



Seattle City Light



NEWHALEM AND DIABLO TOWN - ELECTRIC BILLING ORDINANCE

Mike Haynes, Chief Operating Officer | September 16, 2020

BACKGROUND

- SCL owns 44 homes in Newhalem & Diablo to support its operations in those communities
 - A few essential employees receive housing and utilities as part of their collective bargaining agreement or employment offer letters
 - Other employees rent housing & sign rental agreements with City Light
 - Rental agreements expressly require tenants to pay for their own electric services

CURRENT CODE

SMC 21.56.030 - Charges for electricity in Newhalem community.

As requested by the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of City Light in C.F. 274449 all consumers of electric energy from the City's system in the Newhalem community other than Lighting Department facilities or employees shall be charged the rates set forth in Chapter 21.49.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CODE

SMC 21.56.030 - Charges for electricity in Newhalem and Diablo communities.

All residents of City Light-owned housing receiving electric energy from City Light's system in the Newhalem and Diablo communities shall be charged the rates set forth in Chapter 21.49, except those City Light employees who receive electric energy pursuant to an applicable collective bargaining agreement or employment offer letter.

CURRENT CODE'S APPLICATION

- SMC 21.56.030 – adopted in 1973
 - Seattle electric rates apply to Diablo & Newhalem residents other than a few essential employees, who have alternative arrangement.
 - Other employees' City Light rental agreements explicitly require payment of utilities, which supersedes SMC.
 - Employee misinterpretation has been an issue
 - Law Department recommends clarifying in SMC

IMPACT OF CODE AMENDMENT

- Clarifies for current employees that signed rental agreement requires payment of utilities unless they have labor agreement or employment offer letter with other arrangement.
- No current employees' existing arrangement (labor agreement or hiring letter) changes.
- Provides clarity for future hires