



**Western Massachusetts  
Electric**

**A Northeast Utilities Company**

## WMECo Rate Case Decision

On January 31, 2011, the Department of Public Utilities issued a decision on Western Massachusetts Electric Company's (WMECo) request for a general increase in its base rates. The decision allows WMECo to collect additional operating revenues of \$16.8 million.

The increase in rates is effective for consumption on and after February 1, 2011.

The effect on WMECo customer bills includes:

- (1) A monthly bill increase of approximately \$5.00 for a non-heating residential customer (Rate R-1) using 600 kilowatt hours of electricity per month.
- (2) A monthly bill increase of approximately \$6.00 for a heating residential customer (Rate R-3) using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month.
- (3) Creation of a new rate structure intended to encourage energy conservation by charging residential customers a higher rate for electricity use above a certain kilowatt hour level. For customers who do not heat with electricity the higher rate is charged for use over 600 kilowatt hours. For customers who heat with electricity the higher rate is charged for use over 1,000 kilowatt hours. This new rate structure is called an Inclining Block Rate.

The increase in WMECo's base rates will allow the Company to continue investing in our energy delivery system, ensuring that safe, reliable electricity is available today and well into the future for our valued customers.

**For more information regarding the specific rates for each class of service, please visit:**  
**[www.wmeco.com/residential/understandbill/ratesrules/ratestariffs.aspx](http://www.wmeco.com/residential/understandbill/ratesrules/ratestariffs.aspx)**

