating Service	e
PECO Energy					
800-494-4000		•	eneration & Tra	nsmission	Green-e
www.peco.com	Prices in cents	E	Bill If You Use:		Certified?
	per kWh	<u>500 kWh</u>	<u>1000 kWh</u>	<u>2000 kWh</u>	
Price to Compare					
<u>for 2008:</u>	5.87 ¢				
Summer: (June - Septem	ber)	\$37.00	\$78.55	\$161.65	
1st 500 kWh	7.40 ¢				
over 500 kWh	8.31 ¢				
Winter: (October - May)		\$37.00	\$60.92	\$102.22	
1st 600 kWh	7.40 ¢				
over 600 kWh	4.13 ¢				
Licensed Compet	itive Supplie	er Prices fo	r <mark>New</mark> Cus	stomers C	nly:
Community Energy					
866-WIND-123					
www.NewWindEnergy.com					
New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable	e	Current supplier \$2.50 for each 1	charge plus 2.5 ¢ 00 kWh block	per kWh, or	Yes
*This product is available as an add current supply purchase	-on to your		e a minimum of two 1 hase would increase y 5.00 per month.		
Energy Cooperative Ass	sociation				
of Pennsylvania					
800-223-5783 or 215-413	3-2122				
www.theenergy.coop					
EcoChoice 100% renewable		\$81.00	\$162.00	\$324.00	

Penelec		Rate RS Regular Reside			ential Service	
Penelec 888-478-2300 www.firstenergycorp.com	Prices in cents per	В	eneration & Tr ill If You Use	:	Green-e Certified?	
	kWh	<u>500 kWh</u>	<u>1000 kWh</u>	<u>2000 kWh</u>		
Price to Compare for 2008:	5.50 ¢	\$27.50	\$55.00	\$110.00		
Licensed Competitive	e Supplie	er Prices fo	r <mark>New</mark> Cι	ıstomers (Only:	
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com						
100% renewable	Current supplier charge plus 2.5 ¢ per kWh, or			Yes		
*This product is available as an add-on to supply purchase	\$2.50 for each 10 *You must purchase This minimum purch generation bill by \$5	a minimum of two				

Penn Power	Rate RS	without Dem	and Meter		
Penn Power 888-451-9739 www.firstenergycorp.com	Prices in Cents per kWh	Monthly Generation Bill If You Use: 500 kWh 1000 kWh 2000 kWh			Green-e Certified
Price to Compare through November 30, 2008:	12.32 ¢	\$61.60	\$123.20	\$246.40	0 1
Licensed Competiti Community Energy	ve Supp	ier Prices	ior <u>new</u> C	ustomers	Only:
866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable *This product is available as an add-on current supply purchase	to your	Current supplier charge plus 2.5 ¢ per kWh, or \$2.50 for each 100 kWh block *You must purchase a minimum of two 100 kWh blocks. This minimum purchase would increase your current generation bill by \$5.00 per month.			Yes
Dominion Peoples Plus 1-800-903-0380 www.dom.com					
Fixed price through 5/09	9.85 ¢	\$49.25	\$98.50	\$197.00	
FirstEnergy Solutions 1-800-774-5588 www.fes.com					
Fixed price through 5/10	9.85 ¢	\$49.25	\$98.50	\$197.00	

Penn Power	Rate RS w	vith Demand	Meter		
Penn Power 888-451-9739 www.firstenergycorp.com Price to Compare through November 30, 2008: 1st 125 kWh per kW Over 125 kWh per kW	Prices in Cents per kWh ** 12.32 ¢ 5.16 ¢		nthly Generaticill If You Use: 1000 kWh (8kW) \$123.20		Green-e Certified
Licensed Competit	ive Supp	lier Prices	for New	Customer	s Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable *This product is available as an add-on to your current supply purchase		\$2.50 fo	r charge plus 2.5 or each 100 kWh e a minimum of two chase would increase 5.00 per month.	block 100 kWh blocks.	Yes
Dominion Peoples Plus 1-800-903-0380 www.dom.com					
Fixed price through 5/09	9.85 ¢	\$49.25	\$98.50	\$197.00	
FirstEnergy Solutions 1-800-774-5588 www.fes.com					
Fixed price through 5/10	9.85 ¢	\$49.25	\$98.50	\$197.00	

^{*} For Penn Power customers with demand meters, each customer's price to compare varies, based on both usage (kWh) and monthly peak demand (kW). The numbers on this chart for customers who continue to purchase generation from Penn Power, reflect average usage and demand characteristics. The numbers for competitive suppliers on this chart only vary by usage, not demand. Your individual price to compare is printed on your monthly Penn Power electric bill or you can receive it by contacting Penn Power directly.

Penn Power	Rate RI	H Residen	tial Heating S	Service	
Penn Power 888-451-9739 www.firstenergycorp.com	Prices in Cents per kWh	Monthly Generation Bill If You Use: 1500 kWh 2000 kWh 2500 kWh			Green-e Certified
Price to Compare through November 30, 2008					
Summer: (June - Septembe Each kWh	r) 9.96 ¢	\$149.40	\$199.20	\$249.00	
Winter: (<i>October - May</i>) Each kWh	5.41 ¢	\$81.15	\$108.20	\$135.25	
Licensed Competiti	ve Suppi	ier Prices	for <u>New</u> C	Sustomers	S Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com					
New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable	Current supplier charge plus 2.5 ¢ per kWh, or \$2.50 for each 100 kWh block			Yes	
current supply purchase		*You must purchase a minimum of two 100 kWh blocks. This minimum purchase would increase your current generation bill by \$5.00 per month.			

Pike County Light & Power		SC 1	Regular Residential Serv		vice
Pike County Light &		Monthly Generation & Transmission			Green-e
Power		Bill If You Use:			Certified?
877-434-4100	Prices in cents per				
www.oru.com	kWh	500 kWh	<u>1000 kWh</u>	2000 kWh	
Price to Compare for October 2008: Monthly variable price*	7.66 ¢	\$38.30	\$76.60	\$153.20	

Aggregation Program

Customers of Pike County Light & Power will continue to have the opportunity to participate in the Direct Energy aggregation program. Customers that are currently participating in the aggregation program do not need to take any action to remain in the program. Customers who wish to join should contact Direct Energy.

Direct Energy Aggregation 1-866-760-6040 www.directenergy.com	Program				
Fixed price from 1/08 through 5/09	11.90 ¢	\$59.50	\$119.00	\$238.00	
Licensed Competitive Supplier Prices for New Customers Only:					
Con Edison Solutions 1-866-842-8166 www.conedsolutions.com					
Fixed price for 12 months	11.80 ¢	\$59.00	\$118.00	\$236.00	

^{*}As of January 1, 2008, Pike County Light & Power's rates will be based on market prices and will vary from month to month.

PPL Electric Utilities		Rate RS	Regular Res	vice	
PPL Electric Utilities 888-668-4775 www3.pplweb.com/choice/	Prices in cents per kWh	Monthly Generation & Transmission Bill If You Use: 500 kWh 1000 kWh 2000 kWh			Green-e Certified?
Price to Compare for 2008: 1st 200 kWh next 600 kWh over 800 kWh	5.85 ¢ 6.57 ¢ 5.86 ¢ 5.44 ¢	\$30.72	\$59.18	\$113.58	
Licensed Competit Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable *This product is available as an add-ocurrent supply purchase		Current supplie \$2.50 fo *You must purchase	r charge plus 2.5 or each 100 kWh a minimum of two 1 hase would increase y	¢ per kWh, or block 00 kWh blocks.	Only: Yes

UGI		Rate R	Residential	Service	
UGI 888-285-2133 www.ugi.com/	Prices in cents per	Monthly Generation & Transmission Bill If You Use:			Green-e Certified?
electric/home.htm Price to Compare	kWh	<u>500 kWh</u>	<u>1000 kWh</u>	<u>2000 kWh</u>	
for 2008: 1st 500 kWh	11 20 a	\$56.50	\$109.25	\$192.05	
next 500 kWh	11.30 ¢ 10.55 ¢				
over 1000 kWh Licensed Competit	8.28 ¢ Five Supp	lier Prices	for New (Customers	s Only:
Community Energy 866-WIND-123 www.NewWindEnergy.com New Wind Energy ^{TM*} 100% renewable		Current suppli	er charge plus 2.5 for each 100 kWh	¢ per kWh, or	Yes
*This product is available as an add-current supply purchase	_	se a minimum of two chase would increase \$5.00 per month.			