



**ENERGY
OUTREACH
COLORADO**

Xcel Energy Smart Meters and Time-of-Use (TOU) Rates

With TOU rates, you will pay a higher rate for the energy used in your home during the hours when energy and electricity are most expensive to produce (1pm-7pm on weekdays). You'll pay less when demand is lower and when energy is cheaper to produce (weekends and outside of 1pm-7pm weekdays). TOU rates will begin at your home 4-10 months after your smart meter is installed.



How Can I Understand My Bill?

Once your home receives a smart meter, the electric portion of your bill will include a chart showing how many kWh were used in each time frame (On-Peak, Mid-Peak, Off-Peak, and Total).

METER READING INFORMATION			
METER		Read Dates: 01/31/22 - 03/02/22 (30 Days)	
DESCRIPTION	CURRENT READING	PREVIOUS READING	USAGE
Mid Pk Energy	15 Actual	0 Actual	15 kWh
On-Peak Energy	52 Actual	0 Actual	52 kWh
Off-Peak Energy	378 Actual	0 Actual	378 kWh
Total Energy	445 Actual	0 Actual	445 kWh

When your household is moved to TOU rates, you will be charged a different rate for your usage in each time frame (Mid-Peak Energy, On-Peak Energy, Off-Peak Energy).



How Do I Shift Usage and Avoid High Bills?

Smart meters measure your electricity usage. You are not charged TOU rates for gas appliances (like gas furnaces, gas water heaters, or gas stoves). Here are some helpful tips to help you shift usage of electric appliances and electronics:



Air Conditioning (central or window unit) – cool homes in the morning and evening, close windows and blinds and limit cooling between 1-7pm



Electric Stove – use smaller appliances to prepare dinner when possible (microwaves, toaster ovens, etc.)



Electric Washer/Dryer – start loads of laundry in the mornings, evenings, or on weekends



Dishwasher – start the dishwasher in the morning or after 7pm



Electric Water Heater – take showers and wash dishes in the mornings or late evenings



Other Electric Appliances and Electronics – monitor bills and limit usage during peak hours as possible

What is a Smart Meter?

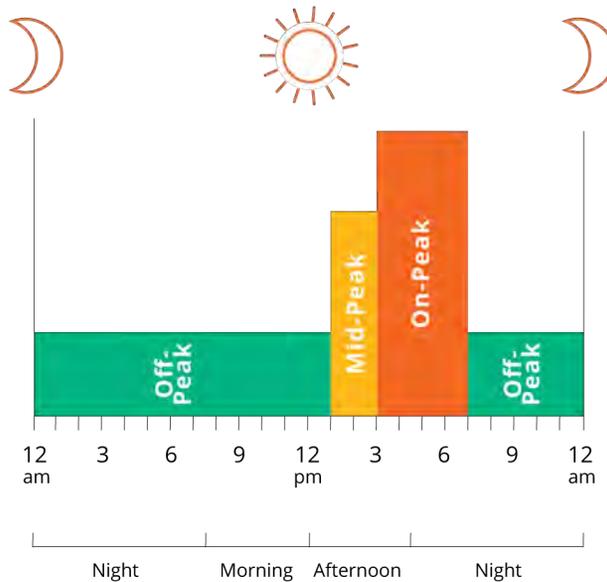
Xcel Energy is installing smart meters in Colorado customers' homes to help them better manage the high demand for energy. Smart meters allow Xcel Energy to measure usage in 15-minute increments and better monitor outages. They also allow Xcel Energy to charge rates based on when energy is used.

These meters can help your household save money if you understand how to plan your high energy use for Off-Peak times, when rates are lowest, and limit your energy usage during Mid-Peak and On-Peak times, when rates are highest.

Note: If Time-of-Use rates will not work for your household, you can opt-out of the program.



What is the Cost Breakdown of TOU Rates?



- On-Peak:** 3-7 pm M-F (Summer \$0.27, Winter \$0.17)
- Mid-Peak:** 1-3 pm M-F (Summer \$0.19, Winter \$0.13)
- Off-Peak:** 7 pm-1pm M-F, all weekends and holidays (Summer & Winter \$0.10)

Can I Refuse the Smart Meter?

You can refuse the installation of a smart meter, but Xcel Energy will charge a \$13-\$26 fee (depending on location) per month to read your old meter.

Can I Opt-Out of TOU Rates?

You can choose to opt-out of the TOU rates and be put on a flat Opt-Out Rate (Summer \$0.13 per kWh, Winter \$0.11 per kWh). There is NO extra fee for opting out of the TOU rates, but the opt-out rates may end up costing more depending on your energy usage. **Calculate your charges on TOU rates and compare them to charges for the Opt-Out Rate in both summer & winter before deciding to opt-out.**

If you choose to opt-out of TOU, call Xcel Energy customer service at 800-895-4999 and ask to be placed on the flat rate.

How Can I Monitor My Electric Usage?

You can see your smart meter usage by logging on to your online account through xcelenergy.com. Visit **"My Energy Portal"** by clicking the link to **"My Energy."** Click on **"View My Usage & Cost."** The data can be broken down by month, week, day, hour, 30 minute or 15-minute increments.

NOTE: gas has a separate meter, and your household will still be charged a flat rate for gas usage.

