

The Peak/Off-Peak Program (POP) is a special rates program best enjoyed by customers who can shift operating hours to off peak hours (9:00PM-7:59AM Monday- Saturday; Sunday all day except 6:00PM- 8:00PM). Given the rate increase, Biz customers are encouraged to enrol in POP to augment the rate hike. POP simulation is free. To start your enrolment call 16210.

Below are information about the rate increase. You may also email you Biz Partner Manager at [biz@meralco.com.ph](mailto:biz@meralco.com.ph) for further inquiries.

**1. How much is the rate increase this month?**

- For the updated Meralco rates, please click the link below:  
<http://www.meralco.com.ph/consumer-information/rates-archive>

**2. What are the reasons for the increase in rate?**

The increase in the rate is due to the following external factors:

- Capacity fees of Generation Companies returning to normal levels – a result of a one-time reduction last month
- Facilities maintenance of Generation Companies
- Shut down of generation plants, reducing supply
- Increase in Power Delivery Service Charge and Ancillary Service Charge of National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP).
- Depreciation of the Philippine Peso against the US dollar.
- Increase in fuel prices for oil, natural gas and coal.

We would like to emphasize that Meralco Charges remain the same since July 2015. All increases mentioned above are revenue neutral to Meralco, meaning, Meralco retains no revenue as these are all pass-through charges. The full amount collected from these charges is remitted to the Generation companies / NGCP, with corresponding taxes (e.g., VAT and local franchise tax) remitted to the government.

**3. Until when do we expect to have high rate?**

We are expecting another rate increase by March 2017 due to Malampaya maintenance shutdown from January 28 to February 16, 2017. ERC has approved Meralco's request to stagger the incremental liquid fuel cost over a period of three (3) months starting this March in order to minimize the burden on customers.

To help the businesses in planning for their operations, the generation rates for 2017 is expected to be higher than 2016 due to:

1. Increase in fuel prices in the world market
2. Depreciation of Peso against the dollar

**4. What can we do to mitigate the impact of rate increases?**

Meralco has many on-going programs to help the businesses to save, to be energy efficient and to remain competitive, such as:

1. Consult with a Meralco Biz Partner who will provide free energy consultancy such as Contract right sizing (downgrading of contracted capacity)
2. Customers who are in the manufacturing industry or who can shift operations to off-peak hours, where rates are lower, can enroll in the Peak Off-Peak Program
3. Adoption of Power ideas:
  - a. Energy Efficient alternative equipment (HVAC, Led lights)
  - b. Green energy solutions (EV, Net Metering for Solar installations)