
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION



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NEWS RELEASE

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FIRST QUARTER REFUND INTEREST RATE DROPS TO 5.64 PERCENT

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has announced the latest quarterly interest rate applicable to refunds and carrying charges under the Commission's purchased gas adjustment regulations.

The refund interest rate for the first quarter of 2002 is 5.64 percent on an annual basis. Quarterly interest rates are computed utilizing the bank prime loan rate published by the Federal Reserve Board.

The refund interest rate is based on the arithmetic mean of the most recent three months' prime rate values that are available on the last day of a calendar quarter and are published by the Federal Reserve Board. The relevant prime rates for the first quarter computation are: 6.28 percent, published September 30, 2001; 5.53 percent, published October 31, 2001; and, 5.10 percent, published November 30, 2001.

The rate for the fourth quarter of 2001 was set at 6.80 percent.

The refund interest rates are available through the Commission's Internet website at www.ferc.fed.us/gas/interest.htm.