

Central Hudson sets record for natural gas send out

During the recent heatwave, Central Hudson set a record for the amount of natural gas that flowed through its pipelines. On August 4, 156,400 cubic feet of gas was used in Central Hudson's service area, setting a record that is usually achieved during winter heating months. The previous high of 149,800 cubic feet was set on January 20, 2021.

This unprecedented spike in usage is largely attributed to consumption by the Danskammer and Rose-ton power plants, which use natural gas to generate electricity. Approximately 82 percent of the natural gas delivered on August 4 was used for electric generation at these two plants. Roseton, which is only active during times of peak demand, was online ten times more often this summer than last year. This increase in usage is due to extended periods of hot weather coupled with the closure of the Indian Point nuclear facility in Westchester County.

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EnergyCentral

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BILL RELIEF PROGRAM

PSC, utilities implement plan to help low income customers



You may have seen our notice in the local papers or heard about the Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program and the accompanying surcharge on your Central Hudson bill. We've been receiving questions from some of our customers about this new program. In an effort to help you address concerns you may be receiving from your constituents, we've provided answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

What is the Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program?

The Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program is a program designed to assist low-income families and individuals

throughout the state who experienced hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic.

What does the program do?

This program helps reduce past due balances for income-qualifying customers. It was approved by the New York Public Service Commission (PSC) in June and is supported through funding by the state (\$250 million) and a surcharge on the bills of customers at every major energy utility in New York.

Residential utility customers who receive income-qualified government as-

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Relief: Program helps reduce past due balances

sistance for utility bills and other expenses and have past-due balances for service through May 1, 2022, will have those balances forgiven through a bill credit. These customers remain responsible for charges incurred after May 1.

What does this mean for my Central Hudson bill?

Every attempt is being made to provide real relief to the customers who need it most while minimizing the impact on other customers. For Central Hudson's residential customers, the typical total bill impact will be approximately 0.5 percent through August 2023. This surcharge will be included in the miscellaneous charges line of the monthly bill.

Why is this surcharge needed?

When the initial wave of COVID-19 struck New York, thousands of residents experienced unprecedented hardship as the state and the economy shut down in an effort to slow the spread of the virus. New York implemented a moratorium that allowed impacted customers to forego payment of their utility bill with no penalty and no threat of service termination. This moratorium remained in place until December 2021 and Central Hud-

son has voluntarily kept this practice in place since then.

From the start of the pandemic to now, New York has seen past due balances on utility accounts swell to over \$1 billion. Central Hudson's arrears have currently grown from approximately \$33 million in August 2019 to nearly \$100 million today.

Electric and gas utilities like Central Hudson pay many of the costs of operating a safe and reliable energy system up front. With the oversight and approval of the PSC, the Company recovers these costs through rates and surcharges.

This program will help the most financially vulnerable customers throughout New York state regain some financial stability and allow them to resume timely monthly utility bill payments.

What is Central Hudson doing to help all customers?

In recognizing that all of our customers were impacted by the pandemic, Central Hudson contributed \$4.5 million for COVID-related issues. This contribution resulted in a reduction of delivery rates for all of our customers during the first year of our current rate plan.

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How long will this surcharge be on bills?

The 0.5 percent surcharge will remain on bills for 12 months, or, from August 2022 through August 2023.

To find the latest information on the Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program, visit www.CentralHudson.com/BillRelief. *

Gas: Hot weather, Indian Point closure drive spike in usage

The increased usage of Danskammer and Roseton further highlight New York's ongoing need to supplement intermittent, weather dependent energy sources

like wind and solar with dispatchable, on-demand power generation in order to meet the needs of all New Yorkers at all times.

To learn more about Central Hudson's plan to safely and effectively reduce carbon emissions, visit www.CentralHudson.com/PoweringThePath. *

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NEW RECORD

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PREVIOUS RECORD

149,800

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