

Tariff Impact Comparison: 2026/27 approved vs 2027/28 proposed

Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality | Buffalo City Electricity Trading Services Unit | Draft for public participation, 25 October 2026

This report compares what customers pay on BCMM's approved 2026/27 electricity tariffs with what they would pay on the proposed 2027/28 tariffs from the Cost of Supply study. On average tariffs rise by 12.5%. Indigent households rise by 6.0%; pensioners, social housing, prepaid homes (1B) and most business tariffs rise by 8.01% in line with Eskom; 2A, 3A, 4A and street lighting rise by more because they are still below the cost of supply. All 2027/28 rates are proposals, subject to Council approval and NERSA. Rand figures exclude VAT unless stated.

1. What a typical customer will pay each month

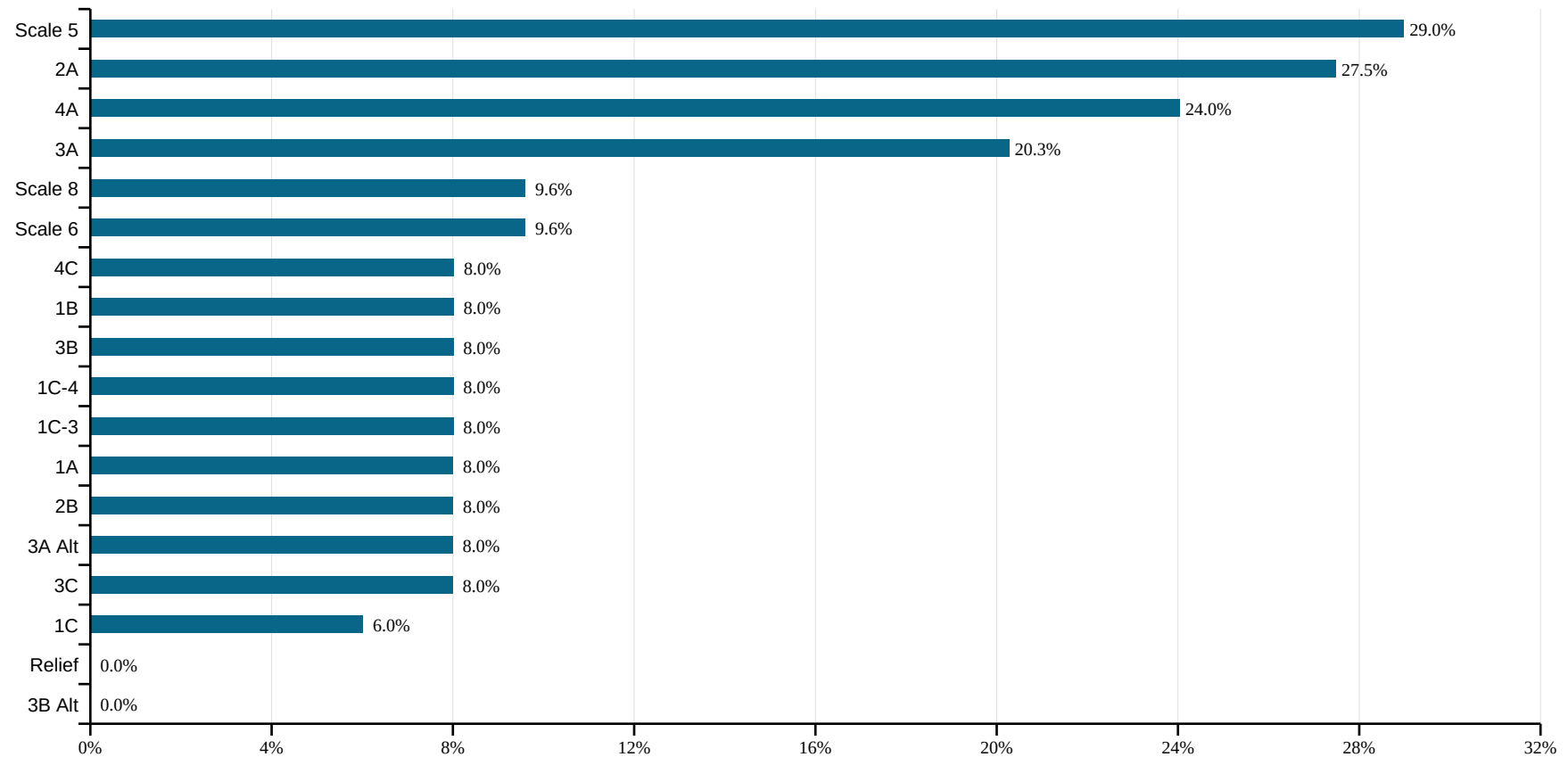
Customer	Tariff	kWh / month	kVA	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	Increase	2026/27 incl VAT (R)	2027/28 incl VAT (R)
Households									
Indigent household	1C	200		429.00	454.80	25.80	6.0%	493.35	523.02
Indigent household	1C	300		715.00	758.00	43.00	6.0%	822.25	871.70
Pensioner	1C-3	300		936.00	1,011.00	75.00	8.0%	1,076.40	1,162.65
Pensioner	1C-3	500		1,610.00	1,739.00	129.00	8.0%	1,851.50	1,999.85
Social housing, prepaid	1C-4	200		624.00	674.00	50.00	8.0%	717.60	775.10
Social housing, credit meter	1C-4	300		1,215.00	1,312.20	97.20	8.0%	1,397.25	1,509.03
Prepaid home	1B	400		1,808.20	1,953.13	144.93	8.0%	2,079.43	2,246.10
Prepaid home	1B	800		3,155.40	3,408.33	252.93	8.0%	3,628.71	3,919.58
Credit-metered home	1A	600		2,845.30	3,073.10	227.80	8.0%	3,272.09	3,534.07
Businesses									
Small business, prepaid three phase	2B	1,000		4,869.70	5,259.47	389.77	8.0%	5,600.15	6,048.39
Small business, credit three phase	2A	2,000		8,912.00	11,362.00	2,450.00	27.5%	10,248.80	13,066.30
Prepaid large power	3C	20,000		78,683.00	84,976.26	6,293.26	8.0%	90,485.45	97,722.70
Bulk complex, flat rate	3A Alt	30,000		141,000.00	152,280.00	11,280.00	8.0%	162,150.00	175,122.00
Large power 400 V	3A	50,000	200	200,267.80	240,879.75	40,611.95	20.3%	230,307.97	277,011.71
Large power 11 kV	3B	300,000	1,200	1,021,131.40	1,102,960.81	81,829.41	8.0%	1,174,301.11	1,268,404.93
Large power 11 kV, flat rate	3B Alt	100,000		332,000.00	332,000.00	0.00	0.0%	381,800.00	381,800.00
Time-of-use									
4A TOU, low-demand month (Sep-May)	4A	40,000	200	161,926.70	200,859.24	38,932.54	24.0%	186,215.70	230,988.13
4A TOU, high-demand month (Jun-Aug)	4A	40,000	200	199,184.30	247,082.44	47,898.14	24.0%	229,061.95	284,144.81
4C TOU, low-demand month (Sep-May)	4C	4,500,000	15,000	10,720,433.00	11,580,593.34	860,160.34	8.0%	12,328,497.95	13,317,682.34

Customer	Tariff	kWh / month	kVA	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	Increase	2026/27 incl VAT (R)	2027/28 incl VAT (R)
4C TOU, high-demand month (Jun-Aug)	4C	4,500,000	15,000	17,814,893.00	19,241,033.34	1,426,140.34	8.0%	20,487,126.95	22,127,188.34
Other									
Temporary supply (prepaid)	Scale 6	500		5,500.00	6,028.00	528.00	9.6%	6,325.00	6,932.20
Sportsfield or school	Scale 8	6,000		24,000.00	26,304.00	2,304.00	9.6%	27,600.00	30,249.60
Street lighting and traffic signals	Scale 5	10,000		35,600.00	45,920.00	10,320.00	29.0%	40,940.00	52,808.00
Business relief tariff (held)	Relief	5,000		15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.0%	17,250.00	17,250.00

Block tariffs are calculated exactly (indigent: first 50 kWh free, 51-300 kWh and above 300 kWh; pensioners: 300 kWh block; social housing prepaid: 200 kWh block; 1B: 2,000 kWh block). TOU bills assume 18% peak, 42% standard, 40% off-peak use for 4A and 16% / 40% / 44% for 4C. Reactive energy, connection and service charges are excluded. The indigent, pensioner, 1B and 2B figures match the "Have Your Say" public notice.

2. Increase in the monthly bill by tariff, 2027/28 vs 2026/27

Percentage change in the typical monthly bill from section 1 (excl VAT). The 12.5% average is weighted by sales across all customers.



3. Tariff rates: 2026/27 approved vs 2027/28 proposed (excl VAT)

Scale	Charge	Unit	2026/27	2027/28	Change	Change %
SCALE 1C	Part 1 - first 50 kWh	R/kWh	Free	Free	-	-
	Part 2 - charge per kWh (51-300 kWh)	R/kWh	2.860	3.032	0.172	6.0%
	Part 3 - charge per kWh (>300 kWh)	R/kWh	3.370	3.572	0.202	6.0%
SCALE 1C-3	Part 1 - charge per kWh (0-300 kWh)	R/kWh	3.120	3.370	0.250	8.0%
	Part 2 - basic charge	R/month	N/A	N/A	-	-
	Part 3 - charge per kWh (>300 kWh)	R/kWh	3.370	3.640	0.270	8.0%
SCALE 1C-4	Part 1 - prepayment charge per kWh up to 200 kWh	R/kWh	3.120	3.370	0.250	8.0%
	Part 2 - credit meter per kWh	R/kWh	4.050	4.374	0.324	8.0%
	Part 3 - prepayment charge per kWh (>200 kWh)	R/kWh	3.370	3.640	0.270	8.0%
SCALE 1B	Part 1 - first 2,000 kWh	R/kWh	3.368	3.638	0.270	8.0%
	Part 2 - per kWh above 2,000 kWh	R/kWh	3.550	3.834	0.284	8.0%
	Basic charge	R/month	461.00	497.93	36.93	8.0%
SCALE 2B	Energy charge	R/kWh	3.774	4.076	0.302	8.0%
	Basic charge	R/month	1,095.70	1,183.47	87.77	8.0%
SCALE 3C	Energy charge	R/kWh	3.826	4.132	0.306	8.0%
	Basic charge	R/month	2,163.00	2,336.26	173.26	8.0%
SCALE 1A	Energy charge	R/kWh	3.885	4.196	0.311	8.0%
	Basic charge	R/month	514.30	555.50	41.20	8.0%
SCALE 2A	Energy charge	R/kWh	4.456	5.681	1.225	27.5%
SCALE 3A	Basic charge	R/month	5,767.80	6,937.75	1,169.95	20.3%
	Demand charge	R/kVA	443.50	533.46	89.96	20.3%
	Energy charge	R/kWh	2.116	2.545	0.429	20.3%
SCALE 3A ALTERNATIVE	Flat rate	R/kWh	4.700	5.076	0.376	8.0%
SCALE 3B	Basic charge	R/month	20,991.40	22,672.81	1,681.41	8.0%
	Demand charge	R/kVA	418.70	452.24	33.54	8.0%
	Energy charge	R/kWh	1.659	1.792	0.133	8.0%
EL0301B ALTERNATIVE 3B	Energy charge	R/kWh	3.320	3.320	0.000	0.0%
SCALE 4A TIME-OF-USE	Basic charge	R/month	4,437.10	5,504.04	1,066.94	24.0%
	Demand charge - low demand months	R/kVA	206.10	255.66	49.56	24.0%

Scale	Charge	Unit	2026/27	2027/28	Change	Change %
	Demand charge - high demand months	R/kVA	227.50	282.20	54.70	24.0%
	Low demand (Sep-May): peak	R/kWh	3.488	4.327	0.839	24.1%
	Low demand: standard	R/kWh	3.125	3.876	0.751	24.0%
	Low demand: off-peak	R/kWh	2.416	2.997	0.581	24.0%
	High demand (Jun-Aug): peak	R/kWh	4.359	5.407	1.048	24.0%
	High demand: standard	R/kWh	3.708	4.600	0.892	24.1%
	High demand: off-peak	R/kWh	3.473	4.308	0.835	24.0%
	Reactive energy charge	R/kVArh	0.330	0.330	0.000	0.0%
SCALE 4C TIME-OF-USE	Basic charge	R/month	8,993.00	9,713.34	720.34	8.0%
	Demand charge - low demand months	R/kVA	201.00	217.10	16.10	8.0%
	Demand charge - high demand months	R/kVA	539.30	582.50	43.20	8.0%
	Low demand (Sep-May): peak	R/kWh	2.983	3.222	0.239	8.0%
	Low demand: standard	R/kWh	1.756	1.897	0.141	8.0%
	Low demand: off-peak	R/kWh	1.206	1.303	0.097	8.0%
	High demand (Jun-Aug): peak	R/kWh	5.411	5.844	0.433	8.0%
	High demand: standard	R/kWh	1.896	2.048	0.152	8.0%
	High demand: off-peak	R/kWh	1.216	1.313	0.097	8.0%
	Reactive energy charge	R/kVArh	0.300	0.300	0.000	0.0%
SCALE TOU - IDZ	Surcharge on Eskom Municflex charges (Council approved)	%	2.5%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%
SCALE 5	Energy charge: street lighting	R/kWh	3.560	4.592	1.032	29.0%
	Energy charge: traffic signals	R/kWh	3.560	4.592	1.032	29.0%
SCALE 6	Energy charge	R/kWh	11.000	12.056	1.056	9.6%
SCALE 8	Energy charge	R/kWh	4.000	4.384	0.384	9.6%
BUSINESS RELIEF TARIFF	Energy charge	R/kWh	3.000	3.000	0.000	0.0%
SSEG / LSEG FEED-IN	Off-peak & standard, both seasons	R/kWh	(1.900)	(1.900)	0.000	0.0%
	High-season peak (June-August)	R/kWh	(3.000)	(3.000)	0.000	0.0%

Source: BCMM Cost of Supply study and Draft Tariff Book 2027/28. Wheeling tariffs (new structure) and the new SSEG Option B/C tariffs are set out in the Draft Tariff Book.

4. Flat tariffs: monthly bill across usage levels (excl VAT)

From the comparison sheets of the tool. Demand-metered tariffs (3A, 3B) use the kVA shown in the tariff name. The indigent bill reflects 50 kWh free each month.

1C-4 Social housing prepaid (up to 200 kWh)

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
40	124.80	134.80	10.00	8.0%
80	249.60	269.60	20.00	8.0%
120	374.40	404.40	30.00	8.0%
160	499.20	539.20	40.00	8.0%
200	624.00	674.00	50.00	8.0%

1C Indigent (first 50 kWh free)

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
100	143.00	151.60	8.60	6.0%
150	286.00	303.20	17.20	6.0%
200	429.00	454.80	25.80	6.0%
250	572.00	606.40	34.40	6.0%
300	715.00	758.00	43.00	6.0%

1A Credit meter single phase

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
200	1,291.30	1,394.70	103.40	8.0%
300	1,679.80	1,814.30	134.50	8.0%
400	2,068.30	2,233.90	165.60	8.0%
500	2,456.80	2,653.50	196.70	8.0%
600	2,845.30	3,073.10	227.80	8.0%
800	3,622.30	3,912.30	290.00	8.0%
1,000	4,399.30	4,751.50	352.20	8.0%

1B Prepaid single phase (up to 2,000 kWh)

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
200	1,134.60	1,225.53	90.93	8.0%
400	1,808.20	1,953.13	144.93	8.0%
600	2,481.80	2,680.73	198.93	8.0%
800	3,155.40	3,408.33	252.93	8.0%
1,000	3,829.00	4,135.93	306.93	8.0%

1C-3 Pensioners (0-300 kWh block)

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
100	312.00	337.00	25.00	8.0%
150	468.00	505.50	37.50	8.0%
200	624.00	674.00	50.00	8.0%
250	780.00	842.50	62.50	8.0%
300	936.00	1,011.00	75.00	8.0%

2A Credit meter three phase

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
500	2,228.00	2,840.50	612.50	27.5%
1,000	4,456.00	5,681.00	1,225.00	27.5%
1,500	6,684.00	8,521.50	1,837.50	27.5%
2,000	8,912.00	11,362.00	2,450.00	27.5%
3,000	13,368.00	17,043.00	3,675.00	27.5%
5,000	22,280.00	28,405.00	6,125.00	27.5%
8,000	35,648.00	45,448.00	9,800.00	27.5%

2B Prepaid three phase

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
500	2,982.70	3,221.47	238.77	8.0%
1,000	4,869.70	5,259.47	389.77	8.0%
1,500	6,756.70	7,297.47	540.77	8.0%
2,000	8,643.70	9,335.47	691.77	8.0%
3,000	12,417.70	13,411.47	993.77	8.0%
5,000	19,965.70	21,563.47	1,597.77	8.0%
8,000	31,287.70	33,791.47	2,503.77	8.0%

3B Alt Flat rate 11 kV

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
50,000	166,000.00	166,000.00	0.00	0.0%
100,000	332,000.00	332,000.00	0.00	0.0%
150,000	498,000.00	498,000.00	0.00	0.0%
200,000	664,000.00	664,000.00	0.00	0.0%
250,000	830,000.00	830,000.00	0.00	0.0%
300,000	996,000.00	996,000.00	0.00	0.0%
400,000	1,328,000.00	1,328,000.00	0.00	0.0%

3B Large power 11 kV - 1,200 kVA

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
200,000	855,231.40	923,760.81	68,529.41	8.0%
250,000	938,181.40	1,013,360.81	75,179.41	8.0%
300,000	1,021,131.40	1,102,960.81	81,829.41	8.0%
350,000	1,104,081.40	1,192,560.81	88,479.41	8.0%
400,000	1,187,031.40	1,282,160.81	95,129.41	8.0%
450,000	1,269,981.40	1,371,760.81	101,779.41	8.0%
500,000	1,352,931.40	1,461,360.81	108,429.41	8.0%

3A Alt Flat rate bulk complexes

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
10,000	47,000.00	50,760.00	3,760.00	8.0%
20,000	94,000.00	101,520.00	7,520.00	8.0%
30,000	141,000.00	152,280.00	11,280.00	8.0%
40,000	188,000.00	203,040.00	15,040.00	8.0%
50,000	235,000.00	253,800.00	18,800.00	8.0%
60,000	282,000.00	304,560.00	22,560.00	8.0%
80,000	376,000.00	406,080.00	30,080.00	8.0%

3A Large power 400 V - 200 kVA

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
20,000	136,787.80	164,529.75	27,741.95	20.3%
30,000	157,947.80	189,979.75	32,031.95	20.3%
40,000	179,107.80	215,429.75	36,321.95	20.3%
50,000	200,267.80	240,879.75	40,611.95	20.3%
60,000	221,427.80	266,329.75	44,901.95	20.3%
70,000	242,587.80	291,779.75	49,191.95	20.3%
80,000	263,747.80	317,229.75	53,481.95	20.3%

3C Prepaid large power

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
10,000	40,423.00	43,656.26	3,233.26	8.0%
15,000	59,553.00	64,316.26	4,763.26	8.0%
20,000	78,683.00	84,976.26	6,293.26	8.0%
25,000	97,813.00	105,636.26	7,823.26	8.0%
30,000	116,943.00	126,296.26	9,353.26	8.0%
35,000	136,073.00	146,956.26	10,883.26	8.0%
40,000	155,203.00	167,616.26	12,413.26	8.0%

Scale 8 Sportsfields and schools

kWh	2026/27 (R)	2027/28 (R)	Increase (R)	%
2,000	8,000.00	8,768.00	768.00	9.6%
4,000	16,000.00	17,536.00	1,536.00	9.6%
6,000	24,000.00	26,304.00	2,304.00	9.6%
8,000	32,000.00	35,072.00	3,072.00	9.6%
10,000	40,000.00	43,840.00	3,840.00	9.6%
15,000	60,000.00	65,760.00	5,760.00	9.6%
20,000	80,000.00	87,680.00	7,680.00	9.6%

5. Time-of-use tariffs (4A and 4C): monthly bill by season (excl VAT)

Low-demand season is September to May; high-demand season is June to August. Bills use the kVA shown and an 18% / 42% / 40% peak / standard / off-peak split for 4A and 16% / 40% / 44% for 4C.

4A TOU 400 V - 100 kVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
10,000	54,114	67,126	24.0%	64,499	80,009	24.0%
15,000	68,648	85,154	24.0%	83,155	103,151	24.0%
20,000	83,182	103,182	24.0%	101,811	126,293	24.0%
25,000	97,716	121,210	24.0%	120,467	149,436	24.0%
30,000	112,249	139,237	24.0%	139,122	172,578	24.0%

4A TOU 400 V - 300 kVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
30,000	153,469	190,369	24.0%	184,622	229,018	24.0%
45,000	197,070	244,453	24.0%	240,590	298,445	24.0%
60,000	240,672	298,537	24.0%	296,558	367,872	24.0%
75,000	284,273	352,621	24.0%	352,526	437,299	24.0%
90,000	327,874	406,704	24.0%	408,493	506,725	24.0%

4A TOU 400 V - 600 kVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
60,000	302,502	375,235	24.0%	364,808	452,532	24.0%
90,000	389,704	483,402	24.0%	476,743	591,385	24.0%
120,000	476,906	591,570	24.0%	588,679	730,239	24.0%
150,000	564,108	699,737	24.0%	700,614	869,093	24.0%
180,000	651,310	807,904	24.0%	812,550	1,007,947	24.0%
210,000	738,512	916,072	24.0%	924,485	1,146,801	24.0%
240,000	825,715	1,024,239	24.0%	1,036,420	1,285,654	24.0%

4A TOU 400 V - 200 kVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
20,000	103,792	128,748	24.0%	124,561	154,513	24.0%
30,000	132,859	164,803	24.0%	161,872	200,798	24.0%
40,000	161,927	200,859	24.0%	199,184	247,082	24.0%
50,000	190,994	236,915	24.0%	236,496	293,367	24.0%
60,000	220,062	272,971	24.0%	273,808	339,652	24.0%

4A TOU 400 V - 400 kVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
40,000	203,147	251,991	24.0%	244,684	303,522	24.0%
60,000	261,282	324,103	24.0%	319,308	396,092	24.0%
80,000	319,416	396,214	24.0%	393,932	488,661	24.0%
100,000	377,551	468,326	24.0%	468,555	581,230	24.0%
120,000	435,686	540,438	24.0%	543,179	673,799	24.0%

4A TOU 400 V - 800 kVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
80,000	401,856	498,478	24.0%	484,932	601,541	24.0%
120,000	518,126	642,702	24.0%	634,179	786,679	24.0%
160,000	634,396	786,925	24.0%	783,426	971,818	24.0%
200,000	750,665	931,148	24.0%	932,673	1,156,956	24.0%
240,000	866,935	1,075,371	24.0%	1,081,920	1,342,094	24.0%
280,000	983,204	1,219,594	24.0%	1,231,168	1,527,233	24.0%
320,000	1,099,474	1,363,818	24.0%	1,380,415	1,712,371	24.0%

4C TOU 11 kV - 10 MVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
1,500,000	4,584,473	4,952,173	8.0%	8,640,793	9,332,653	8.0%
2,000,000	5,439,633	5,875,993	8.0%	9,720,393	10,498,633	8.0%
2,500,000	6,294,793	6,799,813	8.0%	10,799,993	11,664,613	8.0%
3,000,000	7,149,953	7,723,633	8.0%	11,879,593	12,830,593	8.0%
3,500,000	8,005,113	8,647,453	8.0%	12,959,193	13,996,573	8.0%
4,000,000	8,860,273	9,571,273	8.0%	14,038,793	15,162,553	8.0%
4,500,000	9,715,433	10,495,093	8.0%	15,118,393	16,328,533	8.0%

4C TOU 11 kV - 20 MVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
3,000,000	9,159,953	9,894,633	8.0%	17,272,593	18,655,593	8.0%
4,000,000	10,870,273	11,742,273	8.0%	19,431,793	20,987,553	8.0%
5,000,000	12,580,593	13,589,913	8.0%	21,590,993	23,319,513	8.0%
6,000,000	14,290,913	15,437,553	8.0%	23,750,193	25,651,473	8.0%
7,000,000	16,001,233	17,285,193	8.0%	25,909,393	27,983,433	8.0%
8,000,000	17,711,553	19,132,833	8.0%	28,068,593	30,315,393	8.0%
9,000,000	19,421,873	20,980,473	8.0%	30,227,793	32,647,353	8.0%

4C TOU 11 kV - 15 MVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
2,500,000	7,299,793	7,885,313	8.0%	13,496,493	14,577,113	8.0%
3,000,000	8,154,953	8,809,133	8.0%	14,576,093	15,743,093	8.0%
3,750,000	9,437,693	10,194,863	8.0%	16,195,493	17,492,063	8.0%
4,500,000	10,720,433	11,580,593	8.0%	17,814,893	19,241,033	8.0%
5,250,000	12,003,173	12,966,323	8.0%	19,434,293	20,990,003	8.0%
6,000,000	13,285,913	14,352,053	8.0%	21,053,693	22,738,973	8.0%
7,000,000	14,996,233	16,199,693	8.0%	23,212,893	25,070,933	8.0%

4C TOU 11 kV - 25 MVA

kWh	Low 2026/27	Low 2027/28	Low %	High 2026/27	High 2027/28	High %
4,000,000	11,875,273	12,827,773	8.0%	22,128,293	23,900,053	8.0%
5,000,000	13,585,593	14,675,413	8.0%	24,287,493	26,232,013	8.0%
6,250,000	15,723,493	16,984,963	8.0%	26,986,493	29,146,963	8.0%
7,500,000	17,861,393	19,294,513	8.0%	29,685,493	32,061,913	8.0%
8,750,000	19,999,293	21,604,063	8.0%	32,384,493	34,976,863	8.0%
10,000,000	22,137,193	23,913,613	8.0%	35,083,493	37,891,813	8.0%
11,000,000	23,847,513	25,761,253	8.0%	37,242,693	40,223,773	8.0%

Notes

- Prepared by the Buffalo City Electricity Trading Services Unit using the Tariff Impact Comparison tool (Excel version issued with this report), loaded with BCMM 2026/27 approved and 2027/28 proposed rates.
- 2027/28 rates are from the Cost of Supply study and Draft Tariff Book 2027/28 and are subject to Council approval and NERSA's decision. Eskom's proposed increase to municipalities is 8.01%.
- All amounts exclude VAT unless stated; VAT at 15% is added to accounts and token purchases.
- Bills are illustrations for typical usage. A customer's actual bill depends on their own consumption, demand and, for TOU customers, when they use electricity.