

Vote **Richard J. Ochs, Green Party, Delegate, 43rd District**
Vote for lower electric bills, **Vote against the 2 big parties**
which allowed BGE to double the rates you pay.

Beware of misleading statements right before elections !

“Electricity rates lower next summer” said the *Sun*’s front page article on Sunday, Oct. 15. Lower than now? **NO!** The truth is the **huge rate increase** might be a little less than expected, but still very high (a 65% increase instead of 72%).

THE PROBLEM:

Look at your August BGE bill under “Electric Details.” You will see next to “BGE Electric Supply” the number of your kilowatt-hours (KWh) you used for the month. You will see next to that number the new rate of 11.87 cents per KWh. Now look at your June bill. You will see it was 6.115 cents per KWh. **Between June and August, the price of electric went up from roughly 6 cents to just under 12 per KWh, almost double.**

The only reason your “amount due” did not double in 2 months is because **you owe the difference, which you must pay with interest after the elections, after those to blame may be re-elected.**

Look at your August BGE bill under “Summary.” The bottom line “Total Amount Due” (for electric only) is a lot less than the line above it, called “Total Charge This Period.” The difference is printed above that, called “Stabilization Deferral.” That is the **amount you owe**, even though it has a misleading “cr” after it, as though it was a credit. **It is not a credit, but a debt.**

THE SOLUTION:

The only way Maryland can regain control of these utilities so we can obtain power at the cost of generation is to **take over the company** by right of eminent domain and run it as a **non-profit, publicly-owned utility**. This can be financed at the cost of **a few dollars a month for each ratepayer instead of the 65 to 72% increase**, which we must pay after the elections. The Green Party refuses corporate donations and advocates **rate caps, re-regulation and cleaner energy.**

These “deferral” debts will be subtracted from your “Total Charges” for the next 10 months, which **you must pay with interest over the next 10 years on top of the 65-72% rate increase to be charged by next June.**

In 1999, the Maryland legislature allowed BGE to give its plants to the unregulated Constellation Energy, under the **false promise** that competition would drive rates down. That means the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) no longer controls the rates that consumers are charged. Even though local plants generate power at a cost of below 5 cents per KWh, consumers are charged over 11 cents per KWh.

Part of this charge results from BGE’s buying power at over 11 cents per KWh and reselling it to us rather than promoting energy conservation. This waste adds to smog, sickness, bay fallout and global warming.

Five Constellation executives take over \$5 million/year apiece in pay and benefits, some of which is donated to politicians. VP David H. Nevins donated \$12,000 alone. If a merger with a Florida firm is approved on time by the Maryland legislature, company managers will share “target awards” of \$55 to \$155 million.

VOTE GREEN PARTY TUESDAY NOV. 7

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