**Incentive Programs**

**Should I Apply for a Rebate?**

Georgia Power has a variety of rebate programs that will help pay for upgrades to your lighting systems, HVAC systems or other energy using equipment. In many cases, this is an excellent way to help you save money and protect the environment. If you are considering upgrading your lighting or taking other energy conserving steps, contact Georgia Power to see if they will pay for part of the project for you. You can view the available rebates and incentives using the link below:


**Am I Required to pay the Demand Side Management Schedule?**

The Demand Side Management Schedule (DSM-C) currently adds 2.4471% to a customer’s electric bill to pay for demand side management programs offered by Georgia Power. Not all customers are required to pay this schedule. If you have accounts we haven’t audited yet, this is a good time to have us look to see if we can eliminate this fee for you.

**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 Southern Company, parent company to Georgia Power, has spent about $12 million per year on lobbying expenses in each of the last 15 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=D000000168

**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!
Reducing your Electric Bill

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.

Celebrating 21 Years and Training to Serve You

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.