

# Electric Choice:



**What  
You Need  
to Know  
and  
Where to  
Find It**

Brought to you by the  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Council on Electricity Choice

1-888-782-3228 [www.electrchoice.com](http://www.electrchoice.com)

**U**nder the Pennsylvania Electric Choice Program, you can choose the company that generates your electricity. You can shop for an electric generation supplier just like you would shop for other services — making a decision based on your own needs and preferences. You can shop for the lowest price. You can shop based on your environmental priorities. Or, you can shop for a company that offers special services. With Electric Choice, the power to choose belongs to you.

*“With the Electric Choice Program, smart consumers can enjoy the benefits that competitive markets produce. All you need to know is readily available and I found it most helpful.”*

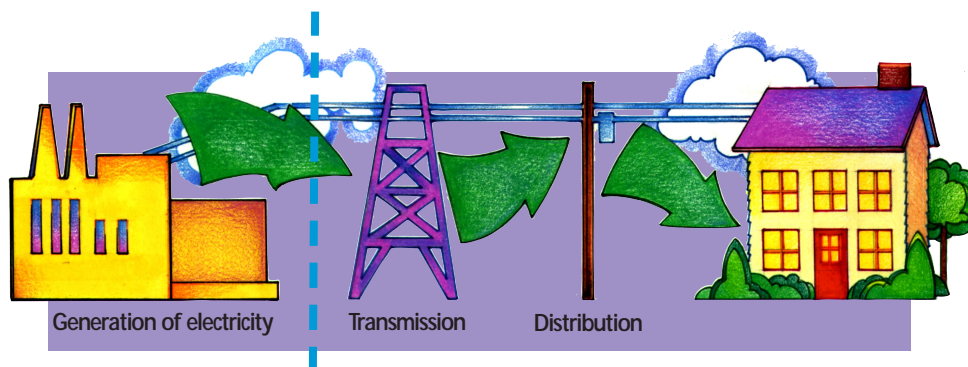


— Reese Brown  
Homeowner, Philadelphia



*“I’m blind and I found all of the information I needed to enroll in the Electric Choice Program and shop for a supplier on the Electric Choice web site. If anyone in the state can’t find the information, they simply aren’t looking.”*

— Spero Pipakis  
Coordinator, Access Technology Center  
Pittsburgh Vision Services



## What you need to get started – and where to find it

**What:** Your price to compare.

This is the price per kilowatt-hour (kWh) your electric distribution company (EDC) will charge for the generation part of your electric service.

**Where:** You probably received your price to compare in the mail.

If you can't find it, call your local EDC or contact the Electric Choice Program at 1-888-782-3228 or [www.electrchoice.com](http://www.electrchoice.com).

**What:** Electric usage information.

This is your rate class and the average amount of electricity your household uses in a month.

**Where:** These are on your monthly electric bill.

Look for the graph showing how much electricity you've used over the past 13 months. This will help you figure out your average usage.

**What:** Electric generation supplier contact information.

Each electric generation supplier must get a license from the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to serve customers in Pennsylvania.

**Where:** You should have received a list of licensed suppliers in the mail.

You can get an updated list at anytime from the Electric Choice Program 1-888-782-3228 or [www.electrchoice.com](http://www.electrchoice.com). For a list of suppliers and their prices, contact the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) at 1-717-783-5048 or [www.oa.state.pa.us](http://www.oa.state.pa.us). Information on other pricing resources can be found on the Electric Choice web site.

**What:** A supplier comparison check list.

This list provides questions to ask suppliers and space to keep track of responses.

**Where:** A check list is printed at the back of this workbook.

## It's easy to compare prices:

- 1 Using the chart on the opposite page, enter the supplier's name on the top line and write your EDC's price to compare on line 1. This price is given in cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh).
- 2 Call electric generation suppliers to find out what price they are offering for electric generation, or refer to the OCA's price list (see page 3). Write that price on line 2. See the check list at the back for other questions to ask suppliers.
- 3 For you to save, the supplier's price must be lower than your EDC's price to compare. Subtract the new supplier price from the EDC price to compare and write that number on line 3.
- 4 Write the average number of kilowatt-hours (kWh) your household uses in a month on line 4.
- 5 Multiply line 3 by line 4 and put that number on line 5.
- 6 Divide the subtotal by 100 to calculate your savings per month in dollars and cents (line 6).
- 7 Some suppliers charge a monthly fee in addition to the charge for generation. If the supplier charges a fee, write the amount on line 7. If the supplier does not charge a monthly fee, put a zero on line 7.
- 8 Subtract the monthly fee from your savings per month (line 7 from line 6) to find out what your "Final Monthly Savings" may be. Put that on line 8.

## Try it yourself:

Comparison Worksheet for \_\_\_\_\_  
electric generation supplier

- |   |                       |   |                      |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | EDC Price to Compare  | — | _____ cents/kWh      |
| 2 | New Supplier Price    | — | _____ cents/kWh      |
| 3 | Savings               | = | _____ cents/kWh      |
| 4 | Average kWh / month   | X | _____ kWh            |
| 5 | Subtotal              | = | _____ cents/mo.      |
| 6 | Cents/mo. _____ ÷ 100 | = | \$ _____ savings/mo. |
| 7 | Monthly Fee?          | — | \$ _____             |
| 8 | Final Monthly Savings | = | \$ _____*            |

*\*Actual savings may vary*



Remember, this example only compares electric generation prices. Your actual bill also will include the cost of delivering your monthly electric service.

## Supplier Comparison Check List

Questions to Ask Suppliers	Supplier Name	Supplier Name
What is your price per kWh? (Enter price on line 2 of Comparison Worksheet)		
Is your price fixed or does it depend on time of day or usage?		
What is the length of the agreement?		
Is there a cancellation fee?		
Are there any other fees, such as a monthly service fee? (Enter monthly fee on line 7 of Comparison Worksheet)		
Will I receive one bill or two?		
Is there a bonus for signing up with you?		
Do you offer a choice of energy sources, such as renewable energy?		
Do you offer any other services?		
Contact name and phone number?		
Customer service hours?		
<b>Monthly Savings?</b> (Enter amount from line 8 of Comparison Worksheet)		



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