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# Service

Electricity—Water—Wastewater—Electricity—Water—Wastewater—Electricity—Water—Wastewater—Electricity—

Effective February 1, Brainerd Public Utilities (BPU) customers will see an adjustment in both their electric and water rates.

BPU's energy charges paid to Minnesota Power, which is BPU's wholesale power provider, have increased 36% since 2008, while BPU's revenue has only increased 15% for the same time period. BPU needs to increase their revenues in order to build cash reserves to fund necessary capital infrastructure projects and to meet minimum debt service coverage ratio on outstanding bonds payable.

The rate adjustment for water is necessary to fund major capital projects including work on the elevated water tower, the water plant itself, and to cover the increase in operating costs.

If you have any questions regarding these adjustments, please feel free to attend the monthly BPU Commission meeting. The Commission holds their monthly meetings, the last Tuesday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Class	Current Electric Rates			New Electric Rates		
	Monthly Charge	All kWh	All kW	Monthly Charge	All kWh	All kW
Residential	12.00	0.0604	-	13.25	0.0660	-
General Service (GS)	20.00	0.0609	-	22.00	0.0675	-
GS—Demand	33.00	0.0322	12.60	40.00	0.0342	14.00
Large Power (LP) Secondary	120.00	0.0241	16.25	120.00	0.0265	17.50
LP—Primary	120.00	0.0235	15.50	120.00	0.0255	17.00
Industrial	120.00	0.0199	15.00	120.00	0.0220	16.30
Dual Fuel	-	0.0420	-	.50	0.0460	-
Off Peak Energy	-	0.0360	-	.50	0.0397	-

The Power Cost Adjustment will remain unchanged at \$0.007 per kWh.

The proposed monthly charges also include the \$0.53 Minnesota Department of Health charge to accommodate the mandatory State charge that has been placed on each water meter in the State since July 1, 1992. Water and wastewater treatment customers outside the City limits will be charged 200 percent of the applicable rate.

**Here is a list of phone numbers to help you get the answers you are looking for**

Questions on billing statements	825-3207
Moving in or out of a rental, or selling/purchasing a home	825-3200
Want to pay using a credit card (Visa or MasterCard)	825-3201
Set up a payment arrangement	825-3223
<b>Business Office</b>	<b>829-8726</b>
<b>Repair Office</b>	<b>829-2193</b>

Monthly Charge (By Meter Size)	Water Rates		Wastewater Rates	
	Current	New	Current Debt Service Charge	New
5/8 & 3/4 Inch	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.50	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
1 Inch	34.00	35.00	13.00	13.00
1 1/2 Inch	51.00	51.00	18.00	18.00
2 Inch	95.00	95.00	22.00	22.00
3 Inch	155.00	157.00	31.00	31.00
4 Inch	240.00	240.00	39.00	39.00
6 Inch	380.00	397.00	55.00	55.00
8 Inch	730.00	747.00	70.00	70.00
All Meters			9.00	9.00
Infrastructure Charge		3.00		
<b>Commodity Charge (Per 1,000 Gallons)</b>	\$ 1.85	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.40

**Business & Repair Office Hours**  
7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

**Business:** 829-8726  
**Repair:** 829-2193

**Emergency 24 hour service 365 days a year:**  
218-829-2193

EMAIL@BPU.ORG WWW.BPU.ORG

**BEFORE DIGGING:** Call Gopher State One at 1-800-252-1166 for water and electric locations. All requests for locations must be made by calling the above toll free number at least **48 hours** before digging begins.

**NOTICE:** All electrical work performed in the City of Brainerd requires a "Request for Electrical Inspection" form to be filed, and work inspected by our inspector. Please call **825-3210** or **829-2193** for more information.

Billing Cycles & Due Dates	Billing Cycle	Due Date each Month
<p>Your BPU due date is determined by the first two numbers of your account number.</p> <p>Sorry, but BPU can not change due dates.</p>	01, 02, 03, 04, 05	3rd of every month
	06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 20	10th of every month
	11, 12, 13, 14, 15	17th of every month
	16, 17, 18	24th of every month

**Set-top Boxes**  
 May use as much energy as a refrigerator!



### Are You Wasting Electricity?

More than 80% of US homes subscribe to some type of pay television service, resulting in more than 160 million set-top boxes. Based on a recent study completed by National Defense Council (NRDC) and the ECO Group, set-top boxes consume 27 billion kWh of electricity annually (2/3 of which occurs when they are not even in use), which is equivalent to the annual household electric usage for the entire state of Maryland.

Fortunately, there is great potential for reducing the electric usage from these electronic devices. Some of those ways are;

**UNPLUG IT**— When you go away on vacation.

**TURN IT OFF** — Turn off TVs, lights radios and other devices when you are not using them.

**UNPLUGGED MADE EASY** —Use a *standard power strip* to turn off multiple devices with one switch. It's like unplugging them. Use a **SMART power strip** for TV and computer peripherals and stereo components.

1. Plug the main device (*TV, computer*) into the primary outlet.
2. Plug other peripherals (*for entertainment centers — stereo, VCR/DVD player; for computer work centers — printer, scanner, monitor*) into the secondary outlets. Electronics that are plugged into the secondary outlets will be powered off when the main device is turned off or shut down.
3. Devices that must stay on can be plugged into the constant outlets which are marked on the power strip.



Use a *timer* for electronic equipment you don't need all the time but want to be ready when you need to use it — things like *set-top boxes* (e.g., satellite box), *computer networking equipment* (e.g., routers and modems), and *tool chargers*. For example, turn off set-top boxes late at night and power them back on early in the morning — they'll recover their settings long before you turn on your TV.

**Direct Payment**

We are pleased to offer you the **Direct Payment Plan** for utility payments. With this plan your utility bill payment can be made automatically from your checking account, savings account, Visa or MasterCard.

**The Direct Payment Plan will help you in several ways:**

1. Saves time – fewer checks to write.
2. No late payments. Your payment is always on time, even if you're on vacation or out of town, helping to maintain good credit.
3. Saves postage.
4. Easy to sign up for, easy to cancel.
5. No late payment charges.

**Here's how the Direct Payment Plan works:**

1. You will continue to receive your monthly bill each month, allowing you to review the charges.
2. Your payment will be automatically deducted on the due date of your bill.
3. Payments can be made from your checking account, savings account, Visa or MasterCard.

To take advantage of this service, complete the bottom of this form & return it to Brainerd Public Utilities, PO Box 373, Brainerd, MN 56401.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT**

I authorize Brainerd Public Utilities and the financial institution named below to make automatic payments from the account I have specified on this authorization form. I understand that this authority is to remain in effect until cancelled in writing by myself, Brainerd Public Utilities, or the financial institution designated. If utilizing direct payment from a checking account I have attached a voided check showing my account number and routing transit/ABA number.

Brainerd Public Utility Account number as it appears on my utility bill \_\_\_\_\_

Customer's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Customer's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account type: Checking[  ] Savings[  ] Visa[  ] Master Card[  ]

Bank Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Routing Transit/ABA # \_\_\_\_\_

*OR*

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Kara at Brainerd Public Utilities with any questions: PO Box 373, Brainerd, MN 56401, or 218-825-3201.

**WRITTEN 30 DAY NOTICE NEEDED TO BE TAKEN OFF BANK DRAFT PAYMENT**