# Powering a Reliable and Sustainable Future for South Carolina



Santee Cooper is proposing an average 4.9% rate increase that, if approved, would take effect in April 2025. The Board of Directors has approved a public review and comment period through Oct. 8, 2024.

## Why?

- > Inflation has outgrown our ability to manage it, and revenues from current rates will not cover our expenses in 2025.
  - Our rates have been flat since 2017, but inflation has increased 25% in that time.
  - We have already cut budgets (\$100 million total), refinanced debt (saving customers \$765 million over time), strategically reduced our headcount and taken other steps to address rising prices.
- > We need to invest in the electric system to maintain high reliability of the system, and to comply with new regulations related to the environment, grid operations and security.

## Who is affected?

All retail customers: residential, commercial, lighting and industrial. Here is a look at specific recommendations by customer class.

Customer Class	Average Increase
Residential	8.7%
Commercial	4.1%
Lighting	5.0%
Industrial	2.8%
Total System Average	4.9%

## Additional Information for Residential Customers - RG Rate

Rate recommendations include a rate increase, and also a new rate structure that lowers the energy charge

by approximately 40%, and adds a demand charge. This new structure, for the RG rate that covers most residential customers, actually lets customers lower their bills by shifting their use of high-demand appliances outside the daily peak demand period. Peak demands are 3-6 p.m. in summer months and 6-9 a.m. in winter months.

Description	Current	Proposed 2025	% Inc.			
Residential General Service (RG)						
Customer Charge	\$19.50	\$20.00				
Demand Charge	N/A	\$10.03				
Summer Energy Charge	\$0.1197	\$0.0684	8.7%			
Winter Energy Charge	\$0.997	\$0.0684	1			

## Monthly Energy Charge

A charge reflecting the total amount of electricity (kilowatt-hours) consumed during the month.

#### **Demand Charge**

A charge reflecting the maximum electricity (kilowatts) used in any hour during the system peak each month.



Green Means Go! Use your higher-demand appliances during the "green" hours and avoid our system peaks. The higher your "on peak" demand, the higher your bill.





# **How Could This Impact Your Bill?**

Customers who choose to use high-demand appliances outside of the peak can significantly reduce their monthly bills.

> Note the difference in the bills as the on-peak demand changes

Rate	On-Peak Demand (kW)	Average Monthly Energy (kWh)	Average Monthly Bill	2025 Avg. Monthly Increase
Monthly Bill Current	N/A	1,000	\$115.69	-
Monthly Bill Proposed	5.1 kW 4.3 kW	1,000 1,000	\$125.98 \$119.35	\$10.29 \$3.66

> Scan to Calculate the Potential Impact on YOUR Bill



Common Appliances and
Sample Demands

Heat Pump	4.5 kW
Water Heater	3 kW
Clothes Dryer	5 kW
Dishwasher	1.5 kW
Oven	3 kW

#### **WE WANT YOUR INPUT**

Santee Cooper has opened a public review and comment period, and we encourage customers to get involved by reviewing proposed rates and appearing and speaking in public at a meeting or submitting written comments.

#### **DEADLINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

- > Deadline for submission of written comments: Sept. 9, 2024.
- > Deadline for oral comments:
  Oct. 8, 2024, Board of Directors meeting

Sign up for Public Comment Meeting, submit written comments and view Rate Schedules, Rate Study and additional information at www.santeecooper.com/ratestudy