Understanding Your Bill

Utility bills can be confusing, but 3CE strives to keep it simple. Southern California Edison (SCE) sends your monthly bill, which includes your SCE charges for electricity delivery followed by your 3CE charges for electricity supply/generation. Note that 3CE is NOT an added fee; it simply replaces the SCE supply/generation charges on your bill. If you want to know more about your bill, please review the sample bill below that explains the various charges:

COMPONENTS OF YOUR ELECTRICITY BILL

1. **Customer Account:** Please have your SCE-assigned customer account number on hand if you would like to make changes to your 3CE service.

2. **Summary of your billing detail:** The first line in this section lists your total delivery charges from SCE. The second line lists your total generation charges from 3CE. SCE assigns a separate service account number to track your 3CE charges but these are NOT added fees – they simply replace supply/generation charges you previously received from SCE as part of your bundled services charges.

3. **Electricity Usage:** The amount of energy you used in the billing period, measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). Your energy usage may change significantly depending on weather, appliance use and other factors, and is often the reason for larger bills. If you get a larger than normal bill, you can check your usage here, and also check usage tiers, #7 on the following page.

4. **Your rate (SCE):** In this section, “Your rate” refers to the SCE rate schedule that determines how you are charged for the delivery of electricity. The most common residential rate schedule is DOMESTIC.

5. **Delivery charges (SCE):** SCE’s charges for delivering electricity, which include the cost of moving energy from the grid to your home or business and maintaining the electric lines, are paid by all electricity customers, and are exactly the same even if you get your supply/generation from 3CE. Prices may vary by season. Around June and October, your bill may reflect usage and charges for both the end of one season and the beginning of the next.

6. **CCA (Community Choice Aggregation) cost responsibility surcharge:** These charges are paid by all electricity customers but they are itemized differently on your bill as a 3CE customer. The DWR Bond Charge1 and CTC (Competition Transition Charge)2 are legacy charges related to the cost of deregulation of the California electricity system in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The PCIA, or Power Charge Indifference Adjustment, reimburses SCE for above-market energy contracts SCE entered into in the past to serve its customers, including those now served by 3CE. SCE receives these funds. 3CE discounts its generation rates to account for the PCIA to keep our customers’ total bills competitive with SCE. Learn more about 3CE rate options at https://3cenergy.org/billing/residential-rates.
Usage Tiers: For residential customers who are not on Time of Use (TOU) rates, this section indicates how much energy you used during the billing period at each rate tier for your SCE delivery charges. The tier levels are set by state law. Usage under Tier 2 and High Usage are charged at higher prices, which is another reason high usage can result in an unusually high bill. 3CE keeps things simple with flat generation rates that do not vary by usage tier.

Your rate (3CE): In this section, “Your rate” is the 3CE rate schedule that determines how you are charged for electricity supply/generation. If you are on a Time of Use (TOU) rate, the seasons and TOU periods for your 3CE generation charges and your SCE delivery charges are identical.

Generation charges (3CE): 3CE’s charge for the generation of electricity. This is NOT an additional charge. It replaces the generation charges SCE would collect if it were your supply/generation provider. This section notes the 3CE rate option currently selected for your account: 3Cchoice (xx% renewable) or 3Cprime (100% renewable).

Energy surcharge: This surcharge is collected from all electricity customers statewide to fund clean energy programs and projects including the activities of the California Energy Commission.