

# understanding COSTS OF RUNNING ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

We are often asked for information on how to help our customers lower their monthly electricity bills. Or why their bills are as high as they are. The first step in reducing your power consumption and your electricity bill is understanding how much electricity your electrical appliances use and how much it costs to run them. The information in this fact sheet should help you to answer these questions.

Households purchase electricity to operate a number of appliances. Households usually have many electrical appliances ranging from a hair dryer to a water heater. Some are used for only a few minutes each day, while others run continuously. That is why the actual amount of electricity purchased and its dollar value can be very different from one household to another and from one month to the next.

The table below sets out the estimated monthly usage of some common electrical appliances. Actual usage will depend on the size of your household and whether you are already using timers to control appliances such as your water tank or vehicle block heater.

If you have any of these appliances in your home and your monthly usage is about average, you can calculate the cost by multiplying the monthly consumption figure in column 3 by the electricity rate for your community.

### How much does it cost to run your appliance?

To work out the usage and running cost of any appliance complete the following calculation:

$$\frac{\text{Appliance Rating (Watts)} \times \text{Hours/month}}{1000} \times \text{Community Power Rate} = \$/\text{month}$$

### Example

A clothes dryer has a rating of 5000 watts. If you run this dryer for 30 minutes it will use 2500 watts or 2.5kWh (1000 watts equals 1kWh). If you live in Deline the price of electricity for a residential customer is \$0.5786/kWh. Running the clothes dryer for 30 minutes will cost 2.5kWh x 0.5786 = \$1.44. Now if you run your dryer for 30 minutes, 20 times each month you would use 40kWhs and the total cost would be \$23.14

Remember, in nearly all communities served by NTPC the first 700 kWh of consumption each month is currently subsidized by the GNWT's Territorial Power Subsidy Program.

## ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE USAGE IN A TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD

Community	1 Appliance Rating Watts	2 Estimated Monthly use based on 30 days Hours	3 Estimated Monthly Consumption column 1 x column 2 ÷ 1000 kWhs
Clothes dryer	5000	15	75
Computer and printer	200	60	12
Dishwasher	1300	15	19.5
Electric heater	1000	90	90
Hair dryer	1600	5	8
Kettle	1500	6	9
Cooking range	*785KWh per year 12,000	-	65
Refrigerator/freezer (12 cu.ft. frost free)	*548 kWh per year 5000		46
Washing machine	500	60	3
Water heater (family of 4)	2000	180	360
Iron	1000	60	60
Lighting single bulb	100	60	6
Microwave oven	1000	5	5
Motor vehicle block heater	600	120	72
Television	80	90	7.2
* this number has been taken directly from an energy guide	Total monthly electricity purchased for this household		838

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## TPSP Territorial POWER SUBSIDY PROGRAM

This territorial government program is designed to provide equitable power rates throughout the Territories. The effect of this subsidy program is that all non-government residential customers pay no more than \$0.1769/kWh (effective March 17, 2004) for the first 700kWhs of electricity purchased each month. If you purchase more than 700kWhs per month the additional kWhs are charged to your account at the current rate for electricity in your community.

## Look for this Canada ENERGY GUIDE STICKER...

in your new fridge or other appliances. It tells you how much energy that appliance uses. You can use this information to help calculate how much it will cost to run that appliance each month.



## Community Rates/ RESIDENTIAL

Community	Residential Customers Community Rates
	(CENTS/KWH)
Aklavik	57.34
Colville Lake	266.60
Deline	57.86
Dettah	19.84
Fort Good Hope	63.98
Fort Liard	40.04
Fort McPherson	52.85
Fort Simpson	36.80
Fort Smith	12.13
Fort Resolution	14.05
Holman	72.39
Inuvik	38.72
Jean Marie River	84.58
Lutsel K'e	62.06
Nahanni Butte	95.73
Norman Wells	30.84
Paulatuk	94.32
Rae-Edzo	19.84
Rae Lakes	82.70
Sachs Harbour	97.75
Tsiigehtchic	99.29
Tulita	80.32
Tuktoyaktuk	61.61
Wha Ti	76.82
Wrigley	78.04

Effective November 1, 2003

## Our commitment to CUSTOMER SERVICE . . . . .

*Mandate: It is the responsibility of the Corporation to generate, transform, distribute, deliver, sell and supply electrical and heat energy throughout the Northwest Territories on a safe, efficient and reliable basis.*

*Mission: To provide safe, reliable energy and related services in the Northwest Territories while following sound business practices and demonstrating leadership in protecting the environment.*

The Northwest Territories Power Corporation is proud to make a commitment to providing customers with the highest

standards of service. You told us that you wanted to know more about what we did. We listened. This fact sheet attempts to address some of your questions. We hope it will help you understand more about our product and our services.

Other Fact sheets available include:

- Understanding Costs of Running Electrical Appliances
- Understanding Your Power Bill
- Understanding Your Electricity Rates
- Understanding Your Electricity Meter
- Understanding Demand Charges

If you have any other questions, please visit our website or contact your local Power Corporation office: we're in the white pages under NWT Power Corporation.

Toll free numbers for our Regional Offices:  
Deh Cho – South Slave 1 800 661 0855  
North Slave 1 800 661 0854  
Delta – Sahtu 1 800 661 0856

Northwest Territories Power Corporation  
4 Capital Drive  
Hay River, NT X0E 1G2

Or visit our website for more detailed information at [www.ntpc.com](http://www.ntpc.com)