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The dollar amount saved varies among members. The more electricity that you shift to off-peak, the more money you might save. Ninety-two percent of all hours are off-peak.

7. What behaviors can I change that will help me make a difference in lowering my electric bill?
- Use automatic timers to run appliances such as water heaters, pool pumps, hot tubs, etc. during off-peak hours.
- Use programmable thermostats to shift AC/heating to off-peak times.
- Install computer programs to turn off at the switch when not in use.
- Use alternative energy sources such as solar or wind.

8. Could I end up paying more money on the TOU rate?
By signing up for the TOU rate, you will most likely be required to make minor adjustments in your daily routine. If you don’t change your energy use patterns, you could pay more.

9. If I choose to try the TOU rates, how long is my commitment?
Your commitment to staying on the TOU rate plan is a minimum of six months. If after six months of making lifestyle changes your bill increases, you have the option to cancel your TOU rate plan.

10. How do I sign up for the TOU rate plan?
Sign up at any Coast Electric office or call 1-877-769-2372, or visit www.coastepa.com.

11. What are the current TOU rate amounts?
Current rates are listed at www.coastepa.com or call us at 1-877-769-2372.

12. Are there any sign up fees associated with TOU rates?
No, there are no initial sign up fees or charges associated with the TOU rate plan.

13. Are there any restrictions for renters?
Yes, if your landlord has signed a continuous service agreement with Coast Electric, then you will not be able to participate in the TOU rate plan. Please contact your landlord before calling Coast Electric to see if a continuous service agreement is in effect.

14. How does my meter know which hours are peak hours and which hours are off-peak hours?
Coast Electric's automated meter will recognize which times are peak and off-peak hours. Your meter is also programmed to recognize daylight saving time.

15. How do I read my TOU meter?
The display scrolls every five seconds with this meter. The meter will go through the following displays: 1. Display test (all LED sections should come on) 2. Display overall reading 3. Display TOU off-peak reading 4. Display TOU peak reading.

RESIDENTIAL TIME OF USE RATE PLAN
As a consumer, you’re accustomed to making money-saving choices and paying lower prices for goods and services used during off-peak times. A number of industries – such as telecommunications and commercial airlines – offer attractive off-peak rates to even out customer demand and prevent system overload. Coast Electric’s Time of Use (TOU) rate plan is based on the same idea.

By reducing your electricity use during peak times, you have the opportunity to decrease your monthly energy costs — without reducing the overall amount of electricity you use.

1. What is the TOU rate plan?
Coast Electric’s TOU rate plan is based on the time of day you use electricity and our cost of supplying electricity to you during that time. If you use electricity when the total used by all Coast Electric members is high (off-peak), your rate will be lower than the standard rate. When the total used by all Coast Electric members is low (off-peak), you can potentially save hundreds of dollars each year. Shifting your electricity use to off-peak hours helps Coast Electric avoid peak demand charges, and we can pass these savings on to our members.

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So, how are the Kornmans saving so much? It’s the little things they do that add up. Here are some tips from Mr. Kornman about how he saves each month.

• A programmable thermostat is set at 65 degrees each night. In the winter, the thermostat goes off during morning peak hours (6 a.m.-8 a.m.) and comes on during off-peak hours at a 70-degree setting.

• Their water heater is set on a maximum temperature of 120 degrees and a water heater timer ensures that the Kornmans have warm water when they need it, but they aren’t heating water during peak hours.

• They use their fireplace in the winter and have taken special precautions to make sure cold air isn’t getting in the house through the fireplace.

• Mr. Kornman thoroughly cleans the lint traps and ducts on his dryer to reduce drying time.

• They always wash clothes in cold water and never do laundry during peak hours.

• When the Kornmans built their house in 1976, they insulated the garage.

• The Kornman’s home has a low roof pitch and does not have high ceilings, like most more modern homes. That means their heating and air units don’t heat and cool empty space.

• When using the dryer, Mr. Kornman will shut off the air vent in the laundry room and crack the window in the room. They then seal the crack at the bottom of the door between the laundry room and the kitchen so the dryer is pulling in the air from outside the house and not inside.

“One of the biggest bargains in the world today is the cost of electricity,” Mr. Kornman said. While he believes electricity is a bargain, he also believes in doing what he can to save and make his house run efficiently. When asked what he would say to encourage other members to consider TOU rates, he stated that heating and cooling costs are the key. “Changing the temperature settings from winter to summer and having a programmable thermostat really helps consumers save,” he said.

With a testimonial like that and a six-month guarantee, why not try the TOU rate plan? It could save you 26 percent on your monthly electric bill, just like Mr. Kornman!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTIAL TOU ACCOUNTS

• 92 percent of all hours, year round, are off-peak.

• No inconvenient winter period evening peak hours.

• You will only need to avoid the two peak hours (6 a.m. to 8 a.m.) in the winter period.

• By avoiding peak hours, you can save even more money.

• The easiest way to save money on your electric bill is to install programmable thermostats and water heater/pool pump timers and set them to avoid peak hours.

• Significant money can be saved on TOU versus the standard rate.