

Below are some comments on the current and recent rate increases.

GMP Group Rate 01 rate increases in the last 3 years are:

- October 2023 - 5.29%
- October 2024 – 5.26%
- October 2025 – 7.35%

The current proposal:

- Proposed 2026 – 7.50%
- This is about 2.5 times the current rate of inflation. State, town, and school districts are working hard to control increases. This increase and last year's increase are excessive given the belt tightening other entities are working with.
- Considering this proposed 7.5% increase, the 4-year cumulative increase is about 30%. This is unmanageable for many. If this 2-year trend continues, it will become beyond unaffordable for the lesser privileged and a hardship for the average household.
- The PUC should deliberate on how a cost driven tariff request can turn into a cost reduction based approval.

We have worked hard to reduce fossil fuel consumption. We have shares in a group solar field (Sun Common or whoever they are now). We have driven an EV as our primary car for the last 7 years with the last 2 as our only car. We installed an air to water (ATW) heat pump that can carry our 4,000 sf duplex down to 20 deg F and then continue to heat with backup oil. In our first year of operation we not only reduced energy costs by 29%, but reduced fossil fuel consumption by 81%. Last year the reduction in fossil fuel consumption remained at 81%, but the reduction in energy cost savings dropped to 3% due to reduced costs in fossil fuels and the 7.35% increase in electrical power compounded by the decoupling and reduction of the solar reimbursement rate from the base rate. We have gone from a situation with an extended payback period for the ATW to having the reality there is no payback to our investment. We have also installed heat pump hot water heaters for both ourselves and our apartment.

With the recent changes in the rate structure, we are being penalized for this commitment to reduce fossil fuel consumption. With the solar credit on our power bill that we now get for our solar shares, it actually has created a premium for solar as it cost us an additional \$0.02/kWh over the base rate.

Group Solar Incentive effective reduction the last 3 years:

- October 2023 = 0.000% (on par at \$0.18989 with base rate)

- October 2024 = -7.95% (\$0.18398)
- October 2025 = -14.26% (\$0.18398)
- Proposed 2026 =??

The reimbursement rate for solar is currently less than in 2023. There was no increase in the 2025 rate adjustment. Additionally, the Solar Incentive rate of \$.06/kWh also dropped in 2025.

Finally, the impact of the 2025 rate increase is that December 2024 we consumed 4,306 kWh at a cost of \$848.14. In 2025 we consumed 4,127, slightly less than 2024, but the cost was \$954.74. An increase of \$106.60 for the month of December.