



John Neer, President  
Brian Terry, Vice President  
David Ausmus, Board Member  
David Wilt, Board Member  
Renita Waldron, Secretary  
Stephanie Wilson, General Manager

February 23, 2021

Re: Natural Gas Commodity Rates Impact to Customer Statements

Dear Customer:

Last week Macon Municipal Utilities (MMU) alerted you to a drastic increase in the cost of natural gas for the period of February 13 – 16, 2021. In this short period the natural gas commodity expense for MMU totaled about \$1.8 million, which is the 2021 annual budgeted amount. One year's worth of expense was spent in four days. As a result of this same story occurring in the mid-section of the nation, investigations into price gouging at the state and federal level are occurring. Please feel free to contact elected officials at the state and federal level to encourage them to find answers to this situation.

At a special Board of Public Works (BPW) meeting held on February 22, 2021, it was decided to not change the retail rate of natural gas for March 1, 2021 statements which covers the usage period January 19 – February 17, 2021 due to the frigid temperatures. Customers will realize extra expense simply due to colder temperatures. The retail rate for natural gas will remain at \$.69 per hundred cubic feet which is the same rate as February 1, 2021 statements. Local control allowed for the sensitiveness of this issue to be evaluated in our community owned utility.

However, going forward the BPW has asked management to develop a plan for how to recover the over \$1.8 million used from reserves to pay February 2021's commodity bill. Recovery will happen over a period of time on monthly customer statements. At the same time, MMU will be monitoring the investigations into price gouging and whether or not federal and/or state financial assistance will be granted for this event.

MMU appreciates energy conservation actions taken by customers to ensure supply and reduce expense of market rates for electricity and natural gas during the frigid temperatures. It really showed that you turned down your thermostat!

Please contact MMU with questions at (660) 385-3173 during normal business hours.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Wilson  
General Manager