Reading Your Aurora Electricity Bill

Your electricity bill is a mine of information and can be useful in helping you understand and monitor your electricity usage.

Many people only take notice of the amount owing on the front page of the statement. This amount is the total cost owing for all of your energy consumption for the billing period. However, it is worth paying attention to the additional pages which give a much more detailed picture of where your energy is being consumed. From this information you can form a better picture of the different types of energy usage in your household.

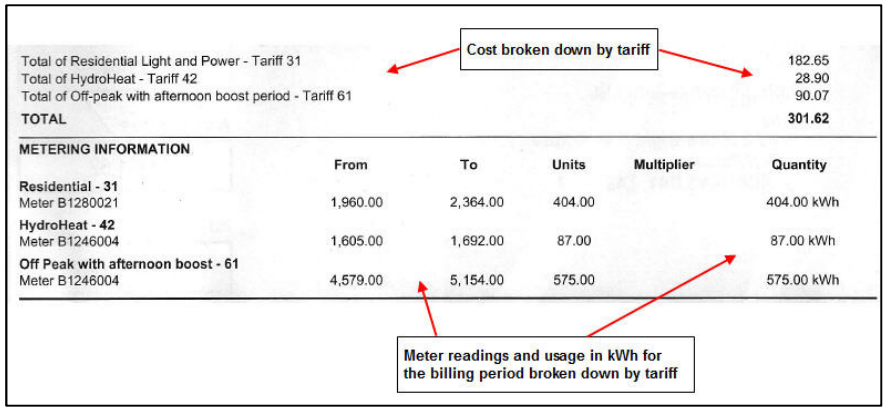
Energy is charged at different rates depending on the type of usage. This is represented by the use of different tariffs and then the relevant charges made accordingly. For example, light and power is charged under a different tariff to hot water. An explanation of Aurora Energy's current tariffs can be found at http://www.auroraenergy.com.au/your-home/electricity/rates-and-charges/standard-electricity-rates-and-charges/ .

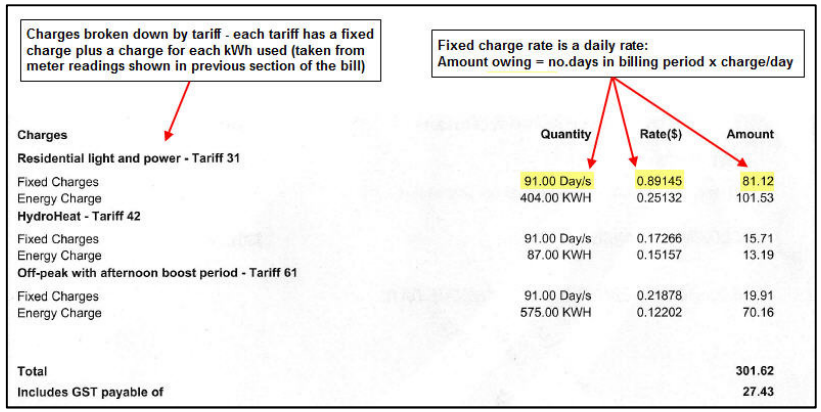
Page two of an Aurora Energy residential bill contains several pieces of detailed information about how your electricity is used. It has the meter readings, your kWh usage split via the different tariffs your household is using, charges itemised by tariff, and any fixed charges associated with each tariff.

Page three of the bill has a summary of your average daily consumption for all the tariffs combined.

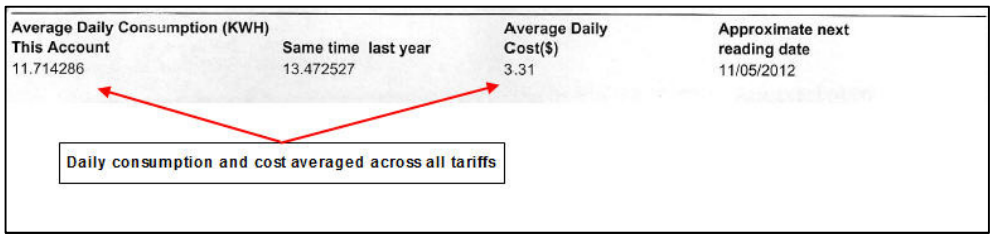
Below is an annotated example of this additional information of interest on pages two and three of an Aurora Energy residential bill.

Page 2 of bill





Page 3 of bill



By comparing this information from bill to bill across the seasons you can build up a picture of your usage. If you implement any energy efficiency actions in your household, this additional information will be of use to help you assess how those actions have impacted your household's kWh usage. Unfortunately there is not

much you can do about the fixed charges which apply regardless of your consumption.

Diagram 1 below shows how usage has been plotted for a household over several billing periods. It shows a dip in usage for summer months as would be expected. The spike for tariff 61 in winter of 2011 is accounted for by the addition of a storage heater in the household which was not there in the previous winter.

Diagram 2 below shows usage in a household that has both solar hot water and photo voltaic cells installed. The summer months show a very low energy consumption for hot water (tariff 42) and significant solar energy being generated (tariff 110) to the extent that in both the February billing periods for 2011 and 2012 more solar electricity was being generated than energy being consumed, resulting in a credit $ cost overall.

Diagram 1.

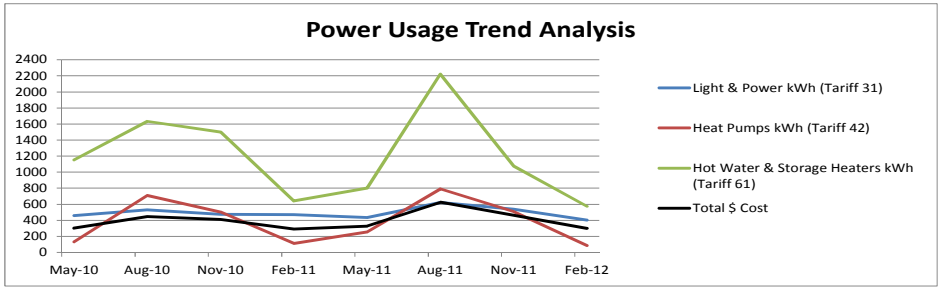
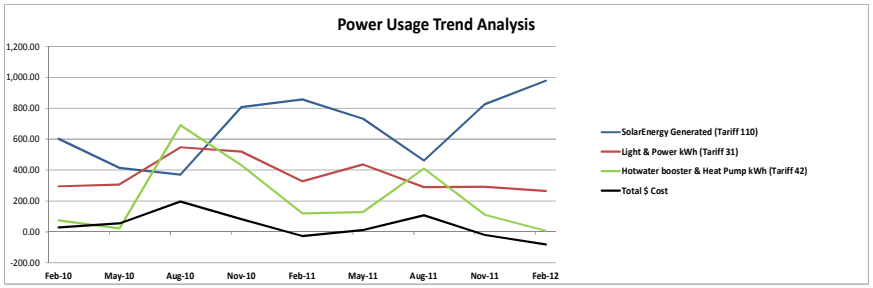


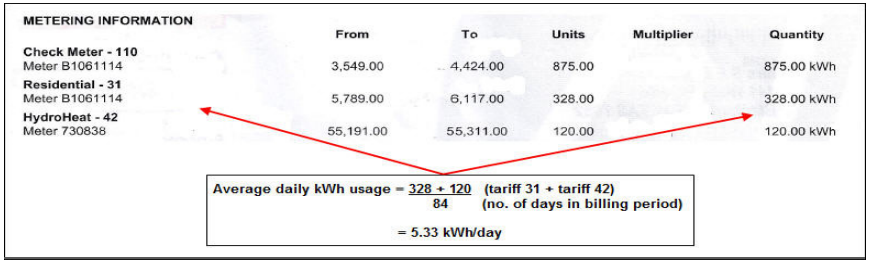
Diagram 2.



One point to note on Aurora Energy bills when a household is generating solar energy (tariff 110), is that the average daily kWh consumption figure is incorrectly calculated on the bill. The amount being generated has been added to the overall usage when it should not have been included. To arrive at the correct kWh usage figure of energy you have consumed from the grid you should add together all tariffs on your bill other than tariff 110 (as this is energy input to the grid), and divide the total by the number of days in the billing period. An example of this is shown in diagrams 3 and 4 below.

Diagram 3.

Diagram 4.



It is also worth noting that with solar generation, the consumption figure shown on the bill for tariff 110 (input to the grid) is only for the excess amount over and above any electricity used by the household from the total solar generated amount. This of course will be different for each household depending the household's particular power usage.

PAY AS YOU GO users do not receive a bill. Charges differ according to the time of day that electricity is consumed.

See http://www.apayg.com.au/tasmania/rates-and-charges.asp for more information about PAY AS YOU GO charges.

JM / March 2012