

Modernizing the Utility-Consumer Compact: Aligning Financial Health with Ratepayer Affordability.



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MEET MY ELECTRICITY BILL

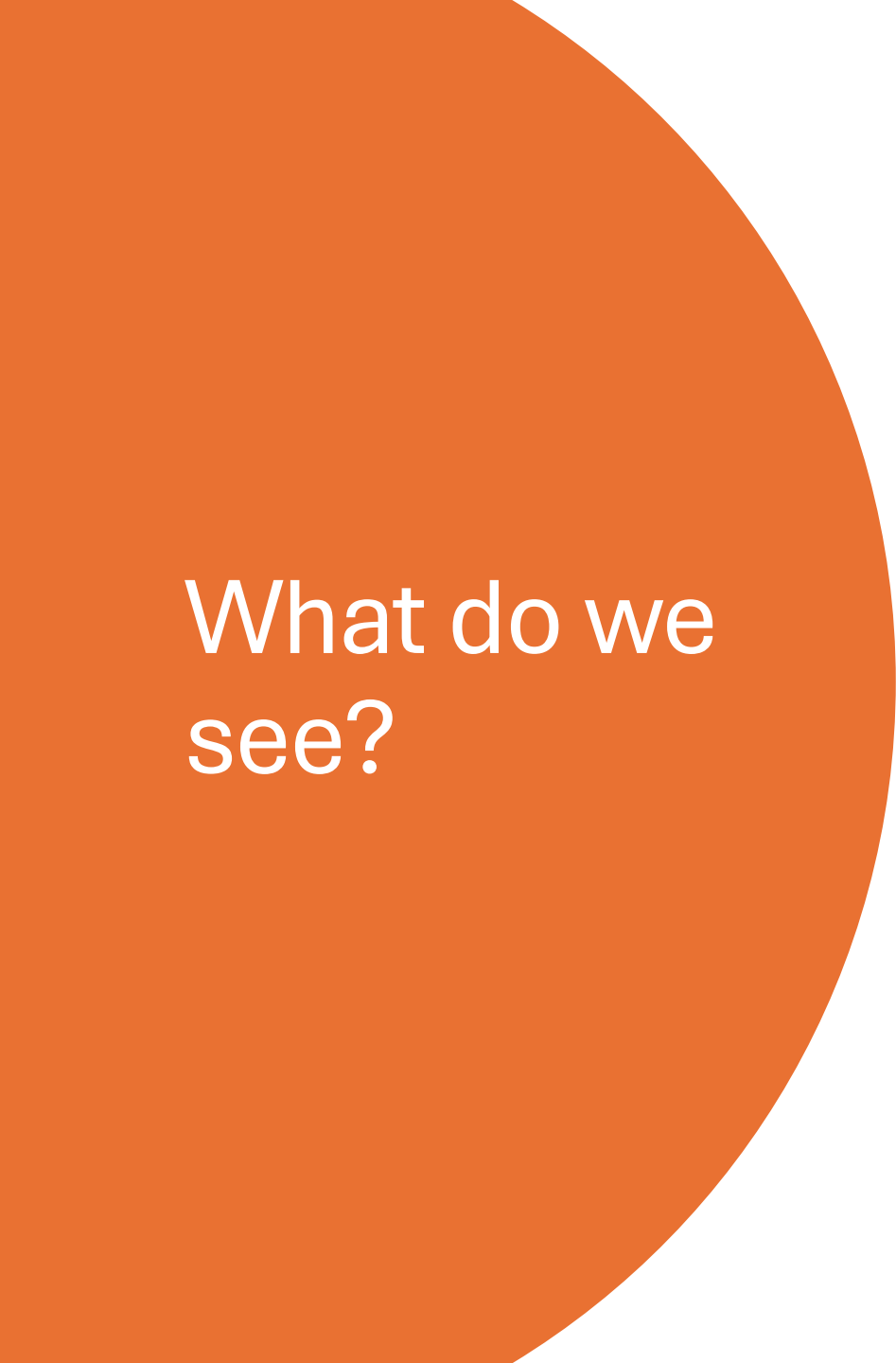
(The monthly barriers
to basic dignity and
household stability.)

Wambui Electricity Bill Residential Regular R-1				
Feb 3- March 4	29 days		Regular Charges	Changes from H.5175
		kWH		
Customer Charge			10.00	10.00
Basic Service Fixed	0.15372	1115	171.40	171.40
Distribution Charge	0.05121684	1115	57.11	57.11
Transition Charge	-0.00035034	1115	(0.39)	(0.39)
Transmission Charge	0.05751928	1115	64.13	64.13
Energy Efficiency Charge	0.02879	1115	32.10	20.10
Renewable Energy Chg	0.0005	1115	0.56	0.59
Net Meter Recovery Chg	0.01824274	1115	20.34	19.04
Distributed Solar Charge	0.00935	1115	10.43	10.43
Electric Vehicle Charge	0.00174	1115	1.94	1.94
MA Winter Bill Relief	-25.000%	\$367.63	(91.91)	
Utility penalty rebate				(2.50)
APS Surcharges				(2.00)
			275.70	349.84

MEET MY HOT
WATER GAS BILL

(The monthly barriers
to basic dignity and
household stability.)

Wambui Hot Water Gas Bill Residential Regular R-1				
Jan 7 - Feb 4	28 days		Regular Charges	Savings from H.5175
		Therms		
Minimum Charge			11.20	11.20
Delivery Peak	0.9544	15	14.32	14.32
Dist Energy Efficiency Charge	0.2727	15	4.09	-
Dist Adj -Other	0.1487	15	2.23	2.23
Gas Supply Peak	0.9563	15	14.34	14.34
Paperless Billing Credit			(0.38)	(0.38)
MA Winter Bill Relief	-1.420%	\$46.18	(0.66)	(0.66)
RATE CASE 26-50				5.00
			45.15	46.06



What do we see?

The Efficiency Truth: Gutting efficiency programs is a dead end—it won't lead to meaningful or long-term affordability.

The Utility Truth: The model needs to be disrupted. No more rewards for spending and endless infrastructure expansion.

The Consumer Truth: Short-term relief is a distraction; consumers deserve a transparent, courageous overhaul of how and what they are charged for. How do we make the 91-dollar relief permanent?

The Truth as a Diagnostic: Replacing the Legacy Lens.

- **Closing the 100-Year-Old Gap:** We are relying on a legacy regulatory system built for a different century, one that prioritizes "Record Financial Growth" for shareholders over the basic stability of our neighbors.
- **Data-Driven "Real-World" Affordability:** Replace "Paper Affordability" with **Ability-to-Pay Metrics**. A bill isn't "affordable" just because a spreadsheet says it is; the DPU must treat a bill as unaffordable if it exceeds a set percentage of local median income.
- **Urgent ROE Reform:** When a business model produces record profit surges while "Customer Burden Intensifies," the system is functioning for the few at the expense of the many. **ROE should be capped.**
- **Neighborhood-Scale Electrification:** Move beyond costly and inequitable retrofits that occur on a house-by-house basis. Building on the geographic focus of **Designated Equity Communities**, Massachusetts should electrify entire blocks simultaneously to achieve economies of scale and strategically phase out gas systems to avoid a "utility death spiral. Networked geothermal pilots show this is possible
- **Energy as Shared Infrastructure:** Applying the **Community Land Trust** thinking to essential resources—treating them as shared, community-governed assets. The grid should be a **"public road" for a very flat fee**, and utilities should be **"delivery men"** for neighborhood-owned assets. The future of energy is local, which is both good for independence, security, reliability, and affordability.