

connected.....to serving you

As electric rates change, energy solutions can help you manage bills

Typically, your electric rates change three times a year based on the actual price of electricity.

By May, rates for the top two tiers of electricity use (Tiers 3-4) will rise, based on what we paid for electricity recently. One reason for rising costs is the increased amount of renewable energy, which is more expensive than traditional sources in the mix of energy we buy. The state has directed all utilities to obtain at least 33% of their electricity purchases

from renewable sources by 2020. In addition, the rate structure is changing as a result of California's electric rate reform law. Assembly Bill 327, which took effect Jan. 1, 2014, gives back to the California Public Utilities Commission the authority to bring rates in line with actual costs of electric service so everyone pays their fair share. It replaces the structure put in place after the 2001 energy crisis that shifted the majority of cost increases to high-use customers.

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▶ Call or click for ways to save

Limited income, a recent job loss or special needs may qualify you for a 20% bill discount, free home improvements worth thousands of dollars and other money-saving programs. To learn how we can help you or someone you know, call **1-800-411-7343** or visit sdge.com/assistance.

The first step, if approved, could begin July 1. We've proposed rate changes for all four tiers that would start the 2014-2018 transition to a redesigned rate structure gradually. Some of those tier prices would increase, while others would decrease.

To help ease the effect on your household budget, we offer a variety of options you can use to manage energy bills. Visit sdge.com/energydiet for:

- Top 10 ways to save.
- Easy-to-use tools.
- One-minute videos with energy tips. ■

GET A CUSTOMIZED ACTION PLAN: Check out the energy management tool in My Account. Take the survey and you'll get a report on where your energy dollars are going. For details, visit sdge.com/survey.

▶▶▶ For more info, visit us anytime at sdge.com.



“Right tree, right place” rooted in safe, reliable electric service

Join us at EarthFair

Celebrate Earth Day at EarthFair 2014, San Diego's 25th annual environmental fair, at Balboa Park on Sunday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. We'll be there to share energy-saving solutions, information about electric vehicles and more, so stop by the SDG&E booth. ■

Meet the Green Team

Randy Calentine keeps his mind on science in his job as SDG&E's environmental lab and site assessment manager, but he puts his heart into the all-volunteer employee Green Team.

“I think people really do care about the environment and they really do want to get involved and engaged. They're just looking for the opportunity,” he said.

To view a short video on the Green Team, visit sdge.com/me. ■



Randy Calentine leads the Green Team.

If you plan to plant trees this spring, be sure to take the “**right tree, right place**” approach. It means choosing trees that appeal to you and harmonize with overhead power lines and underground utilities for safe, reliable service.

- Start by checking out the **tree planting guide** under the “Resources” listed at left on our tree safety site at sdge.com/treesafety.
- At least two workdays before digging, call **Underground Service Alert at 811** to have underground utility lines marked out. This service is free. Once you know where underground pipes and cables are located, you should dig carefully, using only hand tools, within 24 inches of utility equipment.
- If you're concerned about vegetation growing close to a power line or transformer, call us at **1-800-411-7343** to request an inspection. We work with local communities and licensed contractors to maintain 415,000 trees throughout our 4,100-square-mile service area. Don't trim trees near power lines yourself – it's dangerous.



The Arbor Day Foundation® recognized SDG&E as a Tree Line USA® Utility for following best practices for tree care and public education for the 12th consecutive year.

You can also learn more about tree planting in your community at Arbor Day and Earth Day events in March and April. SDG&E joins local cities, schools and community groups in tree planting and educational presentations every year to help get the word out about the “right tree, right place” role in power reliability. For announcements about public events, visit sdge.com/newsroom.

To see when vegetation management crews are scheduled to work in your area, visit sdge.com/treesafety. ■

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