

Black lawmakers see changes in inner city

WASHINGTON (AP) - Miguel Contreras recalls his anger when Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., did an ad on behalf of the white candidate and against the Hispanic candidate in the Los Angeles mayor's race in June.

"In the long run, it's going to come back to haunt her," says the Los Angeles union leader.

One reason may be that Waters' House district is one of four held by blacks but with populations that have turned from black to Hispanic majorities in the past decade.

Contreras says many Hispanics in Waters' increasingly Hispanic district in South Central Los Angeles feel she "played the race card against the Latino candidate," state Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, who lost to City Attorney James Hahn.

"We're not seeing her address Latino issues or support Latino candidates."

Waters, a fiery liberal, disputes that. She says her office has a bilingual staff and numerous Hispanic outreach programs. "We service our constituents - all of them."

Among the 39 black members of Congress, Waters is



MAXINE WATERS

not alone in finding herself representing an ethnic population different from her own and the one that put her in office. As blacks move to the suburbs, Hispanics emerged as the biggest population in four historically black districts, the 2000 census shows.

Her colleagues immediately to the north and south - Reps. Diane Watson of Culver City and Juanita Millender-McDonald of Compton - are in the same situation, though Watson has been in office little more than two months.

Longtime Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., was untested in his last election. Hispanics in his Harlem district jumped to 51 percent of



DIANE WATSON

the population in 2000 from 46 percent in 1990.

For Democratic Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, head of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Hispanic population in her Texas district increased to 35 percent from 17 percent.

"There's a growth of Hispanics that is altering the landscape everywhere," said Dowell Myers, a demographer at the University of Southern California.

So far, no black incumbents face Hispanic challenges in next year's election. California gains a 53rd House seat from the 2000 census. Preliminary proposals submitted by Hispanic groups would leave intact districts



JUANITA MILLENDER

represented by black lawmakers.

For one thing, analysts say, much of the Hispanic population in those districts is immigrants who are not yet citizens. Even when they become citizens, activists face the challenge of getting them registered and voting.

But eventually, says Myers, the day will come when "the weakest politicians that haven't been serving the new constituency are going to get bumped off."

The discontent in Waters' district - where the population switched to 54 percent Hispanic from 43 percent in the 1990s - illustrates the new balancing act that black lawmakers face.



CHARLES RANGEL

"It requires whoever represents those districts to be conscious of the fact that their constituencies are very diverse," said Arturo Vargas, executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Education Fund. "They don't represent a single constituency."

David Bositis, an analyst at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a Washington think tank focusing on black issues, points to New Orleans as an example of demographic changes having a lagging political impact.

Long after it became a predominantly black district, the city continued to re-elect

white Rep. Lindy Boggs every two years. When she retired in 1991, it elected William Jefferson as Louisiana's first black congressman since Reconstruction.

"It's a challenge but it's a challenge they can meet," Bositis said of black incumbents in newly Hispanic majority districts. "If they are good politicians, they can deal with it."

Rep. Joe Baca, a California Democrat who is Hispanic, said both groups share many issues. "We're both people of color and when it comes to civil rights, when it comes to discrimination, when it comes to employment opportunity and wages, benefits, we all continue to be at the same level - always a step behind," he said. Still, the coalition is fragile.

"While some Hispanic leaders understand the importance of cooperation and coalition building... there are a few out there who are demagogues," complained John Mack, president of the Los Angeles Urban League, who is black. "There are some folk who have the attitude that 'you black folk have had your turn, now it's our day.'"

Change is good.

Especially when it makes your bill simpler and easier to read.

If you think your power bill is confusing, you're right.

This past year has been a pretty confusing one for everyone with all the changes in the utility industry, and some of that is being reflected on your bill.

However, we want to do everything we can right now to make your bill simpler to understand and work with the Public Utilities Commission on ways to make it even clearer in the future. Meantime, we've made some changes on your bill right now so you have a better idea of exactly what you're paying for.

Beginning this month, you will see the following simpler wording and format on your bill.

Energy Usage:

Is the cost of the electricity you use each month. This covers the cost of fuel to generate electricity as well as the power we regularly purchase from suppliers to serve you. The first 400 kWh are billed at the lowest rate; the next 275 kWh at a slightly higher rate. Any usage above 675 kWh is billed at the next higher level.

Delivery Services:

Reflects your share of the cost to bring power to your door, and includes the cost of maintaining and operating power lines and existing facilities (such as substations and other equipment), as well as the construction of new facilities to ensure continued reliability for all customers. This dollar amount is calculated based on your total consumption of electricity for the month. "Delivery Services" is not a new charge; it is what we used to call the "General Energy Charge." We have changed the name to make it more descriptive.

TO ENSURE PROPER CREDIT TO YOUR ACCOUNT PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NEVADA POWER CO.

Nevada Power
1202152-01-7
121 MAPLE STREET
LAS VEGAS, NV 89102

PREVIOUS BALANCE: \$0.00
CURRENT CHARGES: \$152.44
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$152.44

DATE: 8/28/01

PLEASE KEEP THIS STUB AS A RECORD OF YOUR PAYMENT

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 1202152-01-7
BILL DATE: 8/2/01
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$152.44

AMOUNT PAID: \$0.00
CHECK NO.:
DATE PAID: 8/2/01

NEVADA POWER COMPANY
P.O. BOX 30086
RENO, NV 89520-3086

12021520370000150400000150400

THIS BILL IS DUE AND PAYABLE UPON PRESENTATION. PLEASE REFER TO THE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR CALL 1-800-555-5555 FOR ASSISTANCE 24 HOURS A DAY. 7 DAYS A WEEK, EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS.

SERVICE TO: DOE JOHN
121 MAPLE STREET
LAS VEGAS, NV 89102

| METER NUMBER | RATE | CHARGE | PERIOD | DATE | AMOUNT | REMARKS |
|--------------|------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------------|
| 1202152-01-7 | 0.08 | 32.00 | 8/1 | 8/2 | 32.00 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.09 | 24.75 | 8/3 | 8/4 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.10 | 24.75 | 8/5 | 8/6 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.11 | 24.75 | 8/7 | 8/8 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.12 | 24.75 | 8/9 | 8/10 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.13 | 24.75 | 8/11 | 8/12 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.14 | 24.75 | 8/13 | 8/14 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.15 | 24.75 | 8/15 | 8/16 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.16 | 24.75 | 8/17 | 8/18 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.17 | 24.75 | 8/19 | 8/20 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.18 | 24.75 | 8/21 | 8/22 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.19 | 24.75 | 8/23 | 8/24 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.20 | 24.75 | 8/25 | 8/26 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.21 | 24.75 | 8/27 | 8/28 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.22 | 24.75 | 8/29 | 8/30 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.23 | 24.75 | 8/31 | 9/1 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.24 | 24.75 | 9/2 | 9/3 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.25 | 24.75 | 9/4 | 9/5 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.26 | 24.75 | 9/6 | 9/7 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.27 | 24.75 | 9/8 | 9/9 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.28 | 24.75 | 9/10 | 9/11 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.29 | 24.75 | 9/12 | 9/13 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.30 | 24.75 | 9/14 | 9/15 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.31 | 24.75 | 9/16 | 9/17 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.32 | 24.75 | 9/18 | 9/19 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.33 | 24.75 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.34 | 24.75 | 9/22 | 9/23 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.35 | 24.75 | 9/24 | 9/25 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.36 | 24.75 | 9/26 | 9/27 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.37 | 24.75 | 9/28 | 9/29 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.38 | 24.75 | 9/30 | 10/1 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.39 | 24.75 | 10/2 | 10/3 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.40 | 24.75 | 10/4 | 10/5 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.41 | 24.75 | 10/6 | 10/7 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.42 | 24.75 | 10/8 | 10/9 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.43 | 24.75 | 10/10 | 10/11 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.44 | 24.75 | 10/12 | 10/13 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.45 | 24.75 | 10/14 | 10/15 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.46 | 24.75 | 10/16 | 10/17 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.47 | 24.75 | 10/18 | 10/19 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.48 | 24.75 | 10/20 | 10/21 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.49 | 24.75 | 10/22 | 10/23 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.50 | 24.75 | 10/24 | 10/25 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.51 | 24.75 | 10/26 | 10/27 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.52 | 24.75 | 10/28 | 10/29 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.53 | 24.75 | 10/30 | 10/31 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.54 | 24.75 | 11/1 | 11/2 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.55 | 24.75 | 11/3 | 11/4 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.56 | 24.75 | 11/5 | 11/6 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.57 | 24.75 | 11/7 | 11/8 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.58 | 24.75 | 11/9 | 11/10 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.59 | 24.75 | 11/11 | 11/12 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.60 | 24.75 | 11/13 | 11/14 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.61 | 24.75 | 11/15 | 11/16 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.62 | 24.75 | 11/17 | 11/18 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.63 | 24.75 | 11/19 | 11/20 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.64 | 24.75 | 11/21 | 11/22 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.65 | 24.75 | 11/23 | 11/24 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.66 | 24.75 | 11/25 | 11/26 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.67 | 24.75 | 11/27 | 11/28 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.68 | 24.75 | 11/29 | 11/30 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.69 | 24.75 | 12/1 | 12/2 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.70 | 24.75 | 12/3 | 12/4 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.71 | 24.75 | 12/5 | 12/6 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.72 | 24.75 | 12/7 | 12/8 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.73 | 24.75 | 12/9 | 12/10 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.74 | 24.75 | 12/11 | 12/12 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.75 | 24.75 | 12/13 | 12/14 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.76 | 24.75 | 12/15 | 12/16 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.77 | 24.75 | 12/17 | 12/18 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.78 | 24.75 | 12/19 | 12/20 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.79 | 24.75 | 12/21 | 12/22 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.80 | 24.75 | 12/23 | 12/24 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.81 | 24.75 | 12/25 | 12/26 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.82 | 24.75 | 12/27 | 12/28 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.83 | 24.75 | 12/29 | 12/30 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.84 | 24.75 | 12/31 | 1/1 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.85 | 24.75 | 1/2 | 1/3 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.86 | 24.75 | 1/4 | 1/5 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.87 | 24.75 | 1/6 | 1/7 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.88 | 24.75 | 1/8 | 1/9 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.89 | 24.75 | 1/10 | 1/11 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.90 | 24.75 | 1/12 | 1/13 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.91 | 24.75 | 1/14 | 1/15 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.92 | 24.75 | 1/16 | 1/17 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.93 | 24.75 | 1/18 | 1/19 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.94 | 24.75 | 1/20 | 1/21 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.95 | 24.75 | 1/22 | 1/23 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.96 | 24.75 | 1/24 | 1/25 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.97 | 24.75 | 1/26 | 1/27 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.98 | 24.75 | 1/28 | 1/29 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 0.99 | 24.75 | 1/30 | 1/31 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.00 | 24.75 | 2/1 | 2/2 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.01 | 24.75 | 2/3 | 2/4 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.02 | 24.75 | 2/5 | 2/6 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.03 | 24.75 | 2/7 | 2/8 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.04 | 24.75 | 2/9 | 2/10 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.05 | 24.75 | 2/11 | 2/12 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.06 | 24.75 | 2/13 | 2/14 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.07 | 24.75 | 2/15 | 2/16 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.08 | 24.75 | 2/17 | 2/18 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.09 | 24.75 | 2/19 | 2/20 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.10 | 24.75 | 2/21 | 2/22 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.11 | 24.75 | 2/23 | 2/24 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.12 | 24.75 | 2/25 | 2/26 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.13 | 24.75 | 2/27 | 2/28 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.14 | 24.75 | 2/29 | 2/30 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.15 | 24.75 | 3/1 | 3/2 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.16 | 24.75 | 3/3 | 3/4 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.17 | 24.75 | 3/5 | 3/6 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.18 | 24.75 | 3/7 | 3/8 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.19 | 24.75 | 3/9 | 3/10 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.20 | 24.75 | 3/11 | 3/12 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.21 | 24.75 | 3/13 | 3/14 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.22 | 24.75 | 3/15 | 3/16 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.23 | 24.75 | 3/17 | 3/18 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.24 | 24.75 | 3/19 | 3/20 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.25 | 24.75 | 3/21 | 3/22 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.26 | 24.75 | 3/23 | 3/24 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.27 | 24.75 | 3/25 | 3/26 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.28 | 24.75 | 3/27 | 3/28 | 24.75 | ENERGY USAGE |
| | 1.29 | 24.75 | 3/29 | 3/30 | 24.75 | |