

# Spire to slash rates in response to Trump tax cuts

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Starting Monday, Alagasco is changing its branding to Spire. The rebranding follows the gas utility's purchase by a St. Louis company. (Courtesy Spire)

Comment

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Spire is giving relief to its Alabama customers in the form of rate decreases as a result of the utility being a beneficiary of the Trump tax plan.

Residential customers in Mobile can expect a 4 percent rate decrease while those in Spire's Central Alabama territory, which covers Montgomery and Birmingham, can expect a 3 percent rate decrease, Spire spokeswoman Jenny Gobble told AL.com Friday. The two territories operate under different tariffs and rate structures, which explains the different rate decreases.

Spire, formerly known as Alagasco, is among the companies giving back either to customers or employees due to receiving a tax cut. Walmart made headlines last month for giving \$1,000 bonuses to employees with 20 or more years of service with the company.

Alabama Power, the state's other large utility company, said its customers will also see a benefit but the company is still working on the most appropriate way to give back, a spokesman told AL.com. Any change would have to be approved by the Public Service Commission, which regulates Alabama utilities.

"Alabama Power is currently reviewing the impact of the new federal tax law, and will work with its state regulators to ensure that benefits are passed on to our customers in an appropriate manner," utility spokesman Ike Pigot said in a statement.

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