SCE "CARES"

Reduce your bills with Alternate Rates Program

By Liedl

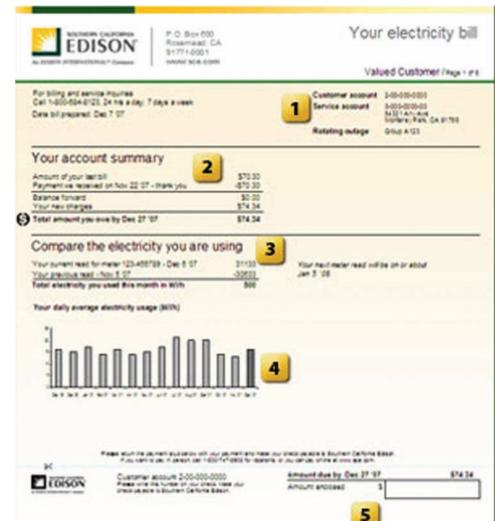
There's lots of ways to cut down your energy consumption and reduce your bills. In fact, there's a good chance you may already qualify for a 20 percent discount and not even know it.

Edison's California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program for income-qualified customers helps energy-users save money. CARE offers qualifying consumers a discount of 20 percent or more off their monthly electric bill. Households with one or two persons who make up to \$30,500 are eligible for the CARE program. Those with three or more individuals in their household must make less than \$35,800; four persons in a household are eligible up to \$43,200; five up to \$50,000; and six up to \$58,000. Each additional person raises the cap on CARE eligibility by \$7,400.

Even if the CARE program isn't right for your family, that doesn't mean you're out of luck. You may qualify for the Family Electric Rate Assistance program (FERA) — the plan offers a discounted rate on your monthly SCE bill for families of three or more who fall within the income guidelines and exceed their baseline usage by 30 percent or more.

Nor do you have to own a home to qualify. Tenants who are submetered and billed by their landlord — including residents of sub-metered mobile home parks and apartments — are also eligible for CARE or FERA. Federally tax-exempt facilities may qualify for CARE as well.

According to SCE, savings for customers also extend to the purchase of energy efficient appliances and equipment. Both homeowners and renters are eligible under Edison's Energy Management Assistance Program. Under the same income qualifications as Edison's CARE program SCE will pay for the cost of the purchasing and installing energy-efficient appliances, which are free to qualified customers.









UNITED STATES: THE REFRICERATOR USES THE MOST ENERGY OF ALL ->