

# Anatomy of a Bill Increase

Prices for electricity in Delaware are up

**34%**  
and rising

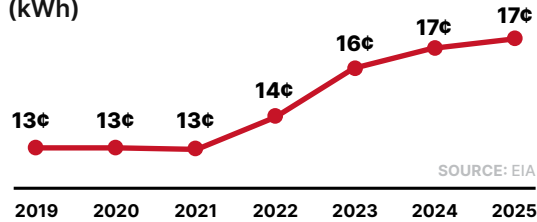
as new low-cost solar and battery projects struggle to come online

leaving consumers exposed to volatile fuel costs.

Improving interconnection and transmission planning processes will save Delawareans hundreds.

# Delaware

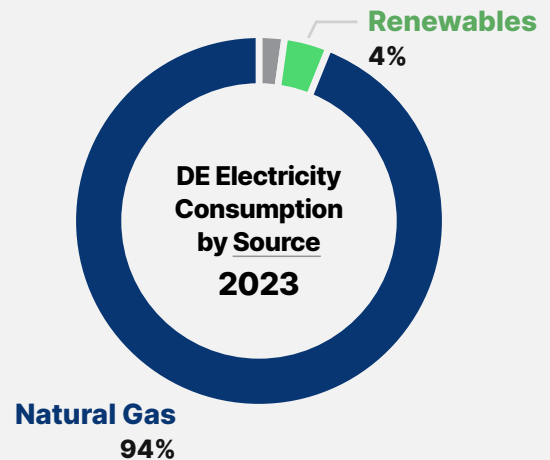
Average DE Electricity Price (kWh)



**80%**

of Delaware households use electricity or natural gas for heating

With **94% of electricity consumption coming from natural gas**, Delaware consumers are subject to fluctuations in **natural gas prices, which are projected to more than double from 2024-2027.**



The grade given to Delaware's energy project connection protocols by [freeingthegrid.org](http://freeingthegrid.org)



Battery storage project costs have **dropped 89%** since 2010, and **solar energy was 56% cheaper** than the average fossil fuel alternatives in 2023.

- [IRENA Report: Renewable Power Generation Costs in 2023](#)



**\$502**

potential annual savings per household



# PJM Spotlight

10x

**PJM Capacity prices have risen more than tenfold compared to prices in 2023.**

## ► Record-breaking Capacity Auction



Grid operators ensure there is enough electricity to meet future demand by purchasing capacity in advance. "Capacity" is a guarantee from electricity plant owners that they will be available to operate if called upon.

- *PJM is the grid operator for 13 states, including the entire mid-Atlantic region*



There were not enough eligible bidders in PJM's recent capacity auction to meet the total demand, so prices rose all the way to the price cap put in place before the auction.

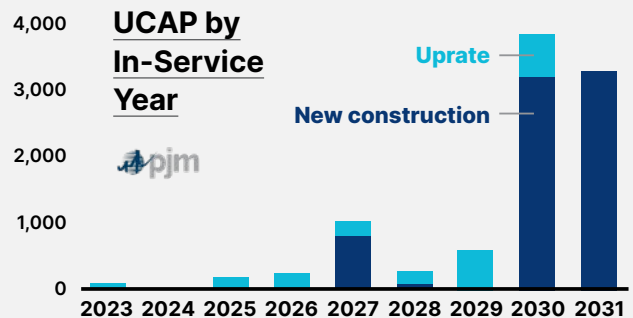


New electricity resources are not being added at a pace that can keep up with the growth in electricity consumption, causing prices to soar.



It can take five or more years for new resources to connect to the grid.

## ► PJM's Solution? The Reliability Resource Initiative (RRI)



- RRI is an intended solution to insufficient supply present in the capacity auction.
- Through this process, PJM selected 39 gas projects, **which are slower to build and won't deliver significant new energy supply until 2030 or later.**
- Meanwhile, nearly all of the 31 battery storage projects submitted would come online before 2030, and only 5 were selected.
- This solution won't help address near-term demand, and ratepayers will suffer through the end of the decade.

## ► Solutions for States

Delaware Governor Matt Meyer has joined a bipartisan group of Governors demanding change at PJM. Through the formation of a PJM Governors Group, states can work together to design better markets and make smart investments in transmission that will unlock a more affordable future for all Delawareans.

State regulators need to ensure PJM keeps costs low by planning regional transmission to connect the lowest-cost clean power sources and requiring utilities to maximize the value of existing infrastructure using grid-enhancing technologies and high-performance conductors.

