

# Re: Politicians and energy policy

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- *From:* rickman <[gnuarm@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gnuarm@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 22 May 2008 21:34:53 -0700 (PDT)
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On May 22, 11:50 pm, linnix <[m...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:m...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Everyone drives a hybrid which can be plugged into the power grid and charged at night when the power grid is way below peak usage. Then they can be driven up to 40 miles the next day without using any fuel.

He would also set the power rates at lower amounts at off peak times and higher during the daily peaks.

For this to be meaningful, the consumers have to see different rates for peak usage and non-peak usage. The utility company told us to pump the pool at night (supposedly non-peak usage), but we are paying the same either way. Only total kilowatt hours matter anyway.

Didn't I mention that? This guy would require the power company to both sell and buy at prices dependent on the gross usage compared to peak.

Turns out the power company here charges based on your peak usage. A friend works at a dairy which has many electric motors, some of them quite large. They paid thousands of dollars for control panels that will bring the motors online sequentially to prevent a huge spike in the power consumed. This saves them money because their rate is set by the peak usage at any time during the day.

That is another way to save money, if the power companies start charging residential the same way they charge commercial, the hybrid can kick in to supply current during the peak in your residence. But then most people are away during the day anyway. I guess the AC still runs.

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