



**2014 RATE APPLICATION  
WEBSITE INTERROGATORIES    ROUND ONE**

**January 27, 2014 - Email**

When you make your assessment you might want to include citizens on fixed incomes and the effect these rate increases would have on them. As a former gov't employee who gave up an over-paid job to enjoy retirement on a fixed pension I would like you to include all impacts, not just those that may affect the 'Corporation'. This would be another slap in the face following the millions of dollars they gave out last year in the name of community support... Who do you think makes up the community? If I want to support a local entity then I would like to make that decision, not indirectly through higher bills... They could consider a lower wage increase for their employees... this race to the top will leave a higher percentage of the population at the bottom... but, who cares?

**Response:**

Thank you for participating in the Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel (SRRP) process. Your feedback is appreciated. SaskPower is requesting rate increases during the next three years largely to help cover the costs of replacing and refurbishing old infrastructure as well as constructing new infrastructure to meet increasing electricity demand in our province. SaskPower recognizes the direct impact that the price of electricity has on the quality of life of our customers. This was taken into consideration when developing the rate application, as our company attempted to balance its financial needs with the ability of our customers to absorb the rate increases.

SaskPower is hopeful that a multi-year application will assist customers in budgeting household expenses in advance. If approved, urban residential customers will see average increases of \$5 per month in 2014, \$4 per month in 2015 and \$4 per month in 2016, while rural residential customers will see average increases of \$8, \$7 and \$8.

SaskPower is taking significant steps to operate our company efficiently and prudently manage or reduce costs. Through an efficiency and effectiveness program known as Business Renewal, SaskPower has yielded significant costs savings of \$137 million through 2012. Payroll expense, which is budgeted at 17% of total expenses in 2013, is not driving the need for increased revenue. We plan our workforce needs carefully to control staffing expenses and ensure the right employees with the right skills are available to keep the Saskatchewan electricity system running.

When it comes to community investment, SaskPower is a member of Imagine Canada's Caring Company Program. To enhance the communities in which we work and live, our company commits 1% of net income to fund a community investment program. It focuses on education in the areas of conservation and efficiency; safety; and workforce excellence.



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To help offset the impact of rate increases, SaskPower is continuing to help customers reduce their electricity use through efficiency and conservation programs. Information is available at [saskpower.com](http://saskpower.com).