Incentive Programs

Should I Apply for a Rebate?

Duke Energy Progress has rebate programs that will help pay for upgrades to your lighting systems, HVAC systems or other energy using equipment. However, depending on your individual characteristics, there is a rider that you will have to pay if you accept a rebate. The rider can increase your electric bill by many times the amount of the rebate.

A customer of ours had received a $7,000 rebate from their power company only to later realize they were required to pay the rider charge for a three-year total cost of $54,000. The customer paid almost eight times what they received in the rebate.

At UMS, we can analyze your accounts to help you take full advantage of savings opportunities and avoid costly mistakes. If you are considering accepting a rebate, please reach out to us at Audits@UtilManagement.com.

Would You Like Lower Electric Bills?

At UMS, we can analyze your accounts to help you take advantage of all available savings opportunities. If you have accounts we have not yet audited, please send a recent copy of the bills for those accounts to us at Audits@UtilManagement.com.

Protect Your Servers

Peak thunderstorm season is approaching. Protect your servers, computers and other electronic equipment from lightning related damage by installing surge protectors and ensuring that you have a high quality grounding system. Your electrician should be able to install surge protection and improve the quality of your grounding system.

Lobbying Expenditures

The graph below, from the OpenSecrets.org website (run by the Center For Responsive Politics), shows that Duke Energy, parent company for Duke Energy Progress, has spent $5.1 million to $7.5 million in lobbying expenses in each of the last 11 years. Power companies routinely provide money to candidates and causes that may help reduce the environmental and regulatory burdens on the power company, reduce their tax liabilities or help them in some other way.

Where did the money go?

To find out use the link below for additional details:
https://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientsum.php?id=D000000477

Our largest customer spends $1.4 BILLION per year for electricity and receives approximately 200,000 electric bills per month. Regardless of the size of your electric bills, we work continuously to lower them. Whatever your bill amount, remember it could always be worse!

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, state regulators have been ordering reductions in electric rates to pass the tax savings to customers. In many cases, this has also consisted of a one time refund or an ongoing credit over some time period. Most of our customers are already paying less for their electricity due to the 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.

 UM S sponsors the World Energy Congress & Expo
This is the largest event in the energy industry. As sponsors, we send free electronic tickets to the expo to each of our active customers. If you aren’t sure if we have your email address, or you wish to add another email address to our distribution list, send it to SSkidmore@UtilManagement.com.

When: September 25 – 27, 2019
Where: Walter E. Washington Convention Center
        Washington, DC
Details: https://portal.aeecenter.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=4159

UMS President Brian Coughlan with recent keynote speakers: