

Residential Lifeline Services and Prices

Effective January 1, 2009



Basic Utility Rates

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We take seriously our responsibility to provide reliable energy and control costs. Before setting new rates, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin reviews our rate request and listens to customers' suggestions and proposals.

Why are MGE electric prices going down?

Natural gas prices impact your electric bill. The demand for cleaner electric power has made natural gas a key part of electricity's fuel mix.

The new electric rate is lower because of a drop in natural gas supply prices. In recent years, MGE has increased electric rates to pay for new infrastructure (power plants, substations, etc.) to reliably meet our customers' growing energy demands. The retreat from last year's high natural gas supply prices has offset these new infrastructure costs.

Why are MGE natural gas rates unchanged?

Natural gas distribution service rates cover gas system maintenance and the costs to deliver gas to your home. They are independent of gas supply prices. Supply prices (found under gas sales service rates) may go up or down with monthly market fluctuations. The current lower gas supply costs will be reflected on your bill. These prices are filed monthly with the Public Service Commission.

Visit mge.com for more information about energy costs.

How can I control my costs?

While you don't have control over energy prices, you do have control over your energy use. You can now track your energy use and see how your home heating costs compare online at mge.com. Consider these tips to control costs:

- Adjust your thermostat setting at night and when you are away.
- Replace your incandescent lightbulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when purchasing new appliances and equipment.

For more energy-saving ideas:

- Visit mge.com or
- Call our Home Energy Line at (608) 252-7117

What can I do to control my bills?

Sign up for MGE's Budget Payment Plan to spread your energy bills more evenly over a 12-month period. We'll review your account at six and 12 months and adjust your payment amount if necessary.

For more information or to sign up:

- Visit mge.com/budget or
- Call (608) 252-7222 or 1-800-245-1125

Lifeline Services

Optional lifeline services meet everyday electricity and natural gas needs. You may remain on this service until you:

- No longer meet the income guidelines.
- Receive weatherization services.
- Move to a new address.

Once you leave lifeline services, you may choose from the service options listed in the MGE brochure titled "Residential Services and Prices."

Electric Lifeline Service

Residential Electric Lifeline (Rg-3) (closed)

	Winter	Summer*
Customer charge per day	\$0.15780	\$0.15780
Distribution service per kWh	\$0.03100	\$0.03100
Electricity service per kWh:		
- First 300 kWh per month	\$0.05923	\$0.06684
- Over 300 kWh per month	\$0.09345	\$0.10395

*These prices apply from June 1 through Sept. 30.

Natural Gas Lifeline Service

Your lifeline natural gas bill includes Firm Gas Sales Service and the Residential Lifeline Distribution Service. Firm Gas Sales Service (FS-1) provides the highest level of reliability for your natural gas supply. Residential Lifeline Distribution Service (RD-2) brings the natural gas safely to your home.

Firm Gas Sales Service (FS-1)

Administrative charge	\$0.0330 per therm
Natural gas service**	
- Summer (Apr. 1 - Oct. 31)	\$1.0314 per therm
- Winter (Nov. 1 - Mar. 31)	\$1.0684 per therm

Residential Lifeline Distribution Service (RD-2) (closed)

Customer charge	\$0.3370 per day
Distribution service	
- Summer (Apr. 1 - Oct. 31)	\$0.2816 per therm
- Winter (Nov. 1 - Mar. 31)	\$0.2616 per therm

**Subject to adjustment for the cost of purchased gas.

Customer Charge: Every customer receives this charge whether or not natural gas or electricity is used.

Contact us

We're here to provide information that can help you make smart energy decisions. Please contact us with your questions about MGE rates, your bill and our services.

- Visit mge.com/rates
- Visit our offices
- Call us at (608) 252-7222 or 1-800-245-1125
(Spanish line call (608) 252-7120)

MGE main office

133 S. Blair St.
Madison, WI 53703

Office hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Monday through Friday

Viroqua office

526 E. Decker St.
Viroqua, WI 54665
(608) 637-3139

Office hours


7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Monday through Friday

Prairie du Chien office

700 E. Blackhawk Ave., No. 3
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(608) 326-2417

Office hours

8 a.m. to noon, 1 to 4:30 p.m.,
Monday through Friday

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your community energy company