



**For immediate release: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2011**

## **EDF ENERGY SENDS WARNING SIGN OF A PRICE RISE**

With four of the big six energy suppliers having already announced price rises in recent months, news that EDF Energy is pulling the cheapest fixed price energy plan from the market could be a worrying sign that it is about to follow suit.

**Tom Lyon, energy expert at [uSwitch.com](http://uSwitch.com), says:** “The news that EDF Energy is pulling its cheapest fixed price plan will start alarm bells ringing. Previously, when the best fixed plans disappeared off the market, price rises have been quick to follow.

“But, in this case EDF Energy has brought out a new fixed plan that at £1,051 a year is only £42 a year<sup>[1]</sup> more than the plan it is pulling – plus consumers can fix their prices for an extra three months until the end of December 2012. And its new plan is still the cheapest of the big six. This suggests that there is still time for those who want to fix their prices, but it’s fair to say that they may be drinking in the last chance saloon.

“Fixing your energy prices offers security and peace of mind, especially for those worried about the impact of price hikes on their household budget. But consumers should be aware of reports that wholesale energy prices are falling, which could bring price rises to an end or even signal future price cuts. Those who have fixed may not be able to benefit from these so people need to consider this carefully. What is important is that whatever type of plan you opt for, always make sure you get an independent and impartial comparison based on your own personal circumstances before signing on the dotted line.”

**For more information visit [www.uSwitch.com](http://www.uSwitch.com) or call 0800 093 06 07**

**-Ends-**

## Fixed plans:

Supplier	Plan Name	Date prices are fixed to	Average Bill Size (£)	Additional Info
EDF Energy	Fix for 2012	31.12.2012	£1,051	Cancellation fee of £50 for Dual Fuel customers if you leave before 31st December 2012
EDF Energy	Fixed Price 2014	31.03.2014	£1,084	Cancellation fees may apply as follows if you choose to change supplier or tariff: £35 per fuel if you leave before 31 March 2012 and £15 per fuel if you leave before 31 March 2013
npower	Go Fix 7	04.12.2012	£1,127	£20 cancellation fee per fuel if cancelled before end date.
ScottishPower	Online Fixed Saver November 2012	31.10.2012	£1,129	Cancellation charges are £30.64 for electricity and £20.42 for gas
npower	Price Fix 2013	01.01.2013	£1,173	£20 cancellation fee per fuel if cancelled before end date.
SSE	Fixed Discount January 2014	01.01.2014	£1,179	Termination fee: £80 if leave before 1st November 2012; £60 if leave from 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2012 and prior to 1st January 2014.
E.ON	E.ON Fixed Price April 2013	01.04.2013	£1,190	Cancellation fee of £80 for Dual Fuel customers if you leave before 1st April 2013
ScottishPower	Fixed Price Energy NSC Online January 2015	31.12.2014	£1,214	Cancellation charges inclusive of VAT of £30.64 for electricity and £20.42 for gas if cancelled before 31st December 2014
British Gas	Price Promise March 2013	31.03.2013	£1,284	Rates will be fixed until the 31st March 2013. Cancellation fees of £50 gas and £50 electricity.
SSE	Price Fix 7	3 Years from going live	£1,307	Termination fee: £80 if leave within 18 months of customer start date; £60 after 18 months on the product

### Source: uSwitch.com

Based on a medium user consuming 3,300kWh electricity and 16,500kWh gas a year on a fixed price plan paying on receipt of bill with bill sizes averaged across all regions.

### For more information please contact:

Jo Ganly, uSwitch.com on 0207 802 2915 or [joganly@uswitch.com](mailto:joganly@uswitch.com)

Beth Murray, Lansons Communications on 0207 566 9728 or [bethm@lansons.com](mailto:bethm@lansons.com)

### Notes to editors

1. Based on a medium user consuming 3,300kWh electricity and 16,500kWh gas a year on a fixed price plan paying on receipt of bill with bill sizes averaged across all regions.

**About us**

uSwitch.com is a free, impartial, online and telephone-based comparison and switching service, helping consumers compare prices on gas, electricity, water, heating cover, home telephone, broadband, digital television, mobile phones and personal finance products including mortgages, credit cards, current accounts and insurance. In 2010 uSwitch.com celebrated ten years of saving customers money.

uSwitch.com is the first comparison website to achieve the Plain English Campaign's Internet Crystal Mark, which is recognised as a standard that a website has clear language, is accessible and easy to use, and has been tested on a sample of its users.

uSwitch.com is dedicated to helping consumers save money whether they have internet access or not. It offers a dedicated call centre, manned by uSwitch customer service representatives, as well as a freepost 'Send us your bill' service, whereby customers can post their latest energy bills with their telephone number to FREEPOST USWITCH, to get a free call back from a dedicated customer services representative. The service is also available via fax, email and post. Consumers should fax 0203 214 8417, email [CustomerServices@uswitch.com](mailto:CustomerServices@uswitch.com) or write to Customer Services, uSwitch.com, Centro 3, 19 Mandela Street, London, NW1 0DU with their postcode and usage details.

uSwitch.com is owned by Forward Internet Group Limited, a privately funded collection of internet-based businesses focused on consumer engagement and innovation.