# Overview of Power Cost Tracker Mechanism

# Power Cost Tracker Has Two Main Elements

- A mechanism to provide customers with a real-time price signal related to electricity consumption
- A mechanism that tracks a portion of variable power production costs, ensuing that PSE receives, and the customer pays only those costs

### Most of PSE's Energy Customers Are Served Under Bundled Rates

Short term power purchases and sales

Natural gas and fuel oil

Coal, Long Term Purchased Power Contracts

**Fixed Costs:** 

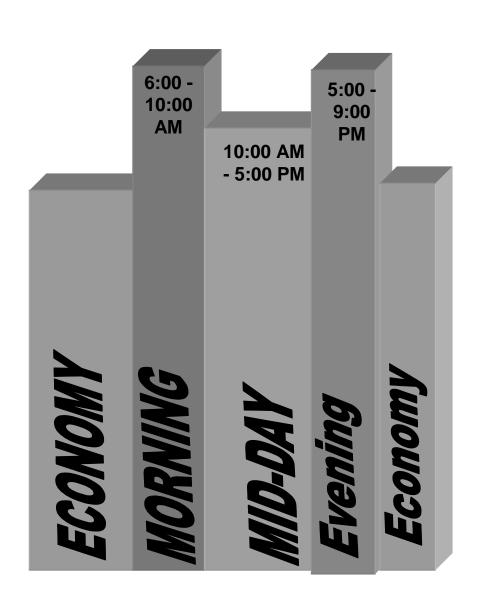
Customer, Transmission, Distribution, & Production Plant

**O&M Costs:** 

**Production, Transmission, & Distribution** 

Bundled rates recover fixed and variable costs on customer charges, energy (\$/kWh) and demand charges (\$/kW)

## The Bundled Rates Were Shaped By Time of Day in the Pilot Program



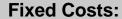
Four time blocks, and three different prices are used to send a price signal to the customer. These rates do not change based upon price changes in the power markets

### **Tracker Rates Separates PSE's Costs into Three Major Components**

Short term power purchases and sales

Natural gas and fuel oil

Coal, Long Term Purchased Power Contracts



Customer, Transmission, Distribution, & Production Plant

**O&M Costs:** 

**Production, Transmission, & Distribution** 



Non-Tracked Variable Power Costs Including:

Coal, Long Term Purchased Power Contracts

**Fixed Costs:** 

**Customer, T&D, and Production Plant** 

**O&M Costs:** 

**Production, Transmission, & Distribution** 

## Tracker Variable Costs Change With Market Conditions (Hydro, Fuel Costs, Secondary Power Markets)

#### **Tracked Variable Power Costs**

Non-Tracked Variable Power Costs Including:

Coal, Long Term Purchased Power Contracts

**Fixed Costs:** 

**Customer, T&D, and Production Plant** 

Tracked Variable Power Costs - May be higher in low hydro years, high gas costs

Tracked Variable Power Costs: May equal forecasted value

Tracked Variable Power Costs - May be lower, (or negative) in good hydro conditions

## The Tracker Mechanism Splits the Company's Costs For the Purposes of Sending a Customer a Price Signal, But Not For Setting Allowable Cost Recovery

**Costs** Rates

**Tracked Variable Power Costs** 

Non-Tracked Variable Power Costs Including:

Coal, Long Term Purchased Power Contracts

**Fixed Costs:** 

**Customer, T&D, and Production Plant** 

**Tracked Variable Power Costs** 

Non-Tracked Variable Production Cost:

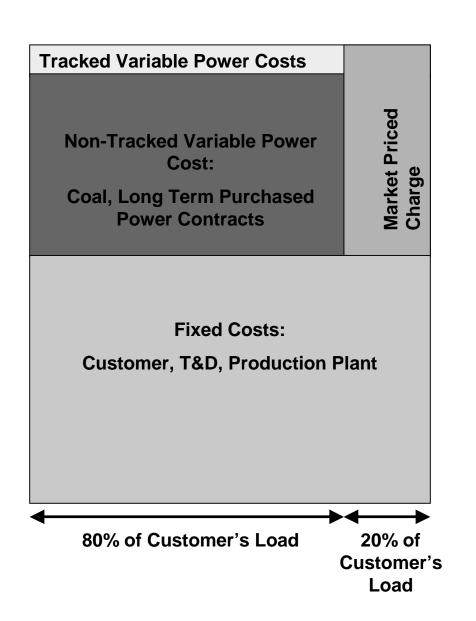
Coal, Long Term Purchased Power Contracts

Market Priced Charge

**Fixed Costs:** 

**Customer, T&D, Production Plant** 

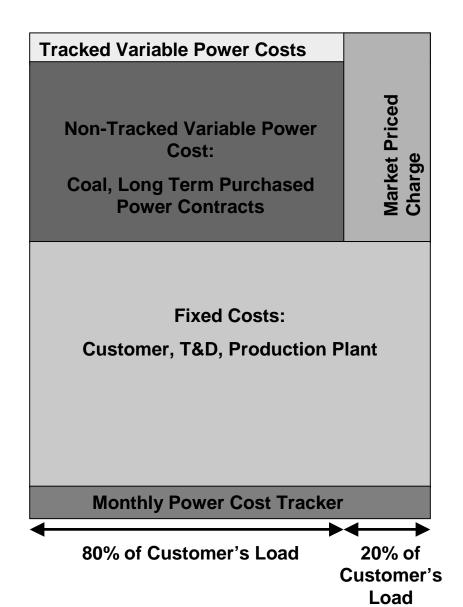
### 20% of the Customer's Bill Will be Based Upon Market Energy Prices



Market Priced Charge Market Priced Charge

Market Prices can be less than, or greater than, the sum of the tracked and non-tracked power costs in rates. Customers receive a real-time price signal

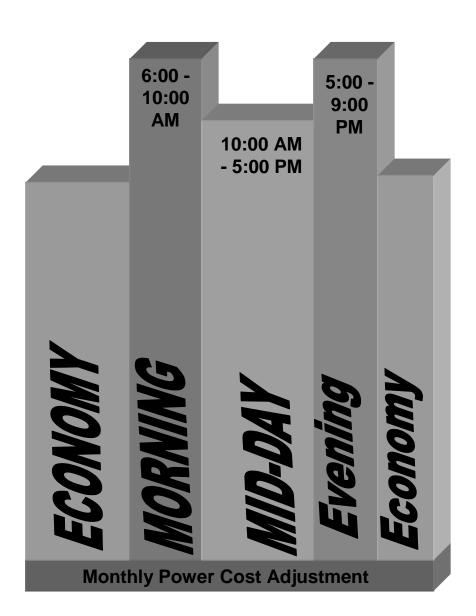
### A Monthly Power Cost Tracker Ensures that Customers End up Paying Only The Company's Allowed Costs



The Monthly Power Cost Tracker charges / refunds revenues collected under the Market Priced Charge so that

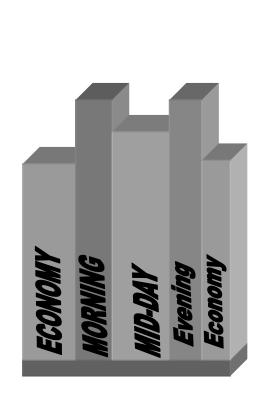
- 1) the Company recovers its tracked variable power costs and
- 2) the Company recovers non-tracked power costs (on a cents /kWh basis) approved in the general rate case

## The Overall Rate Design Creates a Time of Day Rate That Has Fixed Differentials Between the 4 Time Periods (3 Prices)



The overall prices in each of the 4 time periods changes daily since 20% of the energy consumed in each period has a Market Price Charge Component

### The Effective Rate for Each Period Is Constructed From a Two Block Rate For That Period





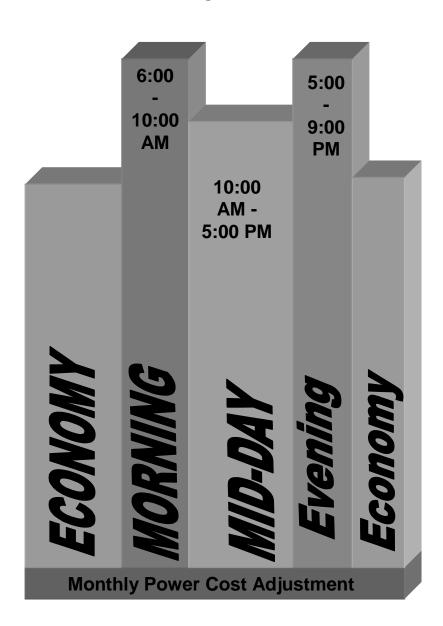
For Example: the Mid-Day energy consumption is billed in two blocks.

80% is billed in Block 1 at an bundled energy charge (\$/kWh) that does not change from day-to-day

20% is billed in Block 2. Block 2 has two charges:

- 1) a Fixed Cost Charge (\$/kWh) that does not change each day, and
- 2) a Market Price Charge (\$/kWh) that changes daily

## Customers on Tracked Rates Receive 2 Additional Rate Adjustments that Lower their Monthly Bill



Customers Receive Two
Credits (on a \$/kWh basis) for:

A pro rata share of the Company's margin on secondary power sales

A credit for power cost hedges included in the test year revenue requirement

### The Monthly Power Cost Tracker Ensures that the Customers Pay Only the Company's Allowed Costs

**Monthly Power Cost Adjustment** 

**Associated Revenues Collected** 

Determined by revenues collected at the Market Price Charge plus revenues collected in the first block attributable to tracked variable power costs, less the Monthly Sales Credit less a credit to the Company for non-tracked variable power cost for each kWh sold in the second block.

**Tracked Variable Power Costs** 

Tracked variable power costs are determined from the Company's accounting system.