



Representing America’s Natural Gas Utilities

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2015 CONSUMER FUEL COST COMPARISON FOR A NEW HOME

Findings

- According to DOE¹, the 2015 U. S. representative average delivered unit cost for residential gas is \$10.03 per million British thermal units (MMBtu) versus \$37.22 per MMBtu for electricity and \$19.68 per MMBtu for distillate oil.
- The total annual residential energy cost for the four appliances in a new natural gas home is \$840 lower than the electric home and \$1,048 lower than the oil home.
- For space heat alone, residential consumers of natural gas can save \$411 a year relative to electricity consumers and \$559 a year compared to oil customers.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL RESIDENTIAL ENERGY BILLS FOR TYPICAL NEW HOMES (2015\$)

	NATURAL GAS	ELECTRICITY	OIL
Space Heating	\$643	\$1,054	\$1,202
Water Heating	\$244	\$590	\$650
Cooking Stove	\$43	\$67	\$67
Clothes Dryer	\$28	\$87	\$87
TOTAL	\$958	\$1,798	\$2,006

¹Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Short-Term Energy Outlook (August 11, 2015), Annual Energy Outlook (April 14, 2015), and Monthly Energy Review (July 28, 2015)

The analysis examines the total energy requirements for space heating, water heating, cooking, and drying of one-story, single family detached residence (2,072 square feet of conditioned space) in an average climate in the United States (4,811 heating degree days). The home in the analysis was assumed to meet 2011 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) standards with appliances that at least meet the minimum standards set by the Department of Energy.

In the natural gas heated homes, the analysis assumed the furnace had an efficiency of 80 percent. The electric home used a heat pump with a heating seasonal performance factor (HSPF) of 7.7. For the oil home, a furnace with an efficiency of 80 percent was used. All units produced approximately 58 MMBtu per year of useable heat annually.

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