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A new electricity tariff has recently been introduced by Scottish Hydro. It is called the "One Year Fixed Rate v3" tariff and offers considerably lower rates than the existing tariff.

The existing and new rates are:

Standard		Standing Charge per day
Existing rate	15.61p	14.8p
1 year Fixed Rate	13.71p	23.02p

Total Heat Total Control (THTC)

	Heat	Non-heat	Standing Charge per day
Existing rate 1 Year Fixed Rate	9.81p 7.22p	19.43p 14.31p	14.8p 23.02p
Economy 10			
	Peak	Off-peak	Standing Charge per day
Existing rate 1 Year Fixed Rate	12.02p 10.79p	18.14p 12.83	14.8p 23.02p

The new tariff offers a considerable saving over the existing tariff, which is particularly good news if you are on THTC or Economy 10 and don't have any direct switching options. Although the daily standing charge is a bit higher, you will probably still be better off when you look at your costs across the year.

Scottish Hydro are making the tariff available only to direct debit customers who opt for paperless billing. If you currently have a pre-payment meter, but have a regular income and are not paying off debt, then it may well be worthwhile changing to paying by direct debit. If you ask SSE to change your payment method from pre-payment to direct debit and ask to be put on SSE 1 Year tariff V3 then SSE will change you to the tariff once your new meter is put in.

Please note – you need to contact Scottish Hydro to tell them you want to switch to the new tariff because they *will not* switch you automatically.

Experience shows that these lower prices are not available for long. It is important, therefore, to contact SSE as soon as you can. Their number is 0800 980 8754.