



Texas **Electric Choice**
EDUCATION PROGRAM

A PUBLICATION OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

HOW TO SHOP FOR A RETAIL ELECTRIC PROVIDER



YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CHOOSE

Millions of Texans have exercised their right to pick a Retail Electric Provider and a plan that is right for them. There are a wide variety of electricity products and plans available in the marketplace. Are you looking for a plan that provides you with significant savings or provides more certainty than your current plan? Or are you are considering switching to an electricity product that uses primarily renewable energy? Whatever your reason is for shopping, PowerToChoose.org can make your search easier. If you are under contract, you may switch providers up to 14 days before your contract expires.

GETTING STARTED

From the PowerToChoose.org home page:

1. Click on the **Compare Offers** tab along the top of the screen.
2. Before comparing retail offers, make sure you read the **Understanding Your Choices** and **Questions to Ask Providers** sections.
3. Click on **Step 3 - Compare Retail Offers Now**.
4. Choose to either search by ZIP Code or by the transmission and distribution utility (TDU) drop down menu.



After following these steps, you should see the **Available Offers** screen (pictured below), which defaults to a list of “fixed” offers in order of lowest rate plan to highest rate plan. You can also click the “Go Directly To Offers” button on the home page and skip the above steps.

AVAILABLE OFFERS

All Fixed Variable Indexed Promotional Offers Prepaid

195 Records Found

Search Criteria

Search Help

Zip Code: 00000

TDU Service Area: ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY

Renewable Content: All

Price (cents per kWh): From: To:

Contract Term (months): From: To:

REP Company: ALL

Prepaid:

Or check boxes to compare offers

Submit

Click the column headings to sort offers

List of electric offers

Filter	Retail Electric Provider	Avg. Price/kWh (1,000 kWh)	Cost per 1,000 kWh	Rate Type	Renewable Energy Content	Term (Mo.) Cancellation Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pennywise Power Wise Buy 4 Electricity Facts Label Terms of Service Special Terms Sign Up	7.3¢	\$73.00	Fixed	7%	4 \$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kinetic Energy It's Electric Out There Three-Month ---- Same day move-ins available before 1:30 pm CST. Call 1-888-610-2555 between 8am and 6pm M-F for details. Electricity Facts Label Terms of Service Special Terms Sign Up	7.3¢	\$73.00	Fixed	5%	3 \$50.00

Lowest to Highest Price

CUSTOMIZE YOUR SEARCH

In addition to the three rate types (Fixed, Indexed, and Variable), Powertochoose.org displays Promotional Offers and Prepaid Plans. You can either search “All” plans in your zip code or search within a specific type of plan by clicking on the appropriate tab.



Electricity that is made from “environmentally friendly” fuel resources, such as wind, water, biomass, or solar. Sometimes referred to as “green” energy. Use the pull down menu to choose “All” or “Only” (100% renewable resources).

Choose your plan based on the price per kWh by typing in the range you would like to pay.

Choose your contract length by months. For month-to-month plans, type in “1.”

This pull down menu contains all of the Retail Electric Providers who are currently posting their energy plans on PowerToChoose.org in alphabetical order. You can review all plans offered by a specific REP by selecting it from this list.

Choose to view only Prepaid plans.

Once you have customized your search, press the **Submit** button to view a **List of Electric Offers** that reflects your specifications.

Search Criteria

[Search Help](#)

Zip Code:

TDU Service Areas:
 ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY

Renewable Content:

Price (cents per kWh):
From: ¢ To: ¢

Contract Term (months):
From: To:

REP Company:

Prepaid:

Or check boxes to compare offers

UNDERSTAND ELECTRIC OFFERS

Click the column headings to sort offers

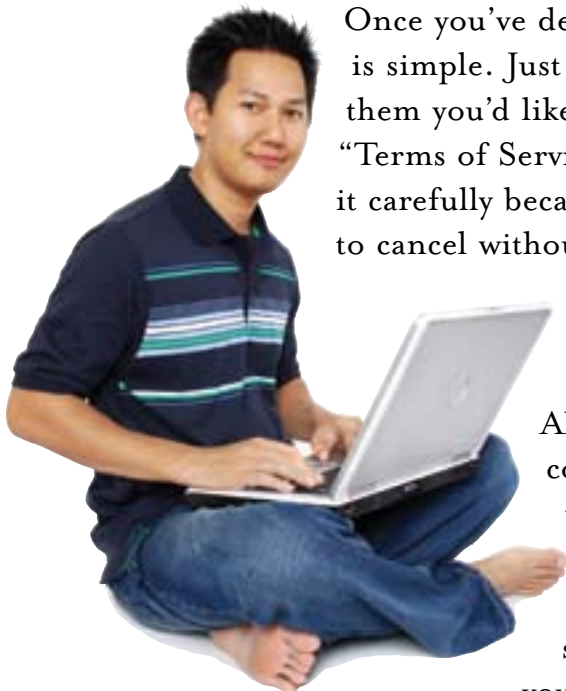
Filter	List of electric offers	1	2	3	4	5
Clear	Retail Electric Provider	Avg. Price/kWh (1,000 kWh)	Cost per 1,000 kWh	Rate Type	Renewable Energy Content	Term (Mo.) Cancellation Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pennywise Power Wire Buy 4 Electricity Facts Label Terms of Service Special Terms Sign Up	7.34	\$73.00	Fixed	7%	4 \$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kinetic Energy It's Electric Out There Three-Month ---- Same day move-ins available before 1:30 pm CST. Call 1-888-620-2555 between 8am and 6pm M-F for details. Electricity Facts Label Terms of Service Special Terms Sign Up	7.34	\$73.00	Fixed	5%	3 \$50.00
	Kinetic Energy	7.44	\$74.00	Fixed	5%	6

The **List of Electric Offers** allows you to review all the plans available in your ZIP Code that meet the search criteria you entered. By checking boxes in the far left, yellow column and then clicking on the Filter button, you can narrow your search to the specific plans you are considering. Reading the numbered columns from left to right, you get the following information:

1. Average Price/kWh (1,000/kWh)*
2. Cost per 1,000 kWh*
3. Rate Type
4. Renewable Energy Content
5. Term (Months)/Cancellation Fee

The **Retail Electric Provider** column provides external links to the company's website and additional plan information, such as the **Terms of Service**, the **Facts Label**, and any **Special Terms** associated with the plan. You can even **Sign Up** from here if you are satisfied with your choice. *If you use more or less than 1,000 kWh per month, check the Electricity Facts Label for the Average Price/kWh.

SWITCHING IS SIMPLE



Once you've decided which company and offer is right for you, switching is simple. Just contact the Retail Electric Provider you've chosen and tell them you'd like to switch, or sign up on their website. They'll send you a "Terms of Service" agreement, which is your new service contract. Review it carefully because after you receive it you'll only have three business days to cancel without penalty, if your Terms of Service provides for a penalty.

Your new electric service plan will take effect within seven business days from the time you select a new provider. Switching providers will not interrupt your electric service. All that changes is the company that sells you power, not the company that maintains the poles and wires that deliver electricity to your home or business. The reliability of your service will not be affected by your choice of provider, and if a power outage occurs for any reason, your service will still be restored just as before regardless of which company you're with.

Texas Electric Choice Answer Center

P.O. Box 13143, Austin, TX 78711

Phone: 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (1-866-797-4839) / TTY: Toll-free 7-1-1