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Rule No. 9

METERING

- 9-1 Meter and Regulator Installation - The Utility shall furnish, set, and maintain the meter and regulator; and the Customer shall provide and maintain, free of expense to the Utility, an unobstructed location, satisfactory to the Utility, for installation thereof as well as proper facilities, conforming to the Utility's service standards, for convenient installation, removal, and disconnection of the meter and regulator and for reading of the meter.
- 9-2 Customer's Responsibility - Customer shall exercise reasonable care in protecting the Utility's meter and other Utility-owned equipment located on Customer's premises. Only duly authorized employees or agents of the Utility, or persons authorized by law, are permitted to inspect or handle it.
- 9-3 Meter and Regulator Installation and Removal - Meters and regulators shall be installed or removed only by duly authorized employees or agents of the Utility.
- 9-4 Meter and Regulator Seals - All meters and regulators shall be sealed by the Utility. Law prohibits the breaking of seals by unauthorized persons, or tampering with meters or regulators.
- 9-5 Schedule of Meter Tests - The Utility shall test its meters in accordance with the following procedure:
- A. New Meters - The Company purchases meters with accuracy certified by the manufacture to hold calibration for a period of not less than ten years. New meters will be visually inspected prior to installation at a customer facility and only be subject to testing should damage be detected.
- B. Meters In Service - All active meters not specifically classified in section C as Large Meter type, will be include in a meter family type based on the vintage year, model type, and known manufacturer changes as part of the same statistical sampling program under the natural gas tariff (Gas Meter Statistical Sampling Program). Each year, samples will be selected from each family type and tested at twenty and eighty percent of full load. Though not considered Meters In Service, the sample may include meters removed from service for cause (i.e. service upgrades, , building demolition, inactive service) and high bill complaint investigation within the twelve-month period with the balance consisting of randomly selected In-Service meters. As such, each sample may or may not contain meters from the propane system as the program randomly selects from meters changed for cause and random selected meters in the field from the propane and natural gas systems as a whole. Classification of the meter family under test will be determined under the following criteria:
- 1) Meters ten years old or newer fall within the manufactures guaranteed calibration period and will not be subject to testing.

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- 2) A meter family deemed satisfactory by the Gas Meter Statistical Sampling Program will stay in service subject to continued yearly testing.
  - 3) A meter family that fails will remain in service if it passed the previous year's testing however the family will be placed on a tightened inspection practice for the following year. In addition, the failed family will be analyzed and may be broken into sub-families to isolate specific make and model related problems.
  - 4) All meters within the original family or refined sub-families will be recalibrated or replaced if the lot fails for two consecutive years. Corrective action will begin in the next budget cycle with completion occurring within a four-year timeframe.
- C. Large Meters – A percentage of large commercial and industrial meters will be subject to test each year until 100% of the meters are tested within an established timeframe. Meters falling outside of the standard of meter accuracy as defined in section 9-8 will be recalibrated, repaired or replaced during the test cycle. The meter class and the corresponding test cycle are indicated below:

Large Meter Test Cycles

<u>Class</u>	<u>Models</u>	<u>Testing Schedule in Years</u>
2	35B, 80B, AL800, AL1000	15 years
3	250B, AL1400, AL2300, 500B, AL500	5 years
4	800 – 11000 ROTARY	5 years
5	16000 – 38000 ROTARY	3 years

- 9-6 Special Meter Tests - At the request of the Customer, the Utility shall, within ten days after receipt of such request, make special meter tests. Customer shall bear the cost of such tests, including meter removal and replacement, if the meter is found to be within the limits of acceptable accuracy as defined below in Rule No. 9-8. In all other cases, the Utility shall bear the cost of the test.
- 9-7 Replacement of Meter - Whenever a Customer requests the replacement of the meter on Customer's premise, such request shall be treated as a request for a test of such meter and, as such, shall fall under the provisions of preceding Rule No. 9-6.
- 9-8 Standard of Meter Accuracy - The Utility shall not place in service or knowingly allow to remain in service, without adjustment, any meter that has a known error in registration of more than plus

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or minus two percent (2%) when passing Propane at twenty percent (20%) or eighty percent (80%) of rated meter capacity with 0.5 inch water column differential.

- 9-9 Adjustment for Inaccurate Meter Registration - Whenever a tested meter in service is found to be fast or slow beyond the limit of accepted accuracy as defined in preceding Rule No. 9-8, the Utility shall make an adjustment based on the corrected registration for the period in which the meter was registering incorrectly, if such period is known; but for a period not to exceed six months where an undercharge has occurred. The six-month limitation does not apply in those instances where the adjustment is the result of an overcharge. In those instances, where the period of adjustment can be determined with a reasonable degree of accuracy, Customer shall be refunded all overcharges that occurred over the entire period of the incorrect meter registration. Whenever any bill or bills have been adjusted or corrected, as provided above, and whenever such adjustment amounts to \$1 or more, the Utility shall refund to Customer, or credit to Customer's account, any amount found to have been collected in excess of the proper amount; or the Utility may, within the limitations set forth above, require Customer to pay, or add to Customer's account, additional amounts due. In no event shall the period of adjustment, for either undercharges or overcharges, exceed the duration of the present Customer's occupancy. Where actual recorded data identifying errors of this nature are not available, it may be difficult, if not impossible, to determine the amount of such errors with any great degree of precision. In such instances, both the amount of meter error and the period of time over which the meter was registering incorrectly may be determined by engineering estimate.
- 9-10 Incorrect Meter Installation - In the event a Customer has been overcharged or undercharged as a result of an incorrect meter installation, the amount of the overcharge shall be adjusted and refunded to the Customer, or credited to Customer's account, if in excess of \$1. The amount of any undercharge may be adjusted and billed to Customer, provided that in no event shall such period of adjustment exceed the length of time the service has been supplied to Customer through the incorrect metering installation at the present location, or six months, whichever is less. The six-month limitation does not apply in those instances where the adjustment is the result of an overcharge. In such instances, the present Customer shall be refunded all overcharges that occurred during the Customer's occupancy.

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