ISSUE
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# **Payment Options and Plans**



At Zia Natural Gas, we find that time often seems to pass too quickly, making it challenging to keep up. Have you ever checked the date and wondered, "Where did the month go?" This can be especially tough when it comes to paying bills. At Zia Natural Gas, we offer several payment options to help you stay on track. Please allow 5-7 business days for mail and bank processing time before your bill's due date.

### We offer the following payment options:

- **1. Mail**: Send a check or money order with your payment stub to the address on your payment stub. Please use standard blue or black ink when writing checks and ensure all checks are signed and dated.
- **2. Drop Box**: Deposit your check or money order with your payment stub in our drop box located outside each of our Zia Natural Gas office buildings.
- **3. EFT Bank Draft**: Sign up for EFT Bank Draft, and we will draft your account balance or budget amount from your checking or savings account each month. There are no additional fees for using this option. Sign-up forms are available online at **www.zngc.com** or in your local office.
- **4. Web Bill Pay**: Use the Web Bill Pay option through your bank's website to make a payment. Contact your banker for assistance with Web Bill Pay.
- **5. Online Payment**: Pay online at **www.zngc.com** using a credit or debit card, checking or savings account, PayPal, PayPal Credit, Venmo, Apple Pay, or Google Pay. Convenience fees may apply.
- **6. MoneyGram**: Visit any MoneyGram location to make a payment. Convenience fees may apply. MoneyGram services are available at Western Union or Walmart locations, as well as most CVS Pharmacy and Albertsons locations. Additional locations can be found at **www.moneygram.com**.
- **7. In-Person**: Visit any of our office locations to pay with cash, check, or money order.

At Zia Natural Gas, we are committed to providing you with convenient and flexible payment options to ensure your billing experience is as smooth as possible. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our customer service team. Thank you for choosing Zia Natural Gas.

## Conserving Energy During the Cold Months

As the temperature drops, energy consumption tends to rise, leading to higher utility bills and increased strain on the environment. However, with a few simple strategies, you can conserve energy, save money, and stay warm throughout the winter months.

### 1. ADJUST YOUR THERMOSTAT

Lowering your thermostat by just a few degrees can significantly reduce your energy consumption. Consider setting your thermostat to 68°F (20°C) during the day and lowering it further at night or when you're away from home. A programmable thermostat can automate these adjustments, ensuring optimal energy savings without sacrificing comfort.

### 2. USE ENERGY-EFFICIENT HEATING SYSTEMS

If your heating system is outdated, consider upgrading to a more energy-efficient model. Modern furnaces, heat pumps, and boilers are designed to use less energy while providing consistent warmth. Additionally, regular maintenance of your heating system, such as cleaning filters and checking for leaks, can improve its efficiency.

### 3. OPTIMIZE YOUR WATER HEATER

Lower the temperature of your water heater to 120°F (49°C) to save energy without compromising on comfort. Insulating your water heater and the first few feet of hot water pipes can also reduce heat loss and improve efficiency.

### 4. UNPLUG UNUSED ELECTRONICS

Even when turned off, many electronics continue to draw power. Unplugging devices that are not in use or using power strips to easily switch them off can help reduce your overall energy consumption.

### 5. UTILIZE CEILING FANS

Ceiling fans can help distribute warm air more evenly throughout your home. Set your ceiling fans to rotate clockwise at a low speed during the winter months to push warm air down from the ceiling and create a more comfortable environment.



By implementing these strategies, you can stay comfortable and warm during the cold months reducing your energy consumption and lowering your utility bills. Conserving energy not only benefits your wallet but also contributes to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future. Zia offers several rebates for the installation of energy efficient appliances, for more rebate information check out our *Save Energy & Money* tab on our website at www.zngc.com.



# Zia Natural Gas Company

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# NATURAL GAS NEWS PAGE 2



## Slow Cooker Enchilada Soup

### **Ingredients**

2 teaspoons extra virgin olive oil

1/2 cup chopped onion

3 garlic cloves, minced

3 cups chicken broth

18-ounce can tomato sauce

1 to 2 teaspoons chipotle chile in adobo sauce, chopped

1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro

1 15-ounce can black beans, rinsed & drained

1 14.5-ounce can petite diced tomatoes

2 cups frozen corn kernels

1 teaspoon ground cumin

1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

1 pound boneless skinless chicken breast

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup shredded cheddar cheese

1/4 cup chopped scallions

1 medium avocado sliced, optional

6 tablespoons sour cream, optional

### **Directions**

In a medium nonstick skillet, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic, stirring until soft, about 3 minutes. Add to the slow cooker along with the broth, tomato sauce, chipotle in adobo sauce, half of the cilantro, beans, tomatoes, corn, cumin, and oregano. Add the chicken breasts. Cover and cook on low for 4 to 6 hours.

Remove the chicken, shred it with two forks, and return it to the slow cooker.

To serve, ladle into serving bowls and divide evenly. Top with cheddar cheese, scallions, cilantro, avocado and sour cream to

### Save Energy, Save Money!



Zia Natural Gas Company offers an excellent Energy Efficiency Program that provides rebates when you install high-efficiency appliances. You can upgrade your furnace, boiler, water heater, home insulation, smart thermostats, and more. Visit **www.zngc.com** to learn more and start saving today!

# **Community Calendar**

### Ruidoso

**Feb 5th Lincoln County Day in Santa Fe** There will be a Chamber of Commerce hosted reception with legislators, at 5:30pm at Herve Wine Bar in Santa Fe. This will be your opportunity to talk to our legislators about your concerns. Tickets to the reception are \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door. For more info please contact the Chamber at 575-257-7395.

**Feb 15—16 Vines in the Pines** Wine tasting with NM wineries while also enjoying local art, crafts, food, boutique vendors and local brews available for those who aren't wine drinkers. Fun for everyone! Located at Ruidoso Convention Center, tickets can be found at **holdmyticket.com**.

### **Las Cruces**

**Feb 1-3 Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe** Please join us for the 2025 Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe. This annual event gives an opportunity to advocate to our legislators on the issues you are concerned with impacting Las Cruces and Dona Ana County. For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at 575-524-1968.

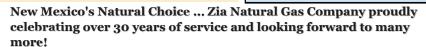
Feb 1-23 2025 Artforms Members Show & Reception Over 40 artists exhibiting their work as part of the annual *For the Love of Art Celebration*, during Feb 2025. The exhibition will be held in two galleries next door to one another, Duende Arte Gallery at 921 N. Mesquite St and Gallery 925 at 925 N. Mesquite St. Duende Arte Gallery is open Friday through Sunday from 12pm to 5pm. Gallery 925 hours are, Friday 1pm to 5pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm.

### Hobbs

**Feb 8th Valentine's Pop-Up** We will have a great variety of vendors, creating a one stop shop for your Valentine's Day needs. Come out to shop & enjoy some good food. Located at 800 W. Bender Blvd. 11am to 3pm.

**Feb 6th An Evening with Lea County** This annual event gives opportunity to advocate to our legislators on the issues impacting Lea County. For more information contact the EDCLC - Economic Development Corporation of Lea County at 575-397-2039.

**Reminder:** We use this section for our local communities. The messages must be non-partisan and non-religious. Non-profit organization messages will be given preference. Please send the information to **csifuentes@zngc.com** before the 10th of the month to make the following month edition. Thank you.



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