

# LOOKING FOR ANSWERS?

## Why is my bill so high this month?

The cost of natural gas has increased 300 percent over the past year. This increase has significantly impacted costs for our power supplier which ultimately affects LCEC and its members. The fuel associated with power cost has been \$50 million higher than what LCEC has recovered from members so far this year. When power costs decline LCEC will pass the decrease on to customers.

Visit [lcec.net](http://lcec.net) to for more information.

## What about the weather?



The weather plays a significant role in your energy usage. Southwest Florida is currently in the warmest months of the year with many records high temperatures. This can cause your air conditioner (AC) to work harder. AC usage can account for more than 50 percent of your total electric bill.



## How can I reduce my bill?

- Set thermostat at 78 °F
- Change or clean air filters monthly
- Utilize SmartHub usage tracking
- Turn fans off when the room is not occupied
- LCEC Virtual Energy Audit: Calc-U-Saver

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## My bill wasn't this high last year or last month?

There are many factors including: the cost of power, weather, days in the billing cycle, the amount of power used, number of people home, and additional taxes and fees collected and remitted governments.



## What is LCEC doing with the money collected?

LCEC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative only in business to serve its members. There are no margins earned on the power cost portion of the customer bill, it is simply a pass-through to our supplier. Since the PCA portion of the bill is based solely on the cost of power and is passed through to customers, if power costs decline, customers will see a decline in the power cost adjustment on their bill.



# Help starts here!

## Utilities Payment Assistance



## 211 Helpline

If you are having trouble paying a utility bill or need help finding lower-cost options for phone or internet, you can always contact your local 211 for help. Simply call 211 to speak to a specialist.



by Rounding Up!  
An LCEC Community Partnership



## LIHEAP

Electric bill assistance is available through several state and federal government programs. They include Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the more general Emergency Services Utilities.

Client services are available by phone, internet or appointment. Applications are available online or outside of the Human and Veteran Services building (2440 Thompson St. Ft. Myers. Please call (239) 533-7900 or visit <https://www.leegov.com/dhs>