Common Terms and Definitions

Following are definitions for common terms that may appear on a residential or non-residential natural gas, electric or lighting bill statement.

**Delivery Charges**

**Customer Charge:** Recovers the costs of providing energy service that occur even if no energy is used in the billing period. Included in the charges are billing, customer support and other supplemental charges. For gas service, this also recovers basic gas metering costs.

**Distribution Delivery Charge:** Recovers costs of infrastructure, maintenance and services incurred by the utility to deliver energy to customers through the distribution system.

**Gas Environmental Adjustment (Rider GEA) or Recovery of Coal Tar Costs (Rider TAR):** Recovers costs incurred by the utility for environmental cleanup of former gas manufacturing sites.

**Lighting Charge:** Recovers costs of providing Optional Outdoor Protective Lighting service for a specific location.

**Meter Charge:** Recovers the utility’s basic costs of providing electric metering services if they are provided by the utility.

**Qualifying Infrastructure Plant Surchg (Rider QIP):** Recovers costs incurred by the utility for environmental cleanup of former gas manufacturing sites.

**Volume Balancing Adjustment (Rider VBA):** An adjustment made to bills April through December to balance actual delivery service revenues with approved annual revenue levels based on predicted normal weather.

**Supply Charges**

**Purchased Electric:** Recovers the cost of electricity the utility purchases and delivers to customers. Ameren Illinois receives no profit on this charge.

**Purchased Electric Adjustment:** Allows the utility to match electric power and energy costs with electric power and energy revenue.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment (Rider PGA):** Recovers the cost of natural gas the utility purchases and delivers to customers. Ameren Illinois receives no profit on this charge.

**Supply Cost Adjustment (Rider PER):** Base cost associated with electric power and energy used by Basic Generation Service (BGS) customers. This rider is also used to apply charges incurred by the utility to purchase electric power and energy for customers served under Real Time Pricing (Rider RTP) and Power Smart Pricing (Rider PSP).

**Transmission Service Charge:** Recovers costs associated with electric transmission service.

**Taxes and Other Terms**

**Billing Seasons:** Only applies to electric billing. Summer electric rates are effective June 1 – September 30. Non-Summer electric rates are effective October 1 – May 31.

**Budget Billing:** A free billing option that levels out energy spending by spreading energy costs evenly over 12 months. Any difference between the actual usage and the amount billed is reflected as a “Budget Bill Adjustment” on the bill.

**Clean Energy Assistance Charge (Rider CEAC):** Recovers costs associated with the purchase of zero carbon energy supply.

**EDT Cost Recovery:** Allows the utility to recover the cost of an electric distribution tax imposed on the utility under the Public Utilities Revenue Act.

**Electric Environmental Adjustment (Rider EEA):** Recovers costs incurred by the utility for environmental cleanup of former gas manufacturing sites.

**Energy Efficiency Programs Charge (Rider EE and Rider GER):** Recovers costs, fees, and charges for energy efficiency programs and demand response measures to help customers use energy more efficiently.

**Illinois State Commerce Commission Tax:** State tax on natural gas revenue. Proceeds are used to support operations of the state agency charged with regulating the utility.

**Illinois State Electricity Excise Tax:** State tax on electricity usage.

**Illinois State Gas Revenue Tax:** State tax on natural gas service.

**Late Payment Charge:** A 1.5 percent (1 percent for government accounts) Late Payment Charge is applied to any unpaid balance after the due date.

**Municipal Tax or Municipal Gross Revenue:** Tax imposed by a local municipality that the utility is required to collect.

**Renewable Energy Adjustment (Rider REA):** Recovers costs associated with the purchase of renewable energy resources.

**Understanding Your Bill**

At Ameren Illinois, we’re committed to giving you the information you need to use energy safely and efficiently. Your bill statement was designed with customers in mind, so it’s packed with features that make it easy to understand your energy usage and costs. And that’s the first step to managing energy.

### Understanding Your Bill

The amount due and due date are highlighted at the top of your bill statement to make them easy to find. Your account number and address where service is received are also displayed prominently at the top of your bill.

Your Current Charge Summary provides a breakdown of amounts due for gas and/or electric service, as well as any additional charges or prior amounts due for this month. In the box to the right, you’ll find important messages about your account.

This section compares current usage to the previous month and the previous year, and energy usage graphs provide a picture of your energy use over time. We also include the average temperature for each month to aid in making comparisons.

The bill stub is located at the bottom of your bill statement. If you’re paying by mail, tear off this section and return it with your payment in the envelope provided.

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For more information about your bill, please visit us at AmerenIllinois.com/MyBill.

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On the back side of the first page, you’ll find more important messages. You can read about ways we’re supporting our communities and upgrading our energy delivery system. You can also learn about different payment options and where to find resources on energy safety and efficiency.
The bill statement shown here is based on a sample electric bill; however, the sections are the same for our natural gas customers.

Your bill statement is grouped into easy-to-read sections about Payment Details, Service Billing Details, Supplier Details and Additional Charges.

The Service Billing Detail section identifies your billing Rate Zone, as well as itemized charges and calculations of total charges for the billing period. The explanations below will help you better understand each section of your bill.

1. **Read Type:** Electric usage is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). Natural gas usage is measured in therms.

2. **Meter Number:** The unique identification number of the meter/registering device at the service location.

3. **Current Meter Read:** The numerical values obtained from the current meter reading (in kWh or therms).

4. **Previous Meter Read:** The numerical values obtained from the previous meter reading.

5. **Read Difference:** The difference between the current meter reading and the previous meter reading.

6. **Multiplier:** Most residential meters have a multiplier of one. Customers who use a large amount of electricity and/or natural gas may have a multiplier greater than one, which allows the meter to register a larger amount of usage before moving the meter dial.

7. **Usage:** Displays the total amount of energy used during the billing period.

8. **Usage Summary:** If part of the usage is in a summer billing season and part in a non-summer billing season, the usage in each of these seasons will be displayed here, otherwise the total electric and/or natural gas usage for the current billing period is shown.

9. **Electric and/or Natural Gas Delivery:** As a delivery company, Ameren Illinois is responsible for the transmission and distribution infrastructure that moves electricity and/or natural gas from suppliers to your door. Delivery service charges allow us to construct, maintain and improve the system that serves you and to respond around the clock to restore service when it is interrupted.

10. **Electric and/or Natural Gas Supply:** While delivery service represents the wires, pipes and services that bring energy from its source to you, supply refers to the electricity and/or natural gas supplied from the wholesale markets.

11. **Taxes and Other Fees:** This section includes taxes and other fees Ameren Illinois collects for the state, municipality or county based on the amount of energy used.

12. **Details From Your Electric Supplier:** If you receive your electric supply from a third-party Retail Electric Supplier, their name and contact information will be shown here. There may also be a message in this box to indicate the price per kWh you would pay if your electric supply was purchased from Ameren Illinois.