

### Meter reading and estimates

We read meters every month unless the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission authorizes another meter-reading interval upon our company's petition. When your meter isn't read, we automatically review your consumption history and estimate your meter reading. We indicate estimated readings on your statement. Customers in remote locations who read their own meters may submit meter reading forms on our website at [otpc.com](http://otpc.com) or by mailing us a completed meter reading card, which we provide on a yearly basis to all self-read customers. Learn more at [otpc.com/MyMeter](http://otpc.com/MyMeter).

### Additional information

The information below includes company policies based on rules and regulations from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

### Deposits

When a deposit is required the amount shall not exceed one-sixth of an estimated annual bill amount as authorized by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. Our company pays annual interest on all deposits at a rate of 7 percent. Interest begins accruing the day we receive the deposit and ends either the day of disconnection or when our company refunds the deposit. We apply interest earned as a credit on a customer's December bill. And we refund the deposit, plus any accrued interest, after 12 consecutive months of prompt payments. If a customer is unable to pay the full amount of a deposit, we'll accept deposit payments in installments over a period of no more than four months.

We may accept, in lieu of a deposit, a contract signed by a guarantor which is satisfactory to the utility whereby payment of a specified sum not exceeding the deposit requirement is guaranteed. The contract shall automatically terminate after the customer establishes satisfactory credit. The term of the guarantee agreement shall be for no longer than twelve (12) months, and shall automatically terminate after the Customer has closed and paid the Customer's account with the Company. We'll notify the guarantor when disconnect notices have been sent to the customer.

In lieu of accepting a cash deposit or guarantee agreement, a customer may be placed on an early payment list as defined by South Dakota Administrative Rules 20:10:19:05. Customers placed on an early payment list are required to pay their bill within five business days prior to the due date on the bill. A customer on the early payments list will be subject to disconnection if the bill is not paid at least five business days prior to the due date on the bill.

### Reconnection policy

Reconnection charges apply to new accounts and reconnection following nonpayment or a disconnection at the customer's request.

If it's necessary to disconnect a customer's service for a valid cause and the condition is corrected, customers may have to pay a reconnection fee based on the cost of restoring service.

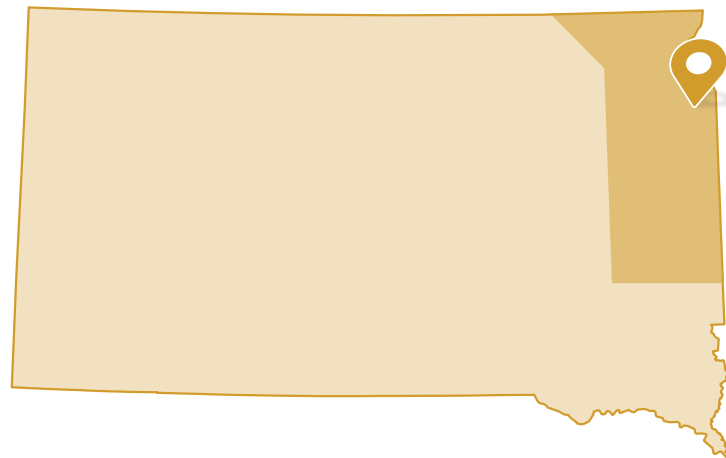
When we disconnect service for nonpayment, the following reconnection conditions apply:

- The customer must make a payment toward the electric service bill, including late-payment charges.
- The customer must pay a reconnection charge of \$15 plus additional direct labor charges for overtime, or a minimum of two hours, whichever is greater if we made the reconnection outside of regular working hours.
- The customer may need to pay a deposit or an increase to an existing deposit.

When we disconnect service because of a hazardous condition, we do not charge for reconnection.

**We're regulated by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. Customers may contact the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission at 605-773-3201 to discuss unresolved differences.**

The Commission address is:  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building, 1st floor  
500 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501



**Customer Service Center  
Milbank, SD**

**Contact us at  
800-257-4044 or 218-739-8877.**

# South Dakota customer information



### Contact us

Whether you need to report an outage, start or transfer service, or ask a question about your bill, we're here to help. Our Customer Service team is available for general questions during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and for outages and emergencies 24/7. Call us at **800-257-4044** or **218-739-8877**.

### Outage and emergency service

Immediately report outages or emergencies, such as those caused by storms or accidents, at any time by calling us. Our crews respond to service interruptions day or night and on weekends and holidays. Examples of emergencies include power outages, downed power lines, disconnected services, or other circumstances that may affect electric service to your home or business.

Before calling to report an outage, always check your service panel to make sure you haven't blown a fuse or tripped a circuit breaker. We'll restore service without a charge if the outage is a result of our equipment failure.

Find near real-time outage information, updates, and a map at [otpc.com/outages](http://otpc.com/outages).

### Billing and account information

#### Service connection

Our primary responsibility is to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective electricity to our customers. To cover the costs associated with setting up your new electric account, we'll include a one-time \$15 service connection fee on your first electric service statement.

Stop, transfer, or start new electric service by calling our Customer Service team during business hours or using our self-service forms available at [otpc.com/service](http://otpc.com/service). Please notify us two business days before you require routine service.

If the costs for extending service aren't justified, we may require a signed customer contract guaranteeing a minimum payment of no less than three years use of electric service. We also may require the customer to make an advance payment to guarantee this minimum amount of revenue.

#### Ways to pay

We offer a variety of secure payment options including online, by phone, by mail, or at one of our drop-box locations. Explore the different programs available to help you manage and pay your bill below or find the right payment plan for you at [otpc.com/PaymentOptions](http://otpc.com/PaymentOptions).

#### Programs to help manage and pay your bill

The **My Account** payment portal at [otpc.com](http://otpc.com) allows you to view and pay your bills with automatic or self-scheduled electronic

payments using a bank account, credit card, or debit card (fees and limits may apply). You can also subscribe to receive email and text notifications about your electric service. To register you'll need your electric service account number and your service location zip code.

#### Ready Check

Ready Check automatically withdraws your monthly electric payments from your bank account. With Ready Check you authorize your bank to automatically pay your electric bill each month so you can avoid late or missed payments, write fewer checks, continue to receive paper bills, and pick your payment date range.

#### Even Monthly Payment (EMP)

Our EMP plan averages your electric bills from the past 12 months to project your monthly payments for the next year. Whether it's the biting cold of January or the searing heat of August, you'll pay the same amount each month. We'll review your account a few times a year and adjust your EMP amount if your electric use changes significantly. We'll also pay interest on your average daily credit balance. And if EMP doesn't work for you, you can return to conventional billing at any time.

#### Payment assistance

If you're concerned about paying your bill for electric service, give us a call right away so we can work together to make a plan. Visit [otpc.com/HelpPaying](http://otpc.com/HelpPaying) for more information.

#### Scam awareness

Scammers have targeted both our residential and business customers by posing as company employees—either in person, over the phone, or online—and demanding immediate payment while falsely threatening to disconnect your electric service. If you receive suspicious contact, ignore it and call us directly at **800-257-4044**. Stay alert and learn more at [otpc.com/AvoidScams](http://otpc.com/AvoidScams).

#### Late payment

If you forget to pay your electric bill or can't pay the amount due by the next billing date, you may be subject to a late payment charge. Customers who make at least 12 consecutive payments prior to the missed payment date won't receive a late payment charge. Unpaid balances greater than \$5 are subject to a late payment charge if the customer has been delinquent more than once during the last 12 months. The delinquent amount for accounts on EMP or payment schedules will be the outstanding account balance or the outstanding scheduled payments, whichever is greater.

The maximum late payment charge is subject to a 1.5 percent monthly (18 percent annually), plus a \$2.00 collection charge. We'll provide a notice of possible late payment charges on a customer's electric service statement after one missed payment and address a late payment charge during the next billing period. We'll credit all payments against the customer's oldest outstanding account balance before applying any late payment charge.

Any payments returned unpaid by a bank to us are subject to a \$15 return-payment fee.

**Disconnection**

While we make every effort to contact customers and work with them to avoid disconnecting power, disconnections may be necessary in certain situations such as when electric bills aren't paid.

Before disconnection, we send a notice by first-class mail to the account mailing address. The notice explains the reason for disconnection, gives the date disconnection will take place, outlines the procedure to avoid disconnection, and indicates that a reconnection fee and deposit may apply should we need to disconnect the customer's service. In the case of a customer's first disconnection, the utility shall provide personal notice by either telephone, visit, or certificate of mailing.

We may disconnect services for reasons other than nonpayment of electric service.

Some examples of disconnections with notice include:

- Failure of the customer to meet our deposit and credit requirements.
- Failure to make proper application for service.
- Violation of our company's regulations, which are on file with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.
- Failure to provide us with reasonable access to our company's equipment and property.
- Breach of contract for service between our company and the customer.

Some examples of disconnection without notice include:

- Unauthorized use of or tampering with our company's equipment.
- Conditions determined to be hazardous to the customer, other customers, our equipment, or the public.

Residential customers will receive an additional 30 days' notice of proposed disconnection during the period of November 1 through March 31.

**Energy use**

**Your electric meter**

We use electric meters to measure the electricity consumption delivered to a home or building. Our meter-testing program exceeds governmental standards to help ensure continuous accurate measurement of electrical use. And we periodically test our meters. In addition to the computer-directed testing program, any customer may request a special meter test. The following rules govern special meter tests:

- If a customer requests a meter test within one year of a previous request, we'll add a charge to the customer's bill if the metering equipment tests accurate. (Meter error is plus or minus less than two percent.)
- The customer may be present or have a representative present during the meter test.
- We'll give our report to the customer within one week. The report outlines test results and provides relevant metering information.

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**How to read your bill**

**A. Return portion**

When paying by mail, return this stub with your payment. It includes:

1. Optional enrollment to buy Otter Tail Corporation stock through Ready Check. Your statement will reflect the amount you select during enrollment.
2. Optional donation to help provide energy assistance to those in need in South Dakota.
3. Your name and mailing address.
4. The date your payment is due.
5. The amount due for this period.

**B. Account status**

This portion of your statement brings you up-to-date on your account. It includes:

6. Your account number.
7. The address where you receive electrical services.
8. The billing date.
9. Previous payment on your account.
10. Other charges or notices about your bill.
11. The address and phone number of the Customer Service Center serving your account.

**C. Account detail**

This portion of your statement tells how you used electricity during the billing period. It includes:

12. The type of service for which you are being billed.
13. Your meter readings and the dates they were taken.
14. Total kilowatt-hours used for each type of service.
15. Details of charges, including the rates used to calculate your billing.
16. The Energy Efficiency Program surcharge.
17. The transmission cost recovery rider.
18. The Phase-In recovery rider.
19. The fuel, reagents, emission allowances, and purchased power adjustment.

Customers with an advanced meter will receive bills displaying the billing period.

**Account Detail (21824481)**  
**01.Residential Serv Sum**  
 P Billing Period:  
 07/16/19 - 08/14/19

Kilowatt Hours Used  
 Customer Charge  
 (10.00 x 12/365) x 29  
 462 kWh at .06252  
 Energy Adjustment  
 239 kWh at .02348  
 223 kWh at .02457

14

Stock purch via Ready Check: \$30.00

Energy Share Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

21824481 2 000021000 16

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY  
 PO BOX 2002  
 FERGUS FALLS MN 56538-2002

MARY CUSTOMER  
 1234 ELM ST W  
 ANYTOWN, SD 57252

Due Date: **Sep 13, 2019**

Amount Due: **\$210.00**

This is a Ready Check account. The amount paid by your bank this month was \$240.00 including stock purchase.

Your payment is recorded upon receipt. Please allow sufficient mailing time. COPY-DO NOT PAY 21824481-2 \$210.00 EMP

**Status of Your Account**

Account Number: **21824481**

**MARY CUSTOMER**

**1234 ELM ST W**  
**ANYTOWN, SD 57252**

**Billing Date: Aug 16, 2019**

If payment is not credited to your account by Sept 18, 2019, a late payment charge of 1.5% (18% per year) plus \$2.00 will be charged.

Previous Payment: 02/11/19 240.00

Current EMP: 210.00

**Amount Due: \$210.00**

**Even Monthly Payment Status**

Current EMP payment due: 210.00  
 Credit balance interest: 0.01 CR  
 Your month 12 EMP Balance after payment: 674.56 Credit

We're here to answer any questions, concerns, or complaints you might have about your bill. Call us at 800-257-4044 or 218-739-8877.

**Write our office at:**  
**PO BOX 2002**  
**FERGUS FALLS MN 56538-2002**

[www.otpco.com](http://www.otpco.com)

Account Detail (21824481)		
01.Residential Serv Sum		
P	08/14/19 Reading	11824
	07/16/19 Reading	11362
	Kilowatt Hours Used	462
	Customer Charge (10.00 x 12/365) x 29	9.53
	462 kWh at .06252	28.88
	Energy Adjustment	5.61
	239 kWh at .02348	5.48
	223 kWh at .02457	
<b>Total:(01)</b>		49.50

02.Small Dual Fuel Sum		
P	08/14/19 Reading	10349
	07/16/19 Reading	9181
	Kilowatt Hours Used	1168
	Customer Charge (10.00 x 12/365) x 29	9.53
	Facilities Charge (9.50 x 12/365) x 29	9.06
	Energy Adjustment	11.96
	604 kWh at .02348	14.19
	564 kWh at .02457	13.85
<b>Total:(02)</b>		58.59

03.Other Charges/Credits	
Energy Efficiency Adj	2.53
Transmission Cost Recovery	3.85
Phase-In Recovery Rider	0.00
Sales Tax	7.20
<b>Total:(03)</b>	13.58
<b>Current Billing:</b>	<b>121.67</b>

\*P Indicates Prorated Billing

More account information on back.

**Important information on the back too!**

Look on the back of your statement for a graph depicting your electricity use during the last 25 months, space to report an address change, information explaining how you may pay by credit card, and other special messages.