

# Energy Update

## Transition to new business energy pricing begins

**C**alifornia utilities are shifting to new pricing based on when you use energy. Your current plan will be changing.

### You'll receive personalized information

We'll contact you via mail or email during the next six months – from Nov. 1, 2015, to April 30, 2016 – with details on the new pricing plans. You'll receive personalized information for each account(s) you have, and from there you can decide what plan is right for you.

### When you use energy matters

With the new pricing plans, understanding *when* you use energy is critical. There are two new Whenergy® plans that will reward your business for reducing

electricity use during the following high-demand hours:

- **11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**  
in the summer (May 1-Oct. 31).
- **5 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
in the winter (Nov. 1-April 30).

To learn more about how electricity costs vary by time of day and by season, watch our short video, "Understanding Time of Use," at [sdge.com/whenergy](http://sdge.com/whenergy).

### Helpful resources

To learn more about Whenergy plans – and programs and services that can help your business save energy and money – call us at **1-800-336-7343** or visit [sdge.com/business](http://sdge.com/business). ■

All pricing plans (rates) are subject to the supervision and regulation of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and are subject to change by CPUC order.

## ▶ In this issue

- ▶ Heating tips help you save money
- ▶ Get financing for qualifying projects
- ▶ See how natural gas fuels business

## Click to find local contractors

If you need the services of a contractor to help you with an energy-saving project, check out our Trade Professional Directory at [sdge.com/find-trade-pro](http://sdge.com/find-trade-pro). Click the qualifiers listed there that best describe your preferences, such as the type of service and technology, then click "search." It's that easy.

For information about how your company can be listed in the Trade Professional Directory, visit [sdge.com/tradepro](http://sdge.com/tradepro). Trade professionals include electricians, heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) specialists, engineers, general contractors, manufacturers and equipment dealers.

The Trade Professional Directory is provided for informational purposes only. SDG&E® does not recommend, endorse, qualify, guarantee or make any representations or warranties regarding the services, work, quality, financial stability or performance of any vendor listed in its Trade Professional Directory, or the products and services they offer. Vendors are listed in the directory because they elected to provide their name and contact information and not because they hold any particular license or certification.

### Get the guide

*Want to save money? Interested in energy solutions such as services, tools and tips? Go to [sdge.com/bizguide](http://sdge.com/bizguide) for "Your guide to energy savings and services for business."*

▶▶▶ For more info, visit us anytime at [sdge.com/business](http://sdge.com/business).





# Heating tips help you save money

## Get financing for qualifying projects

Your energy upgrades may qualify for favorable financing options, such as 0% interest on a loan with monthly payments based on the estimated energy savings on your SDG&E bill.

Visit [sdge.com/financing](https://www.sdge.com/financing) to learn more and link to California's online portal, where you can search for energy-efficiency measures that may be eligible for lower-cost financing.

## See how natural gas fuels business

Nearly every local business relies on natural gas on a daily basis. Natural gas is a clean, safe and abundant form of energy. For insights into the ways different types of businesses use natural gas to stay competitive, go to our YouTube channel at [sdge.com/YouTube](https://www.sdge.com/YouTube) and look in the "Natural Gas Use" playlist for short videos on "How Natural Gas Fuels San Diego," featuring a hospital, craft brewery, ice arena, restaurant and greenhouse.



*As part of a series of short videos highlighting local businesses, Tony Godfrey of Olive Hill Greenhouses in Fallbrook tells how natural gas helps his operation stay competitive.*

If customer or employee comfort is important to your business operation, then heating may be one of your biggest energy expenses during chilly weather. Here are some steps you can take at little or no cost to help save money.

### Do-it-yourself steps at no cost

- When your facility isn't occupied, make sure the thermostat of your heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) system is set back or turned off.
- Set the thermostat at 68 degrees or lower when heating your facility, comfort and health allowing.
- Keep exterior doors closed while running your heating equipment to avoid wasting air you've paid to heat.
- Keep the areas in front of air registers clear. Blocked air registers hamper your HVAC system's efficiency.
- Limit exhaust fan use to reduce the loss of conditioned air and the amount of makeup air your HVAC system needs to heat. Shut off exhaust fans when rooms aren't occupied, unless health codes require ventilation.
- When using a ceiling fan, set it to go clockwise in the winter for a gentle updraft that pushes warm air near the ceiling down toward occupants. This warming effect may allow you to adjust your HVAC thermostat to a slightly lower temperature.

### Low-cost tips for savings

- Set up and follow a routine maintenance schedule so your HVAC equipment runs efficiently and lasts longer. See the owner's manual for recommended steps you can take versus checkups, testing, cleaning



*See if your business (and/or home) qualifies for free smart thermostats valued at \$300 each, including installation. Visit [sdge.com/EUT](https://www.sdge.com/EUT) to complete the online interest form.*

- and adjustments that need to be done by a qualified technician. You'll find HVAC specialists listed in our Trade Professional Directory at [sdge.com/find-trade-pro](https://www.sdge.com/find-trade-pro) (see article on front page).
- Clean or replace air filters every month during peak heating season. Dirty filters make your HVAC equipment work less efficiently.
- Check condenser coils and evaporator coils on heat pumps quarterly and clean them at least once a year. Dirty coils inhibit heat transfer and waste energy.
- Install programmable thermostats. Set to start heating about 30 minutes before employees arrive, and shut off an hour before they leave.
- Fix leaky air ducts.
- Caulk to seal gaps around vents, wires and pipes.

For more ways to save energy and money at your business, including industry-specific tips, visit [sdge.com/business](https://www.sdge.com/business). ■

These programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by SDG&E® under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Programs may be modified or terminated without prior notice and are provided to qualified customers on a first-come, first-served basis until program funds are no longer available. Eligibility requirements apply. Customers who choose to participate in these programs are not obligated to purchase any goods or services offered by contractors, vendors or any other third party. SDG&E does not endorse, qualify, or guarantee the work of any contractor, vendor or other third party and is not responsible for any goods or services selected or purchased by customers.

© 2015 San Diego Gas & Electric Company. All trademarks belong to their respective owners. All rights reserved. Some materials used under license, with all rights reserved by licensor.

♻️ Printed on recycled paper with soy-based inks. K-1511 S1510104 121M 1115

