



Liberty CalPeco 2025 General Rate Case

On March 19, 2026, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved Liberty's 2025 General Rate Case (GRC) application for 2025–2027. In the application, Liberty requested approval for funding for significant investments in wildfire risk mitigation and wildfire liability insurance. These critical investments are needed to keep the community safe and the electric system reliable.

Customer FAQ: Wildfire Safety, Reliability, and Your Rates

What does the outcome mean for the community?

It means we will continue delivering value to our communities by reducing wildfire risk and improving reliability. The outcome of the rate case supports our abilities to:

- Harden our grid through activities such as covered conductor installation, expulsion fuse replacements, open/grey wire replacement, and pole replacements
- Perform inspection activities, including our 5-year cycle for detailed inspections, annual patrols, wood pole intrusive inspections, substation inspections, plus the new drone inspection program for the HFTD-3 in South Lake
- Continue our top-tier vegetation management programs such as our 3-year inspections, annual LiDAR, pole clearing, fall-in mitigation, and wood and slash management
- Invest in and utilize situational awareness tools such as our weather stations, wildfire camera network, incident management team, and advanced meteorology and fire weather forecasting and management tools
- Improve our risk modeling and planning activities such as asset health and criticality along with wildfire risk considering spread analysis, structure density, fuel conditions, and include the inclusive risk associated with PSPS and fast trip modes

Why am I hearing about new electric rates?



The CPUC approved Liberty's GRC application, which authorized Liberty to implement a rate increase that will take effect on June 1, 2026. The average residential bill will increase by about \$24 per month (approximately 12.5%). In addition, there is a temporary surcharge of about \$23 per month (approximately 11.3%) to recover costs for investments already made from January 2025 through May 2026. The surcharge will be recovered over three years and then drop off customer bills.

Why am I paying a surcharge?

The CPUC's decision was retroactive to January 2025, when Liberty began investing in critical wildfire mitigation projects as requested and later approved in the GRC decision. The temporary surcharge approved by the CPUC allows Liberty to recover those costs incurred between January 2025 and May 2026 and will only last three years, starting on June 1, 2026.

How do these rates compare to the other electric utilities in California?

Liberty's rates are comparable to, and remain lower than, several of the state's other investor-owned utilities. While our unique geography and smaller customer base require tailored infrastructure investments, our overall rates place us right in line with California's utility averages, while ensuring we continue to invest in the safety and resilience of our local grid.

Why are wildfire mitigation costs a big part of the rate increase?

Public safety is at the core of Liberty's mission. Most of Liberty's service area is located in high wildfire-risk zones. To safely provide electricity in these conditions, Liberty must make significant, ongoing investments to reduce wildfire risk, protect communities, strengthen and modernize the electric grid, and maintain reliable service during extreme weather. It's an investment we are making together as a community.

How is Liberty reducing wildfire risk?

Approved investments support grid hardening, vegetation management, detailed inspections, situational monitoring, weather stations, and emergency response systems. These efforts aim to reduce the risk of wildfires caused by electrical equipment and bolster response during high risk conditions. To learn more, visit our [Wildfire Mitigation page](#).

**What is wildfire insurance, and why are those costs increasing?**

Wildfire insurance helps to recover after a wildfire including the rebuilding of the electric infrastructure that serves local communities. This insurance supports Liberty's ability to continue delivering safe, reliable electricity to customers, recover from damaged equipment faster, and avoid sudden financial impacts that could disrupt service. As wildfires have become more frequent and severe, the cost of maintaining this coverage has risen significantly.

Are my rates going up because of the energy supply changes coming in 2028?

Not at all. This rate change focuses strictly on immediate investments needed for our local infrastructure, primarily for wildfire mitigation—like upgrading poles, installing covered wires, and advancing wildfire resilience overall. The supply transition planned for 2028 is simply a shift in where we buy our incremental wholesale power. Although both initiatives are regulated by the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC), they are entirely separate and we are utilizing a competitive bidding process for 2028 to keep our future power supply as affordable as possible, while advancing our renewable goals.

What if I can't afford the rate increase?

Liberty understands that rate increases can be challenging. Assistance programs such as CARE, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), flexible payment arrangements, budget billing, and energy efficiency programs are available.

Customers are encouraged to visit our [website](#) or contact Customer Care to discuss options.

For more details, please visit Liberty's [Rates and Tariffs](#) page.