

Ordinance No. 120275

Council Bill No. 113568

AN ORDINANCE relating to utility rate assistance programs; establishing new income eligibility guidelines for utility low-income rate assistance programs, and amending the Seattle Municipal Code Chapters 20.76 and 21.49 in connection therewith.

Rush!

The City of Seattle
Council Bill/Ordinance

2/23/01 Energy

Meeting

CF No. _____

Date Introduced:	<u>FEB 20 2001</u>	
Date 1st Referred:	To: (committee)	<u>Energy & Environmental Policy Committee</u>
<u>FEB 20 2001</u>		
Date Re - Referred:	To: (committee)	
Date Re - Referred:	To: (committee)	
Date of Final Passage:	Full Council Vote:	
<u>2-26-01</u>	<u>9-0</u>	
Date Presented to Mayor:	Date Approved:	
<u>2-26-01</u>	<u>2/26/01</u>	
Date Returned to City Clerk:	Date Published:	TO P.T. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>2/26/01</u>	<u>8pp</u>	
Date Vetoed by Mayor:	Date Veto Published:	
Date Passed Over Veto:	Veto Sustained:	

2-26-01 Passed

This file is complete and ready

Law Dept. Review

The City of Seattle - Legislative Department

Council Bill/Ordinance sponsored by: _____

WILLS

Councilmember

Committee Action:

2/23/01 Energy and Environmental Policy Committee

Meeting

Passed as amended 3-0

HW, PS, MF

2-26-01 Passed 9-0

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council.

Committee: _____

(initial/date)

Law Dept. Review

OMP
Review

City Clerk
Review

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ORDINANCE 120275

AN ORDINANCE relating to utility rate assistance programs; establishing new income eligibility guidelines for utility low-income rate assistance programs, and amending the Seattle Municipal Code Chapters 20.76 and 21.49 in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the City supports the provision of utility rate assistance to low-income customers; and

WHEREAS, SMC 21.49.040 authorizes Seattle City Light to assist certain low-income households in paying for the cost of electricity by offering lower electric rates to such customers; and

WHEREAS, the dramatic rise in wholesale energy costs has meant substantially higher costs for City Light and its customers; and

WHEREAS, higher energy cost is a problem for people who are poor but who do not currently qualify for City Light low-income rate assistance; **NOW THEREFORE,**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. SMC 21.49.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SMC 21.49.040 Residential rate assistance (Schedules REC, RES, RLC and RLS).

A. Schedules REC, RES, RLC and RLS are available to qualified low-income residential customers.

Schedules REC (Residential Elderly/Disabled: City) and RLC (Residential Low-income: City)

Schedules REC and RLC are available for separately metered residential service provided to City customers who show satisfactory proof that they have a City Light residential account and reside in the dwelling unit where the account is billed and that they:

1. For Schedule RLC, receive Supplemental Security Income pursuant to 42 USC Sections 1381 -- 1383; or

2. For Schedule RLC, reside in a household in which the annual income of all household members together does not exceed ~~((one hundred twenty five (125)))~~ two

1 hundred (200) percent of the poverty level for the number of individuals in the household as
2 computed annually by the U.S. Government or the City; or

3 3. For Schedule REC, reside in a household in which the annual income of all
4 household members together does not exceed seventy (70) percent of the Washington State
5 median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the
6 state or the City and are:

- 7 a. Blind, or
8 b. Sixty-five (65) years of age or older, or
9 c. Disabled and receive funds from a disability program as a result of a
10 disability that prevents them from working consistent with the requirements of 42 USC
11 Section 401 et seq., or
12 d. Require medical life support equipment which utilizes mechanical or
13 artificial means to sustain, restore, or supplant a vital function.

14
15 RATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2001:

16
17 Energy Charges:

18 Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

19 First 10 kWh per day at 1.28¢ per kWh

20 All over 10 kWh per day at 2.45¢ per kWh

21
22 Winter Billing Cycles (September - February)

23 First 16 kWh per day at 1.71¢ per kWh

24 All over 16 kWh per day at 3.35¢ per kWh

25
26 Base Service Charge:

27 4.87¢ per meter per day
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29
30

1 RATES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2001:

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3 Energy Charges:

4 Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

5 First 10 kWh per day at 1.30¢ per kWh

6 All over 10 kWh per day at 2.47¢ per kWh

7
8 Winter Billing Cycles (September - February)

9 First 16 kWh per day at 1.73¢ per kWh

10 All over 16 kWh per day at 3.37¢ per kWh

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12 Base Service Charge:

13 4.87¢ per meter per day

14
15 RATES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2002:

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17 Energy Charges:

18 Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

19 First 10 kWh per day at 1.38¢ per kWh

20 All over 10 kWh per day at 2.87¢ per kWh

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22 Winter Billing Cycles (September - February)

23 First 16 kWh per day at 1.66¢ per kWh

24 All over 16 kWh per day at 3.52¢ per kWh

25
26 Base Service Charge:

27 4.87¢ per meter per day

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2 **Schedules RES (Residential Elderly/Disabled: Suburban) and RLS (Residential Low-**
3 **income: Suburban)**

4 Schedules RES and RLS are available for separately metered residential
5 service provided to suburban customers who show satisfactory proof that they have a City
6 Light residential account and reside in the dwelling unit where the account is billed and that
7 they:

8 1. For Schedule RLS, receive Supplemental Security Income pursuant to 42
9 USC Sections 1381 -- 1383; or

10 2. For Schedule RLS, reside in a household in which the annual income of all
11 household members together does not exceed(~~(one hundred twenty five (125))~~) two hundred
12 (200) percent of the poverty level for the number of individuals in the household as
13 computed annually by the U.S. Government or the City; or

14 3. For Schedule RES, reside in a household in which the annual income of all
15 household members together does not exceed seventy (70) percent of the Washington State
16 median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the
17 state or the City and are:

18 a. Blind, or

19 b. Sixty-five (65) years of age or older, or

20 c. Disabled and receive funds from a disability program as a result of a
21 disability that prevents them from working consistent with the requirements of 42 USC
22 Section 401 et seq., or

23 d. Require medical life support equipment which utilizes mechanical or
24 artificial means to sustain, restore, or supplant a vital function.

25
26 **RATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2001:**

27 Energy Charges:

28 Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

29 First 10 kWh per day at 1.33¢ per kWh

30 All over 10 kWh per day at 2.50¢ per kWh

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Winter Billing Cycles (September - February):

First 16 kWh per day at 1.76¢ per kWh

All over 16 kWh per day at 3.40¢ per kWh

Base Service Charge:

4.87¢ per meter per day

RATES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2001:

Energy Charges:

Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

First 10 kWh per day at 1.35¢ per kWh

All over 10 kWh per day at 2.52¢ per kWh

Winter Billing Cycles (September - February):

First 16 kWh per day at 1.78¢ per kWh

All over 16 kWh per day at 3.42¢ per kWh

Base Service Charge:

4.87¢ per meter per day

RATES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2002:

Energy Charges:

Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

First 10 kWh per day at 1.43¢ per kWh

All over 10 kWh per day at 2.92¢ per kWh

Winter Billing Cycles (September - February)

First 16 kWh per day at 1.71¢ per kWh

All over 16 kWh per day at 3.56¢ per kWh

1
2 Base Service Charge:
3 4.87¢ per meter per day
4

5 B. Applicants for Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS shall verify the information
6 required to certify their eligibility for residential rate assistance and shall provide such other
7 data as is deemed appropriate upon forms and in the manner determined by the City's
8 Human Services Department.
9

10 C. Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS and any other form of residential rate
11 assistance established by the Department are not available to those otherwise eligible
12 persons who own their dwelling unit and who use electric heat as defined in Seattle
13 Municipal Code Section 21.52.210 (Ordinance 109675, Section 2) but who have not
14 completed or who are not in the process of completing the energy conservation measures
15 required for participation in the Comprehensive Residential Weatherization Program
16 described in Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.52.260 (Ordinance 109675, Section 8).
17 Customers who own their own dwelling unit and who use electric heat have one (1) year
18 from the date of application for Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS to complete the energy
19 conservation measures. Eligibility for residential rate assistance may be continued by the
20 Department, however, if the Department determines that the customer's failure to complete
21 the required energy conservation measures is the fault of the City in failing to furnish or
22 properly administer the Low Income Electric Program set forth in Seattle Municipal Code
23 Section 21.52.250 (Ordinance 109675, Section 7).
24

25 D. Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS shall not apply to any subsidized unit
26 operated by the Seattle Housing Authority, the Housing Authority of the County of King, or
27 the Federal Government where utility allowances are provided.
28

29 E. Normal residential service under Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS shall be
30 limited to single-phase.

1
2 F. If Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS are applied to transient occupancy in
3 separately metered living units, billing shall be in the name of the owner on a continuous
4 basis.

5
6 G. Duplexes using a single meter prior to October 13, 1978 shall be considered as
7 a single residence for the purpose of applying Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS. For a
8 new duplex or a larger service to an existing duplex, each residence shall be separately
9 metered.

10
11 H. If an electric water heater providing potable water is served under Schedules
12 REC, RLC, RES and RLS, it shall be a storage-type insulated tank heated by elements
13 which are thermostatically controlled. The maximum element wattage shall not exceed five
14 thousand five hundred (5,500) watts.

15
16 I. All electric service provided for domestic uses to a single residential account,
17 including electrically heated swimming pools, shall have all consumption of electricity
18 added together for billing on Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS.

19
20 J. The Department will contract for the provision of free parts and service to
21 owners of electric ranges, water heaters, permanently connected electric heat, microwave
22 ovens, electric clothes dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, and freezers when a customer
23 requiring service for such appliances is billed under Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS.
24 (Ord. 119747 Section 1(part), 1999: Ord. 119273 Section 30, 1998; Ord. 118475 Section 4
25 (part), 1997: Ord. 117490 Section 5, 1995: Ord. 116619 Section 5(part), 1993: Ord. 115951
26 Section 2, 1991: Ord. 114835 Section 3, 1989: Ord. 114459 Section 4, 1989: Ord. 112738
27 Section 1(part), 1986: Ord. 112441 Section 2, 1985: Ord. 111615 (part), 1984: Ord. 111243
28 Section 1, 1983: Ord. 110919 Section 2, 1982; Ord. 110733 (part), 1982.)
29

1 Section 2. The Human Services Department shall report to the Energy and Environmental
2 Policy Committee of the City Council by no later than March 31, 2001 regarding the
3 program and administrative costs of the low-income rate assistance programs that it
4 administers. The report shall include performance measures that relate to efficiency and
5 effectiveness of administration as well as outcomes and specific goals to reduce
6 administrative costs.

7
8 Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its
9 approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten (10) days
10 after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

11
12 Passed by the City Council the 26th day of February, 2001, and signed
13 by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 26th day of February,
14 2001.

15
16 Margaret P. Payer
President of the City Council

17
18 Approved by me this 26th day of FEBRUARY, 2001.

19
20 Paul Schell
Paul Schell, Mayor

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22
23 Filed by me this 26th day of February, 2001

24
25 Janith E. Rappin
City Clerk

26
27 (SEAL)

Margaret Carter - New legislation

From: Saroja Reddy
To: Margaret Carter
Date: 2/14/2001 6:51 AM
Subject: New legislation
CC: Michaelanne Ehrenberg

Based on recent e-mail from the Law department I need to revise the title that I sent you yesterday. Please let me know by voice mail if it is too late. Sorry for the last minute change.
The new title is :

AN ORDINANCE relating to utility rate assistance programs; establishing new income eligibility guidelines for utility low-income rate assistance programs, and amending the Seattle Municipal Code Chapters 20.76 and 21.49 in connection therewith.

I will forward actual legislation to you later this week. Thanks Margaret!

Margaret Carter - New legislation

From: Saroja Reddy
To: Margaret Carter
Date: 2/13/2001 11:09 AM
Subject: New legislation
CC: Michaelanne Ehrenberg

I need to create a new jacket for a new ordinance that needs to be introduced and referred on the February 20th referrals calendar to the Energy and Environmental Management Committee. Councilmember Heidi Wills is the sponsor.
The title is :

AN ORDINANCE relating to Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities; establishing new income eligibility guidelines for utility low-income rate assistance programs, and amending the Seattle Municipal Code Chapters 20.76 and 21.49 in connection therewith.

I will forward actual legislation to you later this week. Thanks Margaret!

STATE OF WASHINGTON – KING COUNTY

--SS.

128523
City of Seattle, Clerk's Office

No. FULL ORDINAN

Affidavit of Publication

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12th day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

CT:120275 ORDINANCE

was published on

03/13/01

The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$ 0.00, which amount has been paid in full.

Vale Walden

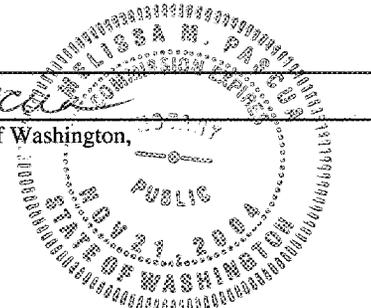
Subscribed and sworn to before me on

03/14/01

Melissa M. Pascoe

Notary public for the State of Washington,
residing in Seattle

Affidavit of Publication



State of Washington, King County

City of Seattle

ORDINANCE 120275

AN ORDINANCE relating to utility rate assistance programs; establishing new income eligibility guidelines for utility low-income rate assistance programs, and amending the Seattle Municipal Code Chapters 20.76 and 21.49 in connection therewith.

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WHEREAS, SMC 21.49.040 authorizes Seattle City Light to assist certain low-income households in paying for the cost of electricity by offering lower electric rates to such customers; and

WHEREAS, the dramatic rise in wholesale energy costs has meant substantially higher costs for City Light and its customers; and

WHEREAS, higher energy cost is a problem for people who are poor but who do not currently qualify for City Light low-income rate assistance; NOW THEREFORE,

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Schedules REC and RLC are available for separately metered residential service provided to City customers who show satisfactory proof that they have a City Light residential account and reside in the dwelling unit where the account is billed and that they:

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2. For Schedule RLC, reside in a household in which the annual income of all household members together does not exceed ~~((one-hundred-twenty-five (125)))~~ two hundred (200) percent of the poverty level for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the U.S. Government or the City; or
3. For Schedule REC, reside in a household in which the annual income of all household members together does not exceed seventy (70) percent of the Washington State median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the state or the City and are:
 - a. Blind, or
 - b. Sixty-five (65) years of age or older, or
 - c. Disabled and receive funds from a disability program as a result of a disability that prevents them from working consistent with the requirements of 42 USC Section 401 et seq., or
 - d. Require medical life support equipment which utilizes mechanical or artificial means to sustain, restore, or supplant a vital function.

RATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2001:

Energy Charges:

Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

First 10 kWh

Base Service Charge:
4.87¢ per meter per day

RATES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2000

Energy Charges:

Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

First 10 kWh per day at 1.35¢

All over 10 kWh per day at 2.92¢

Winter Billing Cycles (September - February)

First 16 kWh per day at 1.78¢

All over 16 kWh per day at 3.4¢

Base Service Charge:
4.87¢ per meter per day

RATES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2002:

Energy Charges:

Summer Billing Cycles (March - August)

First 10 kWh per day at 1.43¢

All over 10 kWh per day at 2.92¢

Winter Billing Cycles (September - February)

First 16 kWh per day at 1.71¢

All over 16 kWh per day at 3.56¢

Base Service Charge:
4.87¢ per meter per day

B. Applicants for Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS are required to certify their eligibility for residential rate assistance data as is deemed appropriate upon forms and in the manner prescribed by the Human Services Department.

C. Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS and any other residential rate assistance established by the Department are not available to persons who own their dwelling unit and who use electric heat. Persons who own their dwelling unit and who use electric heat are required to complete the energy conservation measures required for participation in the Comprehensive Residential Weatherization Program described in Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.52.260 (Ordinance 109675, Section 7) prior to the date of application for Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS. Customers who own their own dwelling unit and who use electric heat are required to complete the energy conservation measures from the date of application for Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS. Eligibility for residential rate assistance under Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS is contingent upon the Department, however, if the Department determines that the customer has completed the required energy conservation measures is the fault of the City, the Department shall properly administer the Low Income Electric Program set forth in Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.52.250 (Ordinance 109675, Section 7).

D. Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS shall not apply to customers who are operated by the Seattle Housing Authority, the Housing Authority of the City of Seattle, or the Federal Government where utility allowances are provided.

E. Normal residential service under Schedules REC, RLC, RES and RLS is limited to single-family dwellings.