

*East Smoky Gas Co-op Ltd. - July 2022*

# BEEN HEARING A LOT ABOUT LOCKED IN GAS RATES?

**We understand the appeal of locking in a gas rate because with the costs of everything rising households are looking for stability anywhere they can.**

**Some larger natural gas companies in municipal & urban areas are advertising the option to lock in your gas rate so we wanted to provide more information for our customers on what that means and why East Smoky Gas Co-op Ltd. doesn't offer this option.**

## **What does it mean to lock in?**

Locking in your gas rate means setting your gas cost to a fixed amount each month for a set term. So your usage (GJs) fluctuates but your rate doesn't.

## **Does a fixed gas rate mean all charges on my bill are fixed?**

Not necessarily. What many companies omit is that there are a LOT of extra fees and charges at different rates that are also added onto your final bill, often multiplied by your usage (GJs).

## **Why doesn't East Smoky Gas Co-op offer this?**

We are a small, rural, not-for-profit gas co-op. We buy our gas monthly so the cost fluctuates. We do, however, only charge SET FEES. This means your usage (GJs) doesn't increase your fees. These fees aren't for our gain, they only go to paying our servicemen and staff as well as any required gas system improvements.

## **How can I try to stabilize my monthly bill?**

We offer Equalized Billing. This allows you to pay a set monthly amount calculated based on previous & projected years usage so that your payments don't fluctuate with the seasons. Call our office for more details.

\*\*Sign-up cut-off is annually by May 1st

----- See reverse for comparison

# THE CO-OP DIFFERENCE

Below is a bill breakdown and comparison between a large natural gas company with a locked in gas rate and East Smoky Gas Co-op Ltd.

Other Natural Gas Provider March / April 2022												
	GJs	Fixed Rate (FR)	Fixed Rate Charges (GJ x FR)	Billing Admin	Fed Fuel Tax (FF)	Fed Fuel Tax Chrgs (GJ x FF)	Municipal Franchise Fee	Transmission Variable Charges and Riders	Distribution Charges Fixed Charge	Variable Charges and Riders	GST	Total Chrgs
Mar 2-31	11.98	\$ 3.59	\$ 43.01	\$ 9.99	\$ 2.1026	\$ 25.19	\$ 16.70	\$ 13.74	\$ 35.11	\$ 20.49		
Apr 1-3	0.81	\$ 3.59	\$ 2.91		\$ 2.6289	\$ 2.13						
33 days	12.79		\$ 45.92	\$ 9.99		\$ 27.32	\$ 16.70	\$ 13.74	\$ 35.11	\$ 20.49	\$ 8.46	\$ 177.73
Apr 4 - 30	8.38	3.59	\$ 30.08	\$ 9.99	\$ 2.6289	\$ 22.03	\$ 12.80	\$ 9.00	\$ 29.79	\$ 14.33		
May 1	0	3.59	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -						
28 days	8.38		\$ 30.08	\$ 9.99		\$ 22.03	\$ 12.80	\$ 9.00	\$ 29.79	\$ 14.33	\$ 6.40	\$ 134.43

\*\* Above is based on actual bills with a fixed rate - usage is from an urban residential home in Grande Prairie, AB \*\*

East Smoky Gas Co-op Ltd. March / April 2022												
	GJs	Cost of Gas (CG)	Cost of Gas Charges (GJ x CG)	Delivery Fee (DF)	Delivery Fee Chrgs (GJ x DF)	Fed Fuel Tax (FF)	Fed Fuel Tax Charges (GJ x FF)	Fixed Service (Meter) Fee	Reserve Fund Fee (RF)	Reserve Fund Fee Charges (GJ x RF)	GST	Total Chrgs
Mar 2-31	11.98	\$ 4.70	\$ 56.31	\$ 1.88	\$ 22.52	\$ 2.1026	\$ 25.19	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.10	\$ 1.20		
Apr 1-3	0.81	\$ 5.00	\$ 4.05	\$ 1.89	\$ 1.53	\$ 2.6289	\$ 2.13		\$ 0.10	\$ 0.08		
33 days	12.79		\$ 60.36		\$ 24.05		\$ 27.32	\$ 25.00		\$ 1.28	\$ 6.90	\$ 144.91
Apr 4 - 30	8.38	\$ 5.00	\$ 41.90	\$ 1.89	\$ 15.84	\$ 2.6289	\$ 22.03	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.84		
May 1	0	\$ 6.75	\$ -	\$ 1.93	\$ -	\$ 2.6289	\$ -		\$ 0.10	\$ -		
28 days	8.38		\$ 41.90		\$ 15.84		\$ 22.03	\$ 25.00		\$ 0.84	\$ 5.28	\$ 110.89

\*\* Above is based on the same GJ usage but calculated with East Smoky Gas Co-op Ltd. gas rates and fees \*\*

From above you can see that the gas cost was higher as it fluctuated, but because we are a not-for-profit co-operative we keep our administrative and system fees low and stable with no hidden or extra costs. Because of how we are structured, we don't offer locked in rates; however, we as well as our gas supplier, work monthly to keep costs as low as possible for our customers.

To see a comparison of what natural gas costs monthly to heat your home versus propane and heating oil, please go to our web page at [www.esgas.ca](http://www.esgas.ca), click on Rates, and Why Natural Gas.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your bill, please contact our office.



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