

# Tacoma Power Fees Update 2023/2024 Biennium

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# **Permit & Inspection Fees**

- Permit and Inspection fees in TMC 12.06A.250 are intended to cover the cost to Tacoma Power of maintaining an inspection service with associated permitting support. They include permit processing, plan review and physical inspection of customer work.
- Examples of electrical safety inspections:
  - Inspection of an additional electrical circuit to support an EV outlet
  - Inspections of new homes or commercial buildings
- The proposed updates to the Permit and Inspection fees are intended to more fully recover the costs of providing such services.



#### We are Under-Recovering Now

- Permit and inspection fees last updated in 2005
- Permit and inspection cost: \$2.5 million
- Permit and inspection revenue: \$2 million
- Estimated under-recovery: \$0.5 million each year
- Rate payers are currently subsidizing the cost
- Our proposed fee updates are intended to more fully recover the costs



#### **Proposed Residential Permit Fees**

	Current	Proposed	Change
TMC 12.0A.250 A.1			
Overhead Service (up to two trips)			
1-200A and up to 2500 sq. ft.	\$80	\$110	\$30
Up to 400A or up to 4000 sq. ft.	\$120	\$165	\$45
Underground Service (up to four trips)			
1-200A and up to 2500 sq. ft.	\$160	\$220	\$60
Up to 400A or up to 4000 sq. ft.	\$200	\$245	\$45
Feeder-Only Work (up to two trips)			
1-200A and up to 2500 sq. ft.	\$60	\$90	\$30
Up to 400A or up to 4000 sq. ft.	\$70	\$100	\$30
TMC 12.0A.250 A.2			
Branch Circuit alteration and repairs	\$50	\$65	\$15
Each additional circuit	\$5	\$7	\$2
TMC 12.0A.250 A.3			
Minor repairs to service or PV system	\$40	\$55	\$15
TMC 12.0A.250 A.4			
Hardwired low voltage control panels and devices	\$40	\$55	\$15
TMC 12.0A.250 A.5			
Temporary services 1-200 amps single phase	\$40	\$55	\$15
TMC 12.0A.250 A.6			
Residential swimming pool	\$120	\$165	\$45
TMC 12.0A.250 A.7			
Generator transfer panel and equipment	\$60	\$75	\$15



#### **Proposed Commercial Permit Fees**

TMC 12.0A.250 B.1 Table	В					
Value of Electrical Construc	tion Commercial Permit Fees	Curre	nt Propo	sed	Chan	ge
\$0 to \$1,000	base	\$100.00	\$105.00		\$5.00	
\$1,001 to \$5,000	base increment for each add'l \$100 electric work value	\$100.00	\$105.00 <i>\$4.00</i>	\$4.20	\$5.00	\$0.20
\$5,001 to \$50,000	base increment for each add'l \$100 electric work value	\$260.00	\$273.00 \$2.00	\$2.10	\$13.00	\$0.10
\$50,001 to \$100,000	base increment for each add'l \$100 electric work value	\$1,160.00	\$1,218.00 <i>\$1.50</i>	\$1.55	\$58.00	\$0.05
\$100,001 to \$250,000	base increment for each add'l \$1,000 electric work value	\$1,910.00	\$1,993.00 \$9.00	\$9.45	\$83.00	\$0.45
\$250,001 to \$500,000	base increment for each add'l \$1,000 electric work value	\$3,260.00	\$3,410.50 \$8.00	\$8.40	\$150.50	\$0.40
\$500,001 to \$750,000	base increment for each add'l \$1,000 electric work value	\$5,260.00	\$5,510.50 \$7.00	\$7.35	\$250.50	\$0.35
\$750,001 to \$1,000,000	base increment for each add'l \$1,000 electric work value	\$7,010.00	\$7,348.00 \$6.00	\$6.30	\$338.00	\$0.30



# **Benchmarking**

#### **Tacoma Power vs Peer Utilities**

Work	L&I	Everett	Seattle	TPWR (proposed fee)
SFD up to 200 A	\$99.60	\$150.00	\$211.95	\$110.00 overhead or \$220.00 underground
Residential 1-4 Circuit Addition	\$65.50	\$75.00 up to 3		\$65.00
Each Additional	\$6.90	\$100.00 for 4 or more		\$7.00
Residential Service Repairs	\$49.40	\$75.00	\$115.50	\$55.00
Residential Temp Service (up to 200 A)	\$57.40 to \$83.50	\$75.00	\$115.50	\$55.00
New UG 400A service including two feeders and five circuits with a bid amount of \$16,000.	\$450.00	\$340.00	\$752.50	\$504
Modification to existing service, plan review and new service application with a bid amount of \$85,000.	\$1,280.00	\$1,240.00	\$2,387.50	\$1,760.50
150 unit apartment with 2500 Amp, 208/120, 4W services. Bid amount of \$700,000.	\$6,498.00	\$6,325.00	\$6,900.00	\$6,980.50





- Pole installation fees for Private Off-street Lighting customers
- Pole reconnection fees due to delinquency cut-off and tampering
- The proposed updates to these fees are intended to more fully recover the costs of providing such services.



- New Pole Installation for Private Off-Street Lighting Service
  - TMC 12.06.300.C.4.(c) for Schedule H-2 Private Off-Street Lighting
  - Fixed fee was last updated in 2021 but previous updates only reflect a small percentage for inflation
  - Actual cost of material & labor far exceeds the current fees
  - Proposed fees will be more consistent with pole fees charged to other customers



#### **Gradual Pole Fee Increase**

TMC 12.06.300.C.4.(c)
New Pole Installation for Schedule H-2 Private Off-Street Lighting
Proposed Pole Fees with Five Year Transition

	Cost per Pole Install	A	nnual Increase
Current	\$ 624.23		
Proposed			
2023	\$ 1,120.00	\$	495.77
2024	\$ 1,616.00	\$	496.00
2025	\$ 2,112.00	\$	496.00
2026	\$ 2,608.00	\$	496.00
2027	\$ 3,104.00	\$	496.00



- Delinquent Cut-Off Pole Reconnection
  - TMC 12.01.010.C(2)
  - Fixed fee have not been updated since 1985
  - Actual cost far exceeds the current fees
  - Actual pole reconnection cost is equivalent to service reconnect/wrap fees
  - Meter reconnection fee remains \$12 or \$60, pole reconnection only when necessary



TMC 12.01.010.C(2)
Pole Reconnection Fees due to Delinquent Cut-off

	Current	Proposed
During Business Hours		
Above Ground Pole Reconnection	\$40	\$307
Underground (SSB or Pole) Reconnection	\$75	\$307
After Business Hours		
Above Ground Pole Reconnection	\$65	\$433
Underground (SSB or Pole) Reconnection	N/A	\$433

Preliminary, subject to change.



# **Benchmarking**

TMC 12.01.010.C(2)
Pole Reconnection Fees Comparisons (Tampering)

	Proposed 2023-2024	SnoPUD 2022	PSE 2019	SCL 2022
<b>During Business Hours</b>				
Above Ground Pole Reconnection	\$307	\$500	\$275	\$318
Underground (SSB or Pole) Reconnection	\$307	\$500	\$275	\$318
After Business Hours				
Above Ground Pole Reconnection	\$433	\$764	\$375	\$530
Underground (SSB or Pole) Reconnection	\$433	\$764	\$375	\$530

Preliminary, subject to change.



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#### **Next Steps**

- Present memo and proposed TMC for resolution separately from class-rate adjustments
- October 2022 Board Consideration of TPU Budget and Rates
- November 2022 Council First and Second Reading for Budget and Rates
- April 1, 2023 New Electric Permit & Inspection Fees and Pole Fees Effective