



## ORDINANCE NO. 28705

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the Department of Public Utilities, Light Division  
2 (d.b.a. "Tacoma Power"); amending Chapter 12.06 of the Tacoma  
3 Municipal Code, Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, by adding  
4 thereto a new Section 12.06.166, to be known and designated as "Prepaid  
residential service - Schedule PR," to allow for payment of electric service  
in advance of usage, effective January 1, 2021.

5 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, through its Department of Public Utilities,  
6 Light Division (d.b.a. "Tacoma Power"), frequently receives inquiries about  
7 prepayment options for electric service, particularly from vulnerable customer  
8 groups, and  
9

10 WHEREAS customers with low and/or unstable incomes, or who do not  
11 have access to banking services particularly benefit from the cash flow flexibility  
12 provided by prepayment services, and  
13

14 WHEREAS this service type was formerly piloted as the PAYGO program,  
15 and was very popular with customers, and  
16

17 WHEREAS the prepayment model allows customers greater understanding  
18 of electricity use and control over their electricity costs, and  
19

20 WHEREAS one of the anticipated benefits of the Advanced Metering  
21 Infrastructure ("AMI") program currently underway is to allow the provision of this  
22 type of rate option, and  
23

24 WHEREAS Tacoma Power desires to amend Chapter 12.06 of the Tacoma  
25 Municipal Code, Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, by adding a new  
26 Section 12.06.166, "Prepaid residential service - Schedule PR," to allow for  
payment of electric service in advance of usage, and



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

WHEREAS the proposed rate schedule is voluntary and facilitates additional bill payment options, which allows customers to choose the method they find easiest to pay their electric bills and retain electric service, and

WHEREAS, by adoption of Public Utility Board Resolution No. U-11205 on October 28, 2020, the proposed TMC amendment was approved, pending confirmation from the City Council; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That Chapter 12.06 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, is hereby amended by adding thereto a new Section 12.06.166, to be known and designated as "Prepaid residential service – Schedule PR," as set forth in the attached Exhibit "A," to become effective on January 1, 2021.

Section 2. That the City Clerk, in consultation with the City Attorney, is authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including, but not



1 limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance  
2 numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any references thereto.  
3

4 Passed \_\_\_\_\_  
5

6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Mayor

8 Attest:  
9  
10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 City Clerk

12 Approved as to form:  
13  
14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 Chief Deputy City Attorney

16 Requested by Public Utility Board  
17 Resolution No. U-11205  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26



**EXHIBIT "A"**

**Chapter 12.06  
ELECTRIC ENERGY – REGULATIONS AND RATES**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

Sections:

- 12.06.010 General application.
- 12.06.020 Definitions.
- 12.06.030 Available voltages.
- 12.06.040 Application for service and contract.
- 12.06.050 Inspection.
- 12.06.060 Equipment and wires.
- 12.06.070 Rearranging lines or equipment.
- 12.06.080 Metering.
- 12.06.090 Connected load.
- 12.06.100 Deposits and connection charges.
- 12.06.110 Billing – Payment of bills and delinquency.
- 12.06.115 Disconnection of electric service.
- 12.06.120 Resale of electric energy prohibited.
- 12.06.130 Diversion of current.
- 12.06.140 Tampering and injury to City equipment.
- 12.06.150 City not liable for damages.
- 12.06.160 Residential service – Schedule A-1. *Effective July 1, 2020.*
- 12.06.165 Low-income/senior and/or low-income/disabled discount residential service – Schedule A-2.
- 12.06.166 Prepaid residential service – Schedule PR. *Effective January 1, 2021.*

\* \* \*  
\* \* \*

**12.06.166 Prepaid residential service – Schedule PR. *Effective January 1, 2021.***

A. Availability. Available for domestic purposes in residences, apartments, duplex houses, multiple-family dwellings, and residential garages with Advanced Metering Infrastructure installed, subject to billing system availability.

B. Applicability. To single residences and individually metered apartments.

C. Monthly Rate: The sum of the following energy, delivery and customer charges:

1. Energy: The energy rate of the otherwise applicable published rate schedule as set forth in Chapter 12.06.160, Residential service.

2. Delivery: The delivery rate of the otherwise applicable published rate schedule as set forth in Chapter 12.06.160, Residential service.

3. Customer Charge: Calculated on a daily basis: The customer charge of the otherwise applicable published rate schedule as set forth in Chapter 12.06.160, Residential service, multiplied by 12, divided by 365, and rounded to the nearest cent.

4. Exceptions:

For Tacoma Power customers who meet the Applicability criteria as set forth in Chapter 12.06.165, Low-income senior and/or low-income disabled discount residential service, the amounts set forth above shall be reduced in the same proportion as set forth in Section C of that Chapter.

D. Service Conditions.

1. Where load conditions warrant, three-phase electric service may be made available by prior written agreement, subject to metering and billing system availability.

2. Applicable provisions of the Tacoma Municipal Code, General Provisions, and Customer Service Policies governing the sale of electric energy shall apply.

\* \* \*