

# Utility Newsletter

## December 2007



**GAS RATE CHANGE** – The BC Utilities Commission ([www.bcuc.com](http://www.bcuc.com)) approved the Utility's request for a 6.9% rate increase on the commodity price effective December 1, 2007. This change will appear on your January 2008 invoice. A copy of the full application and approval is available on the Utility's web site at [www.sunpeaksutilities.com](http://www.sunpeaksutilities.com) under "Gas."

The following are examples of the affect of this rate increase effective December 1, 2007:

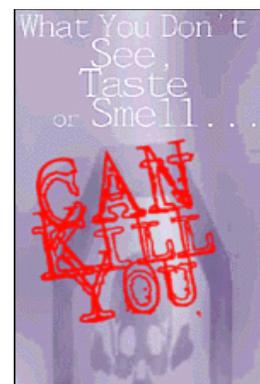
Customer Type	Annual Propane in Gigajoules (Gj) used	November 2007 Commodity Rate Only per Gigajoule	December 1, 2007 Commodity Rate Only per Gigajoule	% Increase in Overall Gas Costs (% shown includes your Basic & Delivery charges which remain unchanged)
Residential Condo	18	\$17.8905	\$19.1205	3.8%
Single Family Home	85	\$17.8905	\$19.1205	5.4%
Small Commercial	328	\$17.8905	\$19.1205	5.7%
Commercial	2,000	\$17.8905	\$19.1205	5.7%
Large Commercial	10,000	\$17.8905	\$19.1205	5.9%

**WINTER GAS SAFETY TIPS – A Winter Safety Reminder:** The winter season is in full swing and we would like to remind you and your guests to keep Gas Winter Safety in mind. Keep your gas meter clear of ice and snow so that it is readily accessible for service personnel and emergency responders. Accumulated snow and ice can place stress on gas piping and cause a gas leak or abnormal pressure. *If you detect a gas odor (similar to rotten eggs), please leave the building and call our emergency number at 250-319-0629. If you are not able to reach the Utilities' technician, please dial 911.*

**Make your family and guests safe this year with the purchase and installation of a CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARM or TWO.**

You may not be aware that earlier this winter, a family at Sun Peaks was exposed to carbon monoxide in their home. If a CO Alarm had been installed, they would have had an early warning and their exposure would have likely been less severe.

CO detectors are inexpensive, easily installed and can be purchased at most home improvement stores. For more information on CO poisoning and what you can do to make your home or business safe, refer to the back of this newsletter or visit the BC Safety Authority's web site at [www.safetyauthority.ca](http://www.safetyauthority.ca).



For more information on these subjects or any other utility matter, please visit the Utility's web site at [www.sunpeaksutilities.com](http://www.sunpeaksutilities.com), contact us via e-mail at [utilities@sunpeaksresort.com](mailto:utilities@sunpeaksresort.com) or call 250-578-5490.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT



**SUN PEAKS HEALTH CLINIC** – The Clinic's rate of growth is dependent on your response to medical services offered. The Clinic's current hours of operation are 4:00 – 6:00pm, Mondays & Thursdays. With the start of winter operations **the Clinic is now staffed from 4:00 – 6:00 pm every day.** As the physicians do travel from Kamloops and respond to emergency situations with their patients, there is the occasional physician cancellation.

*Please check the Clinic's web site [www.sunpeakshealth.com](http://www.sunpeakshealth.com) for a current schedule or call 578-2014 between 4:00 and 6:00 pm.* Magnets with this information are available at the Utility's offices or the Medical Clinic.

..U:\Utilities\Newsletters\Newsletter 2007\Newsletter 5-2007 Dec 2007.doc

**Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd.**

1280 Alpine Road, Sun Peaks, British Columbia, V0E 5N0

Tel: 250-578-5490 Fax: 250-578-7223

[www.sunpeaksutilities.com](http://www.sunpeaksutilities.com) – e-mail: [utilities@sunpeaksresort.com](mailto:utilities@sunpeaksresort.com)

# Utility Newsletter

## December 2007



**What You Don't See, Taste or Smell... CAN Kill You – Get the Facts on Carbon Monoxide Poisoning.**

**What is carbon monoxide?** – Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic gas that you cannot see, smell or taste. It is produced when carbon fuels such as wood, gas, oil, charcoal, etc. are burned incompletely.

**What's the big deal?** – CO poisoning is the #1 cause of accidental poisoning deaths in North America. Knowing the facts can reduce the number of these accidents and save lives. Most incidents involve building fires, car exhaust, and misuse of equipment during power failures.

The risk of CO poisoning from regularly serviced and ventilated gas appliances is very low as the products of combustion normally contain small amounts of CO and are vented from the home by the chimney. However, CO can spill into the home and accumulate if the appliance is not working properly and if the chimney is blocked or not effectively venting the products of combustion to the outside.

**Why is carbon monoxide so deadly?** – When you breathe in carbon monoxide, it interferes with the blood's ability to absorb and transport oxygen. In severe cases, CO poisoning can cause brain damage and death. The elderly, children, people with heart and respiratory conditions, and pets may be particularly sensitive to CO and may feel the effects sooner.

**What are the warning signs?** – Carbon monoxide poisoning and the common flu have similar symptoms.. Early warning signs of low-level poisoning include headaches, nausea, dizziness, drowsiness, confusion, impaired judgment, loss of manual dexterity, and even loss of consciousness.

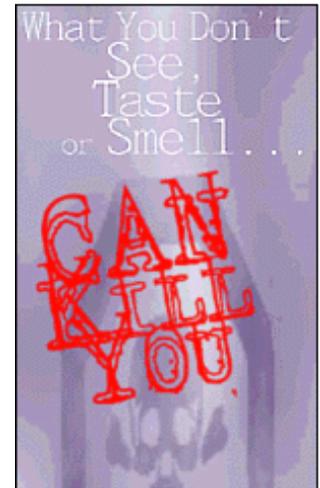
If you are feeling any of these symptoms, ask other members of your household if they are also feeling ill. You may be suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning. If in doubt, leave the building and seek medical attention.

### **How can you protect yourself in the home?**

1. Have your gas appliances serviced annually and have vents (chimneys) and air supply inlets checked by a licensed gas contractor registered with the BC Safety Authority.
2. Inform your family members about the symptoms and causes of CO poisoning.
3. Install at least one carbon monoxide alarm in your home. Alarms certified to Canadian standards are labeled CSA 6.19. It is a good idea to install an alarm on every level of your home outside sleeping areas.
4. Seek prompt medical attention if you suspect CO poisoning and are feeling dizzy, light-headed, or nauseated.
5. Do not use a generator, charcoal grill, camp stove, or other gasoline or charcoal-burning device inside your home, basement, or garage, or near a window.
6. Do not run a car or truck inside a garage attached to your house, even if you leave the garage door open.
7. Do not burn anything in a stove or fireplace that is not vented and do not heat with a gas oven

**Is there ongoing maintenance?** – Install the carbon monoxide alarm according to the manufacturer's instructions. As with all alarms, test your carbon monoxide alarm regularly to make sure it is doing its job to protect you. The manufacturer's instructions tell you when and how to test your alarm. Often, you simply press the test button and listen for the alarm to sound. And remember to check the manual for information on when to buy a new carbon monoxide alarm. Like most things in life, carbon monoxide alarms tend to wear out over time.

**What should you do if the detector alarm sounds?** – If the CO alarm sounds, you and any members of your household should leave your home immediately. From outside the home, call Emergency Services immediately, at **9-1-1**, and await their arrival outside. The Emergency Services staff will inspect your home and try to find the source of the carbon monoxide. *Do not return to your home until the problem has been found and corrected!*



..\\U:\Utilities\Newsletters\Newsletter 2007\Newsletter 5-2007 Dec 2007.doc

**Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd.**

1280 Alpine Road, Sun Peaks, British Columbia, V0E 5N0

Tel: 250-578-5490 Fax: 250-578-7223

[www.sunpeaksutilities.com](http://www.sunpeaksutilities.com) – e-mail: [utilities@sunpeaksresort.com](mailto:utilities@sunpeaksresort.com)