

## Calculate your energy costs

This simple formula will help you estimate the running costs of your equipment.

**Watts divided by 5 = daily cost**

**Example:**

**(100 watts divided by 5 = 20p a day)**

Appliance	*Daily cost
Lights (5x100watt lamps = 500 watts)	£1.00
Desktop computer	£0.20
Drinks chill cabinet (single door)	£1.00
Convactor heater ( 2kilowatt)	£4.00

\*Based on 17p + VAT a unit for a ten hour day – remember, some tariffs offer less than half price electricity in the evenings and at weekends. Source: The Carbon Trust

## Calculate your electricity use

Load (watts)	*Units per Quarter
1,000 (1 kilowatt)	800 units
2,000	1,600 units
3,000	2,400 units
4,000	3,200 units

\*Based on ten hours a day, six days a week.

The Consumer Council  
Elizabeth House, 116 Holywood Road, Belfast  
BT4 1NY  
Call: 0800 121 6022  
Email: [complaints@consumercouncil.org.uk](mailto:complaints@consumercouncil.org.uk)  
[www.consumercouncil.org.uk](http://www.consumercouncil.org.uk)

Power NI  
PO Box 2067, Belfast, BT1 9PP.  
Tel: 03457 455 455

## Direct Debit = Direct Savings

Pay your quarterly bills by Direct Debit and save 4% on your electricity costs, that equals two full weeks of electricity absolutely free every year!

(Other discounts apply for larger deregulated customers)

You can pay by Quarterly Direct Debit or Monthly Direct Debit, the choice is yours.

## Quarterly Direct Debit for businesses

You get your bills every three months as usual. But instead of you posting a cheque or queuing up to pay, the full amount is paid by Direct Debit from your bank account 14 days after the bill date.

## Monthly Direct Debit for businesses

Instead of paying each quarterly bill in full you pay an agreed amount every month by Direct Debit from your bank account. This means smaller, more convenient payments to match your budget.

## Sign up today in just 3 minutes – no forms, no fuss!!

To sign up for Monthly or Quarterly Direct Debit, simply call our Customer Helpline with your bank details. NOTE: caller must be approved signatory.

## Energy Online

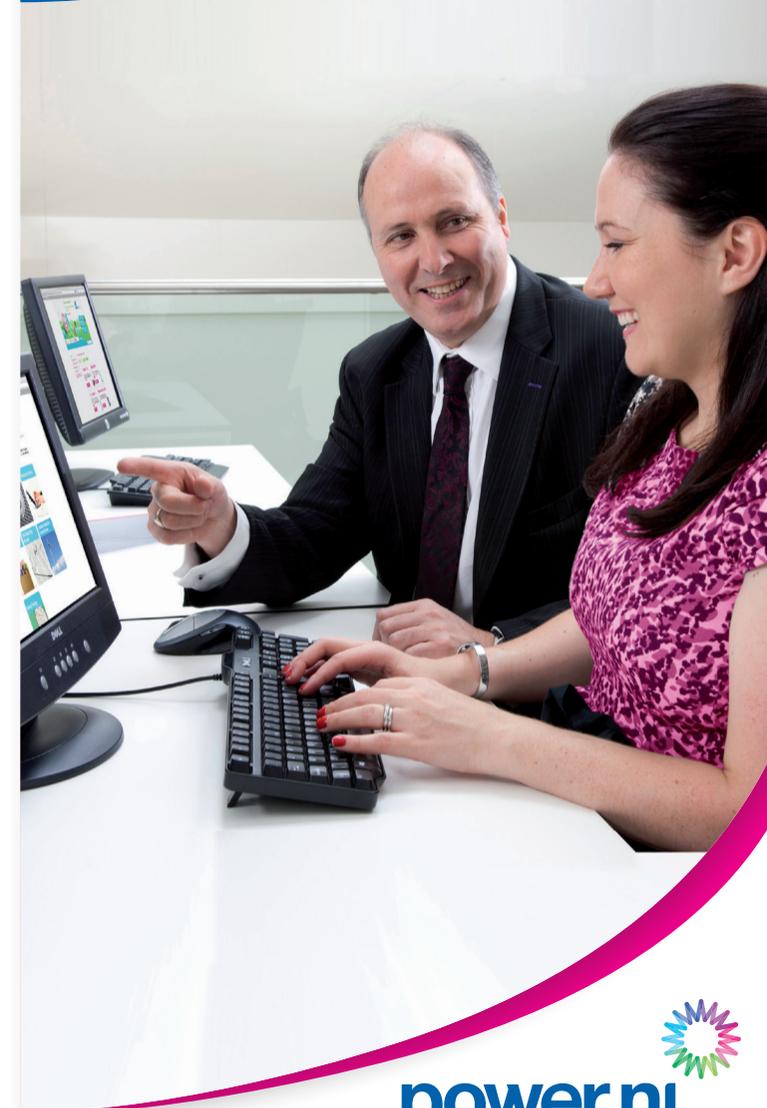
Direct Debit customers can go paperless by activating their Energy Online account and get an extra 1% discount – on top of the Direct Debit discount! Have a bill handy and go to [powerni.co.uk/energy-online](http://powerni.co.uk/energy-online) for more details (1% online billing discount applies to small business and farm tariffs only).

**Power NI Business Hotline**  
**03457 455 455 (Mon to Fri, 9am – 5pm)**  
**[business@powerni.co.uk](mailto:business@powerni.co.uk)**  
**[www.powerni.co.uk/business](http://www.powerni.co.uk/business)**



# Giving you the power to save

[www.powerni.co.uk/business](http://www.powerni.co.uk/business)



**power ni**  
your kind of energy

## Why are some bills higher than others?

When a higher than usual bill arrives many customers suspect their meter may be faulty, however this is very rare. A higher bill usually stems from something quite simple, like an estimated reading, a change in opening hours or fitting new equipment. It is also quite common to get a higher 'winter' bill when heating and lighting are used for longer periods.

Before calling Power NI about a high bill please check the following:

- ✓ Was your previous bill based on an estimated reading? It may have been too low and this is simply a 'catch-up' bill.
- ✓ Are you comparing a winter bill to a summer bill?
- ✓ Have you changed your opening hours or routine?
- ✓ Have you fitted new equipment?
- ✓ Are the time switches controlling your heating, lighting etc. set correctly?
- ✓ Energy calculator – see overleaf

**If you are still concerned about a high bill please call our Power NI Business Hotline on 03457 455 455.**

## Easy payment plan

If you are having difficulty paying a bill we will try to arrange an easy payment plan to suit your budget. Please call our Power NI Business Hotline for details on **03457 455 455** (lines open Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm).

## Cutting energy waste

The pressure on businesses to maintain a competitive edge has never been greater. In the race to reduce overheads cutting energy waste is vital. By wasting energy you are also harming the environment and adding to global warming problems.

## Measure it and manage it

It is much easier to cut energy waste when you know exactly how much you are using. Read your meter every week and create an 'energy diary' or plot a graph to show how much you are using and saving. Direct Debit customers can access ready-made consumption graphs by switching to Energy Online, Power NI's paperless billing service. Visit [powerni.co.uk/energy-online](http://powerni.co.uk/energy-online) for more information.

## No cost methods

The most obvious way to reduce energy consumption is to turn things off when they are not needed. Have a walk around your premises to see what could be switched off to reduce waste. Read your meter last thing at night and first thing in the morning to see how much you are using after hours – it may surprise you! Build energy efficiency into your daily routine and encourage staff to help out.

## Low cost methods

There are some small investments you can make to help reduce energy waste. For example, plug-in timers reduce the likelihood of equipment being left on after hours and only cost a few pounds from most DIY stores. Timers can save around 50% of costs associated with printers and copiers\*.

\*Source: The Carbon Trust

## Reduce lighting costs

- ✓ Use low energy lamps or LEDs – they use up to 80% less energy and last much longer
- ✓ 'Low voltage' spotlights are not the same as 'low energy' lamps – always check the wattage
- ✓ Use 'people sensors' in seldom used areas like kitchens, toilets and stores
- ✓ Use 'daylight sensors' to switch off outside flood lights and interior lights on brighter days
- ✓ Use timers to accurately control the hours of use

## Reduce heating costs

- ✓ Use thermostats to accurately control heating temperatures – one degree too high can add 8% to your heating bills
- ✓ Use timers to accurately control the hours of use
- ✓ If you have air-conditioning make sure it is serviced every year and that the controls are set correctly
- ✓ Draught-proof doors and windows and fit wall and roof insulation if possible

## Reduce your refrigeration costs

- ✓ Make sure fridge and freezer door seals are in good condition
- ✓ Cover chill cabinets at night or fit night-blinds or curtain strips

## Further Help

The Carbon Trust provides a wide range of free energy saving advice and support for businesses. Call them on 020 7170 7000 or visit their website at [www.carbontrust.com/resources](http://www.carbontrust.com/resources)