

Operating Cost Comparison Calculator

Compare existing and proposed annual operating costs, annual savings, cost difference, and simple payback from entered energy, rates, fixed costs, and project cost.

Generated October 10, 2026

<https://www.elecatrix.com/power-energy-cost/operating-cost-comparison-calculator/>

Inputs

Input	Value	Unit
Existing annual energy	20000	kWh/year
Existing rate	0.18	\$/kWh
Existing fixed cost	200	\$/year
Proposed annual energy	15000	kWh/year
Proposed rate	0.16	\$/kWh
Proposed fixed cost	150	\$/year
Incremental project cost	5000	\$

Results

Result	Value	Unit
Existing annual cost	3800	\$/year
Proposed annual cost	2550	\$/year
Annual cost saved	1250	\$/year
Simple payback	4	years
Cost difference	-1250	\$/year

Calculation details

Detail	Value	Unit
Calculation basis	Each annual operating cost equals annual kWh multiplied by the entered rate plus fixed annual cost. Simple payback divides incremental project cost by annual cost savings.	

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Boundary

Screening estimate only; no inflation, maintenance, escalation, degradation, financing, rebate, tax, or demand-charge result is made by this calculator.

Formulas

existing annual cost = existing annual kWh x existing rate + existing fixed annual cost

proposed annual cost = proposed annual kWh x proposed rate + proposed fixed annual cost

annual cost saved = existing annual cost - proposed annual cost

simple payback years = incremental project cost / annual cost saved when savings are positive

Warnings and limitations

This operating-cost comparison uses entered annual cost assumptions only. It does not model inflation, maintenance, escalation, degradation, financing, rebates, taxes, or demand charges.