

Shopping for the Best Natural Gas Price



Natural gas shopping

Just like you shop for other services like cell phone, cable service or an electricity supplier, you can shop for your natural gas supplier (NGS) too. You may be able to save money by shopping for the “supplier portion” of your bill.

Why should I shop?

It’s your choice. You can shop for the best deal to meet your natural gas supply needs. In areas where competitive offers are being made, you may be able to save money off your bill.

How do I save money?

Some suppliers may offer natural gas that is cheaper than the gas you are currently buying from your local natural gas distribution company (NGDC). Other suppliers may offer longer or shorter contracts for service at a fixed or variable price. You can shop around to find the best supplier for you.

Natural gas is often measured in units called a Mcf, ccf or Therms. While saving a few cents to a dollar per unit doesn’t sound like much, keep in mind that those savings can add up to a large savings per year, depending on usage. Shop around--all you have to lose are dollars off your natural gas bill.

If I choose a new NGS, can I still do Budget Billing?

Yes. Be sure to tell the competitive supplier that you want budget billing, which allows you to pay a “fixed amount” each month, providing certainty in your bills. Budget billing averages bills out over 12 months, but does not guarantee an annual fixed rate as budget bills are subject to quarterly adjustments based on usage.

What is the Price-to-Compare?

The **price-to-compare** is the unit price charged by the NGDCs and used by consumers to compare prices and potential savings with other natural gas suppliers. The price to compare may appear on your bill, but if it doesn’t, contact your NGDC.

I have reliable natural gas service now, why should I choose some other company to supply my natural gas?

Natural gas utilities do not care if you use a competitive supplier and encourage customers to shop around. You may be able to save money with a competitive supplier.

The natural gas utility (your local NGDC) will continue to deliver your natural gas, provide reliable service and respond to outage problems. The quality, reliability, and maintenance of your service will not change as it is still monitored by the Public Utility Commission.

SHOPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write in the Natural Gas Supplier's **(NGS) Name**.
2. Write in your local Natural Gas Distribution Company's **(NGDC) Price to Compare**. This may be found on your gas bill or can be obtained by contacting your NGDC.
3. Ask the NGS for its price in dollars per Mcf, ccf or Therms. Write the price and the unit of measurement on the **NGS Price** line. You can find this price and contact information on the PAGasSwitch page on the PUC's website: **www.PUC.pa.gov** Click on **Consumer Info**, then **Natural Gas**, followed by **PAGasSwitch**.
4. Subtract the **NGS Price** from the **NGDC Price to Compare**. Write the difference on the **Savings** line.
5. To find how much you'll save each month, find the **average monthly gas used** on your bill and write it on the **Average Monthly Gas Used** line.
6. Multiply the **Savings** times the **Average Monthly Gas Used**. This gives your **Total Average Monthly Savings**.

	Supplier 1	Supplier 2	Supplier 3
1. NGS Name	_____	_____	_____
2. NGDC Price to Compare	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. NGS Price	-\$ _____	-\$ _____	-\$ _____
4. Savings	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. Average Monthly Gas Used	X _____	X _____	X _____
6. Total Average Monthly Savings*	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

*Actual savings may vary.

Visit the PUC's PAGasSwitch webpage to see if a competitive natural gas supplier is available in your area. Remember, your local natural gas distribution company (NGDC) only delivers the gas to your home; it doesn't produce it. Your NGDC may not have the best price. Shop around and choose a supplier that does!

For further information, contact the Public Utility Commission

Write

PA Public Utility Commission
Bureau of Consumer Services
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Call

1-800-692-7380
For people with speech or hearing
loss, dial 7-1-1 (Telecommunications
Relay Service)

Visit our website

www.puc.pa.gov
to access:

PA Gas Switch
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

