



Pay in person:
2620 Fairfield St. (27th & Fairfield)
Lincoln, NE 68526-9788
8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday–Friday

Customer Service: 402.475.4211
Power Outage: 888.365.2412 - Toll Free
Nebraska811 (Call before you dig): 811 - Toll Free

OCTOBER 2022

LES proposes rate adjustment

After five years with no rate adjustment, the Lincoln Electric System Administrative Board's Budget & Rates Committee proposed a budget that includes a 4.8% systemwide increase to 2023 retail electric rates during LES' Administrative Board meeting Sept. 16. The rate adjustment primarily is due to budgeted increases in power and transmission costs which are the costs to generate and deliver electricity to customers. LES has limited ability to influence these costs.

An LES residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month on average will see an increase of approximately \$5 on their monthly bill, or 4.8%, if the rate increase is adopted. Other rate classes would see increases varying from 3.9% to 6.1%

based on the cost to serve each customer class.

While net power costs are up \$3.5 million and transmission costs are up \$9.6 million, reductions in other operating expenses helped reduce the overall rate adjustment. "In addition to power and transmission cost increases, similar to other Lincoln businesses, LES is experiencing inflationary and supply chain pressures," said Emily Koenig, LES vice president of Financial Services & chief financial officer. "While cost reductions were included in the proposed budget, it is necessary to implement a rate increase to fund overall increased costs."

"It is a priority of LES to keep costs low for customers,"

Koenig continued. "The 2023 rate increase will position LES to continue delivering safe, reliable and affordable electric service while keeping the average residential customer's daily cost less than \$3 per day."

THE AVERAGE LES RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER BILL REMAINS UNDER \$3 PER DAY

The total proposed 2023 budget of \$331 million includes the operating budget of \$276 million and the capital budget of \$55 million.

A public meeting on the proposed LES 2023 budget and rates will be held Oct. 4, 6-7:30 p.m. at the LES Operations Center, 9445 Rokeby Road in Lincoln.

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RATE ADJUSTMENT BY CLASS OVER 10 YEARS*

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Prop. 2023	10-yr avg
Residential	2.9%	0%	0%	3.5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4.8%	1.1%
General Service	1.0%	0%	0%	0.7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.4%	0.7%
Large Light & Power	4.2%	0%	0%	4.4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-3.7%	4.3%	0.9%
System Average	2.9%	0%	0%	3.0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-1.0%	4.8%	1.0%

* Rates are set at +/- 5% cost of service which results in varying rate changes for each class.

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Customers can join virtually through a link, view materials and watch the meeting recap at [LES.com/Budget](https://www.les.com/Budget). LES staff also will be meeting with customers and customer groups in October to provide information and receive feedback on its proposed 2023 budget and rates.

Board action on the budget is planned to occur at its Oct. 21

meeting. If approved by the LES Administrative Board, the proposed budget and rates will be considered by the Lincoln City Council at a public hearing in November. If approved, rate changes will become effective Jan. 1, 2023.

Business and residential customers can use LES' online rate calculator to see an estimated bill with the proposed rate, found at

[LES.com/BillCalculator](https://www.les.com/BillCalculator). Payment assistance options can be found at [LES.com/FinancialAssistance](https://www.les.com/FinancialAssistance) or by calling LES at **402-475-4211**. Financial incentives are available for residential and business customers making energy-efficiency improvements through LES' Sustainable Energy Program, available at [LES.com/SEP](https://www.les.com/SEP).

Where your dollar goes

You work hard for your money, so LES works hard for you – not for profit. In fact, we are not in business to make a profit at all. When you pay your LES bill, every cent of every dollar goes to keep the power flowing. This chart shows how each dollar is divided.

\$0.48 for operation and maintenance of the electric system – covers the cost of producing electricity and delivering it to where you live, work and play.

\$0.05 for payment in lieu of taxes to local governments – our version of property taxes.



\$0.28 for construction projects and debt payments – essential investments to keep our community's power safe and reliable.

\$0.19 for payroll and benefits – helps us hire and keep talented employees.

SAVE THE DATES

LES Budget & Rates Tuesday, Oct. 4, 6 p.m.

LES staff will meet with customers to provide information and receive feedback on the utility's proposed 2023 budget and rates before the LES Administrative Board takes action on the budget at its October meeting. The meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Oct. 4 at LES' Operations Center, 9445 Rokeby Road, Lincoln.

Public Power Week Oct. 2-8

We're celebrating Public Power Week 2022 with more than 2,000 other community-owned, not-for-profit electric utilities that collectively bring electricity to 49 million Americans across 49 states and five territories. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn as we share our history of affordable electricity, reliable power and local people serving local people on social media with the hashtags [#PublicPowerWeek](https://twitter.com/PublicPowerWeek) [#PoweringTheGoodLife](https://twitter.com/PoweringTheGoodLife) and [#CommunityPowered!](https://twitter.com/CommunityPowered)

Discover ways to save!

Visit [LES.com](https://www.les.com) for energy-saving tips and sign up for LES' e-newsletter to get tips delivered directly to your inbox!



GET ENERGY ASSISTANCE

We understand unplanned hardships can make it challenging to pay your electric bill. We have several options and services to help. If you or someone you know are struggling to pay the electric bill, contact LES today at [LES.com/FinancialAssistance](https://www.les.com/FinancialAssistance) or **402-475-4211**.

LES
Lincoln Electric System

Helping People. Changing Lives.
Community Action
PARTNERSHIP
LANCASTER AND SAUNDERS COUNTIES