

Load Data and Billing Determinants Central Maine Power Company

Appendix E contains a summary on paper of the historic kWh usage, kW loads, and number of customers in each of Central Maine Power Company's (CMP) core rate classes as those classes correspond to standard offer classes.¹

Additional billing data may be downloaded from the Maine Public Utilities Commission supplier web site (www.state.me.us/mpuc/supplier.htm), as Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. These files contain kWhs, kW as currently billed,² actual maximum kW, and number of customers for each month in 1997, 1998, and 1999. The following data are available:

1. Billing determinants for each utility core rate class, as the determinants are currently billed.
2. Billing determinants for each utility targeted rate class and for individual contracts (aggregated). CMP currently offers specialized rates to some 33,000 customers. More information on the characteristics of CMP's targeted rates may be found in CMP's rate tariffs.
3. Billing determinants for each utility core rate class, with targeted rate and contract customers included in the core rate to which they would ordinarily belong.
4. Billing determinants shown in data file #3 above, revised to reflect elimination of the demand ratchet and to apportion usage to time periods more accurately. As noted in footnotes in the data files, customers within a core rate class may or may not receive time differentiated rates. This data file presents more accurate time-of-use differentiation and kW measurements than does data file #3 above, and therefore better represents an accurate estimate of sales to all customers.

Hourly load data may be downloaded from the web site cited above. The data represents 1997, 1998 and 1999. Units of measure (i.e., watts, kW, or mW) are indicated by a letter code in the data files. The following data are available:

1. Residential customers, average per-customer load
2. Small non-residential customers, average per-customer load
3. Medium non-residential customers, average per-customer load
4. Large non-residential customers, total class load

¹ CMP's terms "residential & SGS," "small C&I," and "large C&I" correspond respectively to the standard offer classes "residential/small non-residential," "medium non-residential," and "large non-residential."

² CMP's demand charges currently contain a ratchet provision, whereby per-kW rates are applied to the monthly maximum demand but to no less than 80% of the highest monthly demand occurring in December, January, February, or March of the preceding eleven months. A more complete description of the ratchet may be found in CMP's tariffs. Beginning in March 2000, the ratchet provision will be eliminated from CMP's pricing structure.

As ordered by the Commission, CMP has identified the following significant events occurring in 1997 through 1999 that might make the provided billing determinants unrepresentative of future billing determinants:

1. CMP has lost three large paper customers since 1997.
 - November 1997: a buy-sell agreement with a paper company ended, and the mill now generates power for all of its needs.
 - Early 1998: two paper mills closed down for economic reasons.
 - Sales to these three LGS customers has dropped from 280 million kWhs in 1997 to 16 million kWhs in 1998 and to essentially zero in 1999. The three customers had high load factors while purchasing from CMP.
2. CMP lost about 45 million kWhs of sales during the ice storm of January 1998. Approximately 2/3 of this is estimated to have been residential sales. The event lasted from approximately January 7 through January 26.