

Sitka's Electric Utility

The rates and service policies are published in the [Sitka General Code, Chapter 15.01.020](#). The code in its entirety can be accessed by clicking on the link on this website's homepage.

The Electric Department's 24 employees operate and maintain three power plants and the associated power substations and lines to provide Sitka's electric utility service. The power plants are:

Blue Lake, Hydro	11 megawatts (summer) - 16 megawatts (winter) peak capacity
Green Lake, Hydro	11 megawatts (summer) - 16 megawatts (winter) peak capacity
Total Hydro	22 megawatts (summer) - 32 megawatts (winter) peak capacity
2010-2015 Sitka Capacity Requirements	18 megawatts(summer) - 25 megawatts (winter) demand
Jarvis Street, Diesel	25 megawatts, Supplemental / Stand-by

Blue Lake, Hydro	96,000 megawatt hours	77,000 megawatt hours Firm Energy
Green Lake, Hydro	62,000 megawatt hours	50,000 megawatt hours Firm Energy
Total Hydro	158,000 megawatt hours Average Rainfall	127,000 megawatt hours Low Rainfall
2010-2015 Sitka Energy Requirements	111,000 megawatt hours Minimum	118,000 megawatt hours Maximum

The average home in Sitka uses about 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month. Here is a comparison of the cost of 1,000 kilowatt-hours for a residential customer in various towns around Alaska in February, 2016:

Utility

Utility	Bill for 1,000 kWh	Average Cents/kWh
Fairbanks - Golden Valley Electric Assoc.	\$ 208.15	20.82
Anchorage - Chugach Electric Assoc.	\$ 160.00	16.00

Juneau (Winter Rates) - Alaska Electric Light & Power	\$	128.16	12.82
Ketchikan - Ketchikan Public Utilities	\$	107.30	10.70
Sitka - City & Borough of Sitka	\$	128.26	12.83

The electric power systems in Juneau and Ketchikan are very similar to Sitka with over 95 percent of their electric energy normally generated by hydroelectric. In the rail belt, most of the electricity is generated with coal, oil and natural gas-fired generators, and their fuel costs are going up. Sitkans enjoy some of the most stable and low cost power rates in the state, thanks to our renewable hydroelectric energy source.

Planning and design work is in progress to build a second 69 kV transmission line along Sawmill Creek Road from the Blue Lake power plant to Thimbleberry Park. This section of new transmission line will bypass the off-road Heart Lake area and provide a second route to get power from the Blue Lake plant into Sitka, which reduces the amount of standby diesel generating capacity required.

The Electric Department normally averages about \$2 million of capital improvements or major maintenance on the electric system each year. The system is maintained in a good state of repair and in regulatory compliance to ensure reliable and good quality electric service.

City and Borough of Sitka, Electric Department

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Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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