

SourceGas Distribution files annual gas cost adjustment

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

SourceGas Distribution, LLC announced the company has filed its annual Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA) with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for its North Eastern service area.

The filing reflects a decrease of 19.10 percent in a residential customer's total annual bill for the upcoming period which begins Nov. 1 and continues through Oct. 31, 2011.

In accordance with state law, the company recovers the cost it pays to purchase natural gas on behalf of its customers on a dollar-for-dollar basis, without realizing any profit or loss. The GCA mechanism ensures that customers pay exactly the same amount the company paid to purchase natural gas for them. The new rates, if approved, will take effect Nov. 1 and will be reflected in the next billing cycle.

"Natural gas continues to be the best energy value for our customers," said Bill Cantrell, President and CEO of SourceGas. "Along with offering substantial savings over propane and electricity, natural gas is clean, efficient and domestically produced. It truly is America's best kept secret."

For customers in the North Eastern service area, the new rate will be \$0.4097 per therm. Based on average monthly usage of 70 therms, the typical household will now pay an average of about \$53.62 per month instead of about \$66.28 per month for their natural gas service. Residential customers who typically use 133 therms in January (when bills are usually the highest) will pay approximately \$92.95, a decrease of about \$24.14, or approximately 20.62 percent, for their bill in January 2011, compared to January 2010.

Small business customers who typically use 252 therms in January will pay approximately \$159.29, a decrease of about \$45.74, or approximately 22.31 percent, for their January 2011 bill, compared to the same period in 2010.

SourceGas wants to remind customers about the energy efficiency programs that are designed to help our natural gas customers in Colorado. The programs include energy audits, rebates on equipment and insulation measures, a program for residential income-qualified customers, and a custom program for larger commercial and industrial gas customers.

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SourceGas customers can obtain additional information, rebate guidelines and details on the programs by visiting www.excessisout.com or by calling toll free 877-XS-IS-OUT (877-974-7688).

Other options available to help customers keep their energy costs in check include: balanced billing to stabilize bills, setting thermostats back; installing weather stripping; closing doors to rooms not being used; and inspecting the heating system to ensure it's operating efficiently.

Eligible SourceGas customers may apply for assistance through various state and federally funded initiatives like Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), which is administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services and supplemented by Energy Outreach Colorado.

SourceGas is a natural gas local distribution utility headquartered in Lakewood. SourceGas and its affiliates serve nearly 410,000 customers and operate 17,940 miles of distribution, gathering and transmission pipeline, as well as storage facilities, in Arkansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming.

SourceGas and its affiliates also provide gas transportation, in-home HVAC and appliance service and sales, as well as gas commodity sales services to its natural gas customers.