



News Release

Thursday June 30, 2016

1.66% Rate Increase for Saint John Energy Customers, effective July 1, 2016

Saint John, NB – Saint John Energy is advising customers in all classes of an upcoming 1.66% increase in rates, effective July 1, 2016.

The increase stems from the Energy and Utilities Board's (EUB) decision allowing NB Power to increase its rates by 1.66% in all classes, including wholesale rates, effective July 1, 2016.

"This rate increase will allow us to maintain our current service levels and continue to deliver safe and reliable service to all our 36,500 customers," said Ray Robinson, President and CEO of Saint John Energy. "It will also allow us to invest in the infrastructure necessary for our long-term sustainability and stability as a utility."

Saint John Energy's rates will remain among the lowest in the region. On average, residential rates are 10% lower and commercial rates are 4% lower than others in the province.

"This is possible thanks to our excellent relationship with NB Power, our provider of wholesale electricity," Robinson said. "It is also possible because we serve a very specific, urban geographic area, which creates efficiencies for us. This model has allowed the City of Saint John to save about \$2 million per year, and the public more than \$7 million. These savings will continue."

To help its customers offset any additional costs incurred due to the increase, Saint John Energy will continue to promote their mini split ductless heat pump rental program along with practical energy-saving tips.

For more information, please visit Saint John Energy's website at www.sjenergy.com.

Saint John Energy has been a premier provider of energy to the people of Saint John since 1922. Today, Saint John Energy provides reliable services and competitive rates to more than 36,500 local customers through 13 substations spanning 316 square kilometers. Saint John Energy also provides street lighting, area lighting and more than 20,000 water heater rentals. Toward our mission of excellence in energy solutions, we deliver value to our customers through our commitment to environmental, social and economic sustainability.

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Note to Editors – If you are interesting in reporting more information on energy conservation, here are our Top 5 Energy-Saving Tips:

1. Use cold water to wash clothes and hang clothes to dry.
2. In winter, keep curtains open during the day (to attract heat) and closed at night (to retain heat). In summer, do the opposite.
3. LED bulbs are 85% more energy efficient and last longer.
4. Basements are responsible for 1/3 of a home's heat loss. Make sure yours is properly insulated.
5. Use a microwave or toaster oven when possible to use less energy than a stove or oven.