



newsletter

Lac La Biche District Natural Gas Co-op Ltd.

December 2016 Newsletter

CARBON LEVY

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO **KNOW**

The upcoming Carbon Levy will be affecting all Natural Gas members January 1st, 2017. The 2017 rate will add on an additional **\$1.011** per gigajoule (GJ), which for the average household will be roughly an additional **\$100 - \$150** per year.

The Levy is taxable, and your Natural Gas bill will include a line item to reflect the Carbon Levy along with its new charges.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO **UNDERSTAND**

The Carbon Levy has been put into place by our Provincial Government.

Costs for the levy have been chosen by our Provincial Government.

The funds collected from our customers for the levy are submitted to our Provincial Government.

The Lac La Biche District Natural Gas Co-op does **NOT** profit from the Carbon Levy, we do **NOT** decide how much the levy will be, and we do **NOT** agree with adding more charges onto our customers gas bills.

The Gas Co-op's have strongly lobbied the Government to exempt farm use of propane and natural gas, but so far there has been no commitment from the Alberta Government.

HERE'S WHAT **WE** NEED TO DO

This Carbon Levy will be a challenge for us, just as much as it will be for our members.

We as the Gas Co-op and the members need to be patient, understanding, and thoughtful. We ask that the consumers work with us through this transition, as we are more than happy to work with you.

AND SO YOU **KNOW...**

Most Albertans will receive a rebate that covers costs associated with the carbon levy. You don't need to apply for the rebate, you will receive it if you filed 2015 income tax and meet the income criteria.

For more information please visit climate.alberta.ca or call 310-0000



TIPS TO REDUCE YOUR GAS BILL

- Install a programmable thermostat to automatically reduce heating and cooling in your home when you don't need as much.
- Seal air leaks with caulk, spray foam or weather stripping to keep comfortable air in and uncomfortable air out. Start by sealing leaks in your attic, basement and crawl spaces. Next, seal around windows, doors, ductwork and electrical outlets.
- Change air filters frequently. A dirty filter wastes energy by preventing airflow. Check them every month, and replace them if they look dirty. At a minimum, they should be changed every three months.
- Upgrade heating equipment to more efficient models when possible. For example:
 - Natural Gas Furnace - If you have a natural gas furnace that is more than 15 years old, it may be time to upgrade to a more efficient model. A new natural gas furnace could save you up to 20% in operating costs.
 - Natural Gas Water Heater - Water heating can account for 15% to 25% of a home's energy use. If your natural gas hot water heater is more than 10 years old, you may want to consider replacing it with a more efficient model.

<http://www.alagasco.com/Ways-to-Save/Save-Energy-at-Home/Reduce-Your-Gas-Bill-68.html>



Please be advised of our holiday office closure from December 26 - January 2. We will reopen on January 3rd. Emergency phone lines are always open at 780-623-4000