

Hello Community Partners:

As the weather has gotten colder our customers are going to notice higher natural gas bills for the next few months. I have included a link to a story that ran on NBC that does a really nice job of addressing the issue and providing some helpful hints on what we can do to reduce usage and lower your gas bill (it is worth watching). I also have added a link to our website that can be helpful to share with your constituents.

[www.nbclosangeles.com/investigations/randy-responds/consumers-seeing-higher-natural-gas-prices/2795686/](http://www.nbclosangeles.com/investigations/randy-responds/consumers-seeing-higher-natural-gas-prices/2795686/)

[www.SoCalGas.com/Cold](http://www.SoCalGas.com/Cold)

*Here are some basic tips:*

- Set your thermostat at 68 degrees during the day and 55 at night if your health permits it. Lowering your thermostat three to five degrees can save up to 10 percent on heating costs.
- Turn down the temperature on your water heater.
- Take shorter showers to reduce your natural gas use.
- Wash clothes in cold water to save up to 10 percent on water heating costs.

**Finally, for customers in need of financial assistance in paying their natural gas bills, SoCalGas offers a range of programs and services.**

- [Gas Assistance Fund](#): SoCalGas has partnered with United Way of Greater Los Angeles to provide customers who are having trouble paying their bill with a one-time grant for the amount of their gas bill, not to exceed \$100.
- [California Alternate Rates for Energy \(CARE\)](#): Eligible participants can save 20 percent on their natural gas bill. [Socalgas.com/CARE](http://Socalgas.com/CARE)
- [Energy Savings Assistance Program \(ESAP\)](#): Eligible customers can save energy and money through professional home improvements at no cost. [Socalgas.com/Improvements](http://Socalgas.com/Improvements)
- [Residential Advanced Clean Energy Program \(RES DD\)](#): Eligible customers residing in single-family homes can receive a complimentary walkthrough energy assessment and installation of energy technologies to help conserve and lower energy usage.

- [Arrearage Management Plan \(AMP\)](#): Eligible customers can apply to have their past due balance forgiven. Learn more at [www.socalgas.com/Forgiveness](http://www.socalgas.com/Forgiveness).

I hope this is helpful. Let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards, Helen

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