



**News Release
February 21, 2007**

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Jamestown BPU Electric Rates among Lowest in the U.S. – Again

In 2005, BPU customers once again paid some of the lowest electric rates in the nation. The BPU's customer costs were significantly lower than the average costs in each class of retail electric sales (residential, commercial and industrial) for each of the 50 states. BPU rates were far lower than nationwide averages.

The average 2005 BPU residential customer paid 5.1 cents a kilowatt-hour, a rank of 92 out of 3,121 reporting utilities or in the top 2.95% of the lowest electric costs in the country. The revenue per kilowatt-hour calculations takes into account all elements of the customer's electric bill and is a better way of comparing electric customer's costs than just using the comparisons of electric utility rates.

In 2005, the average BPU commercial customer paid 5.4 cents a kilowatt-hour for a rank of 180 out of 3,084 reporting utilities or in the top 5.84% of the lowest electric costs in the country. In the same year, the average BPU industrial customer paid 4.7 cents a kilowatt-hour, a rank of 372 out of 2,210 reporting utilities, placing the BPU in the top 16.74% of the lowest electric rates in the country.

The average New York customer in 2005 paid 13.6 cents per kilowatt-hour for a residential bill, 13.0 cents per kilowatt-hour for a commercial bill and 7.2 cents per kilowatt-hour for an industrial bill. Nationwide, the average U.S. customer paid 9.0 cents per kilowatt-hour for their residential bill, 8.2 cents per kilowatt-hour for the commercial bill and 5.5 cents for their industrial bill.

Commenting on the recently-released rankings, BPU General Manager Wally Haase noted, "Comparing electric utility rates can be complicated because rates change according to weather, time-of-day, usage and so forth. Using revenue per kilowatt-hour is more of an apples-to-apples comparison. It takes into account the varying rate components and marketplace conditions over an entire year."

“We are very pleased that the Jamestown BPU continues to provide some of the lowest electric rates nationally for our residential, commercial and industrial customers, right here in the Jamestown area,” expressed Haase.

Revenue per kilowatt-hour was calculated by the American Public Power Association from 2005 data reported by each utility to the U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration on Form EIA-861.