**Incentive Programs**

 Dominion Energy Virginia’s Non-Residential Prescriptive Program “Provides rebates for energy efficiency improvements made in your facility. Some of the available measures include duct testing and sealing, HVAC system tune-up, and upgrades to refrigeration systems and commercial kitchen appliances.”

https://www.dominionenergy.com/energy-eficiency-prescriptive-program/

**Should I Accept a Rebate from Dominion Energy?**

It Depends... For many customers, this is an attractive way to help pay for your energy conservation investments. However, for others, the cost of receiving the rebate can be higher than the rebate. This is because certain customers will have to “opt-in” to pay a special rider to Dominion Energy for three years. Rider C2A – Energy Efficiency Increment Rider, adds from ¢.0286 per KWH to ¢.0676 per KWH to a customer’s bill depending on the size and type of the customer and the rate under which service is being received. This can make the cost to the customer more than the rebate itself.

If you are not sure if you should accept a rebate, contact our Financial Operations department at Audits@UtilManagement.com.

**Would You Like to Lower Your Electric Bills?**

UMS can analyze your accounts to help you take advantage of different savings opportunities. If you have accounts that we have not audited, please scan and email a copy of those bills to us at Audits@UtilManagement.com.

**Protect Your Servers and Computers**

Peak thunderstorm season is approaching. Protect your servers, computers and other electronic equipment from lightning-related damage by installing surge protectors and a high-quality grounding system. A good surge protection system with a poor grounding system provides very little protection. An electrician should be able to install surge protection and improve the quality of your grounding system.

**Lobbying Expenditures**

The graph below, from OpenSecrets.org (run by the Center For Responsive Politics), shows that in recent years, Dominion Resources has spent about $2 million per year on lobbying. Power companies routinely provide money to candidates and causes that may help reduce the environmental and regulatory burdens placed on power companies, reduce their tax liabilities or help them in other ways.

Where did all the money go?

To find out more go to:

https://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientsum.php?id=D000000335&cycle=2018

**Thank You for Your Business!**

At UMS, we strive to reduce your electricity bills; if we don’t save you money, we don’t earn money. We are in this together and our interests are aligned. We appreciate the opportunity to work for you!
The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 reduced the federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21%. We estimate this is saving U.S. electric utilities billions of dollars per year. To keep these savings from going to the shareholders of the power companies and to pass the savings on to the customers, state regulators have been ordering reductions in electric rates. In many cases, this has consisted of a one time refund or an ongoing credit. Most of our customers are already paying less for their electricity due to these new tax laws.

Are Deregulated States Getting this Benefit?

Customers in deregulated states are not necessarily getting any benefit from the reduced tax rates. In most cases, a customer who buys power from a competitive power supplier in a deregulated state signs a multi-year contract that locks them into an electric rate for a pre-defined period. If your contract is coming to an end, be sure to negotiate for lower rates as a result of the reduced corporate tax rate.

UMS personnel gathered at Wrightsville Beach, NC to receive training to serve you. We reviewed the operational equipment being used by many customers. We learned how slight changes in equipment or operation can result in significant savings for customers. We discussed the latest in existing utility rates and riders, proposed new or changed rates and riders, regulations, environmental issues, energy conservation, metering, billing, and related topics. We also had an awards banquet to celebrate 21 successful years in business along with employee achievements.