



Energy Edge

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMPHIS LIGHT, GAS AND WATER DIVISION GENERAL POWER CUSTOMERS

FEBRUARY 2008

Customers eagerly enroll in MLGW's web-based My Account service

In the three months since MLGW introduced its My Account website—enabling customers to view bills and track payment status, among other activities—more than 40,000 users have enrolled.

Is your business or organization among My Account users?

If not, we encourage you to enroll so you can benefit from this free, convenient service. Highlights include:

- View bills before they arrive in the mail, giving you more time to ensure payment by the due date.
- Assign online access to multiple employees, to streamline the bill approval process.
- Track payment status and payment history.
- Access multiple accounts from one UserID, to minimize username and password memorization
- Enroll in eBilling, our optional paperless billing service, and be eligible to make electronic payments from a bank account with no added fee and no transaction maximum. Initiate single payments or establish recurring payment orders. Pay accounts singularly or consolidate payments in one transaction.
- Download billing history for easy analysis and energy management tracking—*coming this Spring*.

To enroll, go to www.mlgw.com and click on the My Account link. Customers with 25 or more accounts should contact MLGW's Commercial Resource Center to discuss enrollment assistance options. Questions about My Account functions and electronic payments can be sent to MLGW's project team at MLGWbilling@mlgw.org

If you are also an MLGW residential customer, we encourage you to create a separate UserID for your home's MLGW account, too.

EPA report cites reduced run-off benefits of low-impact development

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released a new report, "Reducing Stormwater Costs through Low-Impact Development (LID) Strategies and Practices," which contains 17 case studies from across North America that show the economic viability of

MLGW Rates

MLGW's electric, natural gas and water rates are published at www.mlgw.com, along with updated Purchased Gas Adjustment and Fuel Cost Adjustment rates.

Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA)

MLGW Rate	Consumption	Demand
G-1 residential	\$0.014	na
G-7	\$0.029	na
G-8 / G-9	\$0.042	\$0.615
G-10 / G-12	\$0.044	na

Adjustment in \$/Ccf to published natural gas rates for meters read on or after 1/25/08.

Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA)

TVA Rate Class	MLGW Rate Code	FCA Amount
GSA, Part 1	E-2	\$0.00278
GSA, Part 2	E-2	\$0.00278
GSA, Part 3	E-2	\$0.00275
Residential	E-1	\$0.00282
Outdoor Lighting	E-3	\$0.00282

Adjustment in \$/kWh to all firm kWh, beginning with meters read on 12/26/07 and lasting for three consecutive billing periods.



Important Contact Information

Commercial Resource Center:

Monday-Friday

7:30am-5:00pm Central

Phone: 901-528-4270

Fax: 901-528-4547

E-mail: crc@mlgw.org

Emergency: 901-528-4465

Outage: 901-544-6500

VIEW YOUR BILL ONLINE AT www.mlgw.com

LID practices. Using these practices in construction projects can lower costs while improving environmental results. Some ideas also could be incorporated into existing facilities to reduce City of Memphis stormwater run-off fees, which are scheduled to increase this summer.

LID practices are innovative stormwater management practices to manage urban stormwater runoff at its source. The goal is to mimic the way water moved through an area before it was developed by using design techniques that infiltrate, evapotranspire, and reuse runoff close to its source. Some common LID practices include rain gardens, grassed swales, cisterns, rain barrels, permeable pavements and green roofs. LID practices increasingly are used by communities across the country to help protect and restore water quality.

The report highlights examples that, in most cases, reduce project costs while improving environmental performance. Such projects may provide enough avoided run-off to reduce your monthly City of Memphis Stormwater Enterprise Fund fees. For more information:

- EPA report <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid/costs07/>
- Memphis Stormwater Enterprise Fund, http://www.cityofmemphis.org/pdf_forms/ordinance5135.pdf

Generation Partners solar program deadline extended

The deadline to install solar generation under the TVA Generation Partners program has been extended through 2008, to coincide with the Federal tax incentive timeline.

Businesses and organizations that install solar generation through the Generation Partners program receive a financial incentive per kilowatt-hour of electricity produced, over a 10-year period. Unlike “net metering” programs in other states, with Generation Partners 100% of the solar power generated is used onsite by the customer, along with any electricity pulled from the grid. There is no excess electricity placed onto the grid. The incentive is applied as a line item credit to your monthly MLGW bill. Qualified systems must be installed, operational and accepted by MLGW no later than 12/31/2008.

In addition, the Federal incentive (part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005), provides a tax credit equal to 30% of the installed cost of solar generation, for systems completed by 12/31/2008.

Despite the incentives, solar generation still requires a significant capital investment that makes local projects difficult to justify based on economics alone. These statistics will help you begin evaluating solar generation for your business or organization:

- Your electric load will help determine the maximum solar generation capacity you should pursue, since all solar power is consumed onsite. In the electric portion of your MLGW bill, find the line labeled “Demand: Actual”. This represents your organization’s electric demand, also known as an electric load, in kilowatts (kW). The Generation Partners program accepts systems ranging from 0.5 kW to 50 kW in capacity.
- Cost per kW of installed capacity: U.S. average \$8,000 to \$10,000, although costs will vary. (The program does not finance installation or provide a list of certified contractors, making those activities the first two steps customers must undertake to determine actual costs.)



Example of a flat, roof-mounted 10 kW-capacity solar array



Example of a 50 kW-capacity solar array installed at ground level on angled mounts, facing south

- Kilowatt-hours (kWh) of solar energy generated *annually*, per kW installed: 1,300 to 1,600 (which is what the average household consumes in one *month*).
- Incentive amount per kWh: \$0.15 for residential/small business customers and \$0.20 for large commercial/industrial customers who are billed demand charges. Incentive amount varies due to differences in the participation requirements.
- Payback period: 20 to 25 years (based solely on Generation Partners incentives. Federal tax incentive will lessen payback for businesses.)
- Each 1,300 kWh of solar power generated results in avoided emissions equal to: 1,750 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), 11.7 tons of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and 4.6 tons of sulfur dioxide (SO₂). The environmental impact is one of the strongest reasons to invest in solar generation.

For information on Generation Partners, email Becky Williamson at bwilliamson@mlgw.org and indicate whether you are requesting the *residential/small business version* (for customers with electric demand of 50 kW or less) or the *large commercial/industrial version* (for customers who are billed electric demand charges).

Energy Edge is published by the Economic Development department of Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division. Comments and distribution list changes may be e-mailed to: crc@mlgw.org