

# Time-of-Use (TOU)

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Time-of-Use (TOU) rates are an important step to making Ontario's electricity system greener and more efficient. EARTH Power began using TOU pricing on September 1, 2011.

## What do Time-of-Use rates look like?



### Summer Rates

(May 1 to October 31)

In the summer, on-peak prices apply during the middle of the weekday (from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.), reflecting the increase in the air conditioning use.

## **Winter Rates**

(November 1 to April 30)

In the winter, on-peak prices apply in the morning (7 a.m. to 11 a.m.) and evening (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.), when demand ramps up as residential electricity use increases.

## **Weekends and Holidays**

(All year)

All hours of the day are off-peak.

- [View holiday schedule for 2020](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

TOU rates tie electricity prices to the level of demand on the system. When demand and the cost of producing electricity is highest, an “on-peak” rate will apply. At times when demand and production costs are lower, rates will also be lower.

Your smart meter tracks the amount of electricity you use, as well as the time of day and the day of the week that you use it. Under TOU rates, ERTH Power uses the information received from your smart meter to calculate your bill based on when you use electricity.

By managing when your household uses electricity, you will become an active participant in shaping the future of Ontario’s energy system.

For detailed information on current TOU pricing visit the Ontario Energy Board.

To learn more about Smart meters and TOU rates, visit Smart Meters Ontario,

ERTH Power and the IESO have launched two new tools designed to help home owners and small businesses better understand Time-of-Use rates. Small business customers click the “Time-

of-Use Rates at Work” icon to access the small business online tool. Residential customers click the “Kilowatt Way” to learn how shifting electricity makes sense.

