

TVA Distributor Retail Rates and Comprehensive Services Program Power Factor Case Studies

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TVA works with local power distributors to help end-use customer answer the following questions:

- What are the excess costs associated with power factor?
- How much capacitance to install for power factor correction?
- How should the capacitors be controlled?
- What type of capacitor bank should be installed?



TVA Distributor Retail Rates and Power Factor Requirements in a Nutshell





- GSA-1 Less than 50 kW or 15,000 kWh
- GSA-2 50 1,000 kW or more than 15,000 kWh
- GSA-3 1,001 to 5,000 kW



GSA-1 - Peak demand < 50 and kWh < 15,000

- Customer charge
- Energy charge for all kWh used in monthly billing period.
- No demand charge
- Covers services ranging from backyard garage to offices, small retail and service shops, temporary services.



GSA-2 – Peak demand 50 kW to 1,000 kW or Energy Usage > 15,000 kWh

- Customer charge.
- Energy charge for all kWh used in monthly billing period.
- Demand charge based on peak kW demand minus 50 kW.
- Billing Demand is based on highest usage in 30 minute interval in billing month
- Billed demand based on the higher of the peak kW demand or 85 % of the peak kVA demand.
- Power factor < 85 % at time of maximum demand results in excess billing demand cost.



GSA-3 – Demand 1000 kW to 5,000 kW

- Customer charge.
- Energy charge for all kWh used in monthly billing period.
- Demand charge on all kW.
- First 1,000 kW at slightly less cost per kW than that above 1,000 kW.
- Billed demand based on the higher of the maximum kW demand or 85 % of the maximum kVA demand.
- Power factor < 85 % at time of maximum demand results in excess billing demand cost.
- Additional demand charge for each kW, if any, of the amount by which billed demand exceeds 2,500 kW or contract demand.



Small industrial customer with 200 kW in active power demand at 70 % power factor. Typical examples could include sawmill and loads with DC motors such as small printing presses. Hypothetical rate of \$14 per kW of billed demand.

- Actual demand = 200 kW.
- Maximum apparent power demand = 200 / 0.7 = 285.7 kVA.
- 85 % of 285.7 kVA = 242.85.
- Billed Demand = Higher of either 200 or 242.85 = 242.85.
- Billed Demand Charge = (242.85 50) x \$14 = \$2,699.90
- Excess costs = (242.85 200) x demand rate of \$14 = \$599.90

Billed demand increased by 28.6 % because of power factor!



Active Power Demand Demand in kW

PF	75	100	250	500	1000
0.85	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
0.8	18.8%	12.5%	7.8%	6.9%	6.6%
0.7	64.3%	42.9%	26.8%	23.8%	22.6%
0.6	125.0%	83.3%	52.1%	46.3%	43.9%
0.5	210.0%	140.0%	87.5%	77.8%	73.7%

Special cases can result when actual kW < 50 with power factor below 85%. In these cases, power factor may mean the difference in incurring a demand charge altogether.



- Plastics manufacturer injection molding.
- Peak demand ranged from 700 to 800 kW.
- Average PF each month of 81 %.
- Plant already had some fixed capacitor banks some of which had failed.
- Reactive compensation needed from month to month ranged from 50 to 100 kVAr.
- Annual excess costs due to power factor approximately \$6,000.
- Excess costs were ~ 5 % of billed demand costs and ~ 2 % of utility expenses overall.
- Recommended replacement of some of the failed capacitors.



Energy Savings Vs. Power Factor





GSA-2 Case Study 2

- Agricultural facility
- Retrofitted incandescent lamps with non-pf-corrected magnetic CFLs
- >\$100,000/yr energy savings
- >\$30,000/yr demand savings
- New opportunity power factor correction
- ~\$40,000/yr in excess costs due to power factor
- Eliminated excess charges by installing capacitor banks (detuned).



GSA-2 Case Study 3

- Small sawmill.
- 480 VAC service.
- No power factor correction installed.
- Power factor < 30 %!!!! (Not because of metering error!).
- Actual kW demand was less than 50 kW.



Case study #3 cont'd

Mo/Yr	ƘWh	ĸw	KVAR	KVA	Billed Demand (kW)	Energy Charge + Customer Charge	Billed Demand Charge	Total Bill
Jun-04	5,280	33.92	115.60	120.47	102.40	\$449.98	\$703.77	\$1,153.75
May-04	6,720	35.68	125.70	130.67	111.07	\$561.72	\$820.12	\$1,381.84
Apr-04	5,760	36.32	124.70	129.88	110.40	\$487.23	\$811.16	\$1,298.39
Mar-04	5,760	38.08	122.20	128.00	108.80	\$487.23	\$789.64	\$1,276.86
Feb-04	6,080	33.92	114.60	119.51	101.59	\$512.06	\$692.82	\$1,204.88
Jan-04	5,120	34.08	117.80	122.63	104.24	\$437.56	\$728.39	\$1,165.95
Dec-03	5,920	33.92	117.70	122.49	104.12	\$499.64	\$726.79	\$1,226.43
Nov-03	5,600	33.60	114.80	119.62	101.67	\$474.81	\$693.98	\$1,168.79
Oct-03	3,520	31.68	116.40	120.63	102.54	\$313.40	\$705.60	\$1,019.00
Sep-03	3,520	28.32	109.60	113.20	96.22	\$313.40	\$586.99	\$900.39
Aug-03	4,000	30.56	106.20	110.51	93.93	\$350.65	\$557.95	\$908.60
Jul-03	3,840	30.88	109.80	114.06	96.95	\$338.23	\$596.27	\$934.51
					Totals>>	\$5,226	\$8,413	\$13,639

Over 60 % of Electric Cost was Due to Power Factor!!!!



- Customer installed standard 100-kVAr automaticallyswitched capacitor bank.
- If capacitor bank was not switched, significant excess costs would still be realized in this case!!
- Simple payback of about 9 months.



- Large Commercial GSB, GSC, GSD
 - Peak metered demand 5,001 kW and up
- Large Manufacturing MSB-1 and MSB-2
 - Depends on NAICS classification
 - Contract demand between 5,000 and 15,000 kW
 - MSB-1 = peak metered demand up to 5,000 kW
 - MSB-2 = peak metered demand from 5,000 to 15,000 kW
- Large Manufacturing MSC, MSD
 - MSC = Peak metered demand 15,000 to 25,000 kW
 - MSD = Peak metered demand greater than 25,000 kW

All have a "reactive demand" charge provision in contract.



TVA Distributor Large Commercial and Large Manufacturing Rates

- Essentially a 95% power factor requirement.
- Direct \$1.46 per kVAr charge for lagging reactive power demand if lagging at the time of peak demand and lagging kVAr exceeds 0.33 x kW demand (works out to 94.96 % pf).
- Direct \$1.14 per kVAr charge for leading reactive power demand if leading by any amount at the time of minimum demand (excluding any minimum demands < 25 percent of maximum demand.



Case Study #3 – Large Mfr.





Before Installing Capacitors for Power Factor Correction...

- Customers should contact their local power distributor for a billing history review and explanation of their rate structure.
- Be sure of power factor requirement 85 % or 95 %.
- Consider the impact of any equipment or operational changes to be made in the near future.
- Consider how the capacitors should be controlled. Having too much capacitance online can result in excess operating costs.
- Remember, local power distributor will often provide service to help determine the right amount, type, and optimal control of capacitors for power factor correction.