

# Get the best from economy 7



**Economy 7 is an electricity tariff which enables you to use electricity for seven hours at night at a lower unit price than during the day.**

### **Operating times**

Economy 7 is normally available between 12 midnight and 7am during the winter months (GMT) and between 1am and 8am during the summer (BST). You can make substantial savings if you plan most of your normal electricity use during these hours.

### **Prices**

All the electrical appliances you use during the Economy 7 period will cost less than half the cost to run compared with the standard daytime tariff. The electricity you use during the day will cost slightly more than the standard rate and the quarterly standing charge is higher.

As a guide, if you can use or transfer around 15% of your electricity consumption to the seven hour night time period you should save money.

You don't have to have electrical heating to take advantage of Economy 7.



## Benefits of Economy 7

- Economy 7 offers 7 hours of low cost night time electricity which could save you money.
- Economy 7 works well with storage heaters to keep the cost of heating down.
- Economy 7 is ideal for heating water overnight using an immersion heater and time switch controller.
- Use plug-in timers with electrical appliances to maximise savings.
- If you pay your electricity bill monthly by direct debit you usually get a lower unit charge and save even more.
- Try to minimise NORMAL use and maximise LOW use.
- If you can use of transfer around 15% of your electricity consumption to the 7 hour night time period you should save by using Economy 7.

### The meter

The Economy 7 Meter has two rows of figures - one for the night rate (LOW) and one for the day rate (NORMAL). You will need to read both rows of figures to check your electricity consumption and your bill. The meter measures all the electricity you use including any electric heating, water heating, cooker, fridge and all other appliances.

The meter switches automatically from NORMAL to LOW by a radio tele switch or, in older installations, a mechanical time switch usually mounted beside your Economy 7 meter. You must not tamper with either the meter or its time switch.



## For further information about energy efficiency please contact:

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Documents on our website can also be emailed to you as plain text files.

Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English.

For more information contact: 01934 426 686 or [kim.herivel@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:kim.herivel@n-somerset.gov.uk)