

Volume 20, Number 1

FELPS Changes Bill Terminology for Greater Clarity

To reduce confusion about what customers pay to FELPS and what is passed through to other entities to pay for generation and transmission, the Floresville City Council has approved a revised rate structure.

Only distributed generation customers, those who have solar power, will see an additional charge—the Reactive Power Support Fee (RPSF). All other customers will see different terminology on the bill but the bottom line will remain the same.

The new bill presentation shows an additional \$0.05 per kilowatt hour for wholesale power costs and appears on the line Generation and Transmission. This amount was previously included in the base rate and shown as the Power Cost Recovery Factor.

The Monthly Service Charge will remain the same. The Distribution Charge, formerly called the Energy Charge, will not contain any charges for the cost of wholesale power. So the net effect on the bill is zero.

The following illustrations show the previous language and the way the bill information is now being presented.

FELPS Briefs

- Please note that the FELPS office will be closed on Jan. 15 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and on Feb. 19 for Presidents' Day. Regular hours will resume at 8 a.m. on Tuesday following each holiday.
- To report outages, including on holidays and after business hours (Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.), please call 830-216-7000 and select sub-option 2 or submit your outage through the FELPS web site.
- Theft of electricity is a crime. To save customers money, FELPS will begin prosecuting persons who steal electricity.
- Consider paying your electric bill the easy way with the bank draft program. Call Customer Service for assistance with completing the form online.
- Mark your calendar for the La Vernia Junior Livestock & Poultry Show on March 1-3.

Bills in December looked like this.

. Di	stribution Charges		
I	Monthly Service Charge		15.00 l
	Energy Charge	2318 KWH x 0.073700	170.84
I Po	ower Cost Recovery Factor	2318 KWH x 0.030400	70.47
I He	elping Hands Program		0.69
	urrent Amount Due		257.00

Beginning in January, the bill will look like this.

Monthly Service Charge Distribution Charge Generation & Transmission Helping Hands Program	2318 KWH x 0.023700 2318 KWH x 0.080400	15.00 54.94 186.37 0.69 257.00
Current Amount Due		257.00

The RPSF is related to providing power to large motor loads, such as air conditioning units and refrigerators for distributed generation customers, those with solar systems. Reactive power is not provided by most distributed generation units so FELPS must make investments in its system to provide reactive power.

The amount of the charge is set at \$1.02 per kilowatt per month with the total monthly charge based on the nameplate capacity of the solar system. For example a 5 kilowatt solar system owner pays \$5.10 per month and a 20 kilowatt solar system owner pays \$20.40 per month.

The fee is designed to ensure that all distributed generation customers pay their fair share of the increased costs to the FELPS system. The charge may change in the future.

If you are unsure of your solar power system's nameplate capacity, please call 830-216-7000, sub-option 1, and speak with a customer service representative.

FELPS Board of Trustees Includes New and Returning Members

The Floresville Electric Light and Power System Board of Trustees has one new member and one who has been reappointed.

The city of Stockdale has named John Akin to replace Vernon R. Lambeck whose term ended on Dec. 31 and the City of La Vernia has reappointed Sharon Tanneberger to

another four-year term as an advisory member. Both will serve until Dec. 31, 2021.

The Board of Trustees includes five voting members and two non-voting advisory members who set policy and approve expenditures and allocation of revenue for FELPS. All Board members serve four-year terms except for the mayor of Floresville.

Current Board members and their term expiration dates include:

Cecelia Gonzalez-Dippel, Mayor of Floresville Serves during term as Mayor Ignacio Vasquez, City of Floresville December 31, 2018 Mark Moczygemba, City of Poth December 31, 2019 Sherry Castillo, City of Floresville December 31, 2020 John Akin, City of Stockdale December 31, 2021 Advisory Members and their term expiration dates include:

> Tim Braniff, City of Falls City December 31, 2019 Sharon Tanneberger, City of La Vernia December 31, 2021

Transportation Option Offered

You can get some relief from stressful traffic and volatile gas prices with a free carpool matching service offered by the Alamo Area Council of Governments. The service also provides rewards for green trips and reimbursement for an emergency ride home from work.

Residents of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson counties can join the service by going to **www.NuRide.com/ alamoarea** on the Internet. Here's how it works:

- Log on to NuRide with your email or Facebook account.
- Click "Find Rides" and provide your home and work addresses to find a match.
- Record your trips to get rewards.

On average, you will receive about \$1 in rewards for each trip you record. One week of carpooling to and from work adds up to about \$10 in rewards. Rewards and coupons may be redeemed at Alamo Drafthouse, Krispy Kreme, Advanced Auto Parts and many more places.

The AACOG CARE Program also provides up to a \$50 reimbursement four times a year for an emergency ride home from work if you've used alternative transportation, such as carpool/vanpool, public transit, walking or biking, to get there.

To qualify, keep your NuRide profile current and take alternative transportation to school or work an average of three times a week. One round-trip counts as two trips on NuRide.

For information, call Lily Lowder at 210-362-5277 or email her at **commutesolutions@aacog.com**.

FELPS Offers Convenient Ways to Pay

Start your year right by signing up for an easy way to pay your electric bill. FELPS offers residential customers two convenient automatic payment methods that ensure you won't ever face late fees. Whether you're at home or away when the bill comes due, it will be paid automatically.

You can sign up to have your electric bill paid automatically with your credit card. FELPS will set up your electric account to draft your credit card on the due date each month. FELPS accepts Visa, Mastercard and Discover.

Another automatic payment method, the bank draft program, allows your bill amount to be deducted automatically from the designated checking or savings account each month.

In both cases, you will receive your regular statement showing the bill amount, so you can record it. To sign up, call the FELPS office at 830-216-7000 and select suboption 1. Or you can complete the form for the bank draft program online at www.felps.us.

Replacing conventional bulbs with LEDs can help you save on your electric bill. Residential LEDs use at least 75 percent less energy and they last 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

If you are replacing a light fixture, consider an LED fixture for energy savings and bright light output.



Contacting FELPS

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After 5 p.m.: (830) 216-7000 (for outages, press sub-option 2)
The Floresville Electric Light and Power System Board of Trustees meets the last Wednesday of each month at 8 a.m. in the utility offices, 1400 Fourth Street, Floresville.