

GAS UTILITIES

NAME OF PUBLIC UTILITY

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The Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado 500 Columbine Building 1845 Sherman Street Denver, Colorado 80203

The accompanying tariff sheet(s) issued by \_\_\_\_\_ is (are) sent you for filing in compliance with the requirements of the Public Utilities Law: \_\_\_\_\_ (name of utility)

\_\_\_\_\_ Colo. P.U.C. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Gas

(Tabulate sheets attached as follows):

Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Sheet No.
_____	_____	_____
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(Here give purposes to be accomplished by the filing and direct attention generally to the changes being made; also, state the amounts, if any, by which the utility's revenues will be affected. If customers are not adversely affected, so state.)

It is desired that this filing shall become effective on statutory (30 days) notice. (If special short term authority has been sought, pursuant to Rule 17 B(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, appropriately change language.)

(c) Revised Tariff Sheets: Each tariff sheet, not an original shall be designated 1st revised sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_ cancels original Sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_ or 2nd revised sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_ cancels 1st revised sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_, etc., shall direct attention to the changes contained therein by the use of suitable symbols in the right margin. These symbols may be "I" increase, "D" decrease, "C" change in text, "N" new text, etc. On a contents or index page the utility shall show the meaning of the symbols used by it to point out changes contained in its revised tariff filings.

If a tariff sheet is issued under a specific authority or decision of this Commission, each sheet so affected shall show the correct number in the space provided at the foot of the sheet.

(d) Number of copies to be filed: An original and one copy of each advice letter and tariff sheet shall be filed. The copy will be stamped as filed and returned to the utility.

NOTE: The utility may file as many additional copies as it wishes which will also be stamped and returned.

(e) Schedules of rates, forms of contracts and rules and regulations as filed with the Commission and available in the territory concerned shall also be on file in the local office of the utility and shall be open to inspection by the public during regular business hours.

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(f) If the reasonableness of any charge, rule, regulation or practice of any utility with reference to service connections or extensions, or any rule covering the relations between customer and utility, is challenged, the Commission may, upon complaint and investigation, prescribe the proper charge, rule, regulation or practice which shall thereafter be followed.

(g) The Commission may reject any filing under this rule if the utility fails to comply with the provisions as set forth in said rule.

RULE 13

**Discontinuance of Service.**—(a) No utility shall discontinue the service of any customer for violation of any rule of such utility and/or for non-payment of any sum due for utility service except upon written notice of at least seven days, advising the customer in what particular such rule has been violated for which service will be discontinued, and/or the amount due and the date by which the same shall be paid. This rule shall not apply where a by-pass is discovered on a customer's service meter, or in the event of the discovery of dangerous leakage on a customer's premises, or in the case of a customer utilizing service in such a manner as to make it dangerous for occupants of the premises, thus making an immediate discontinuance of service to the premises imperative.

(b) Delinquency in payment for service rendered to a previous occupant of the premises to be served and unpaid charges for services or facilities not ordered by the present or prospective customer shall not constitute a sufficient cause for refusal of service to a present or prospective customer; provided, however, the utility may decline to furnish service at the same premises for the use of a delinquent customer by subterfuge in any manner. Subterfuge includes, but is not restricted to an application for service at a given location in the name of another party by an applicant whose account is delinquent and who continues to reside at the premises. Service shall not be discontinued or refused for failure to pay any indebtedness except as incurred for utility service rendered by the utility in the State of Colorado.

(c) In the event a utility gives notice of discontinuance of service in accordance with section (a) of this rule, said notice shall advise the customer how to contact the utility to resolve any dispute, with respect to amount or date due, and/or with respect to violation of any rule, and, in addition, said notice shall advise the customer of his rights under this rule as follows:

(1) The right to make an informal complaint to the Commission Staff by letter, telephone or in person; and/or

(2) The right to request in writing, a hearing before the Commission. The Commission may order the utility not to terminate service pending a hearing at the discretion of the Commission. Ordinarily, such an order not to terminate service will be issued only if

(a) The customer has posted a deposit with the utility equal to the amount in dispute; or

(b) The customer has previously made an informal complaint to the Commission Staff and Staff investigation of such complaint indicates probable success of the customer.

(d) In the event a customer requests a hearing on the proposed termination of service by the utility, the Commission shall set the matter for

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hearing at the earliest practicable time, which hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Commission. Upon motion by the utility, the Commission may order the applicant for a hearing to post an additional deposit with the utility in such amount as the Commission deems reasonable under the circumstances.

(e) Service shall not be discontinued for non-payment of any utility bill more than thirty (30) days overdue if all current bills are paid when due and all past due amounts are being amortized by reasonable installment payments. Current bill means that portion of the bill which is not thirty (30) days past due.

RULE 14

**Meters and Service Connections.**—(a) All meters used in connection with gas service shall be furnished, installed and maintained at the expense of the utility.

(b) Any equipment, devices, or facilities furnished at the expense of the utility or on which the utility bears the expense and maintenance and renewal shall remain the property of the utility and may be removed by it at any time after discontinuance of service.

(c) Gas Service connections to the customer's property line shall be installed and maintained at the expense of the utility. This rule shall not apply when unusual conditions are encountered, or to very long service connections. When such special cases arise, the Commission will, if necessary, prescribe the proper charge.

RULE 15

**Practice under these Rules to be filed:** Each utility shall file with this Commission within four months after receipt of this order, a statement, typewritten, properly identified and dated, on 8½ x 11 sheets, describing its practice under these rules as follows:

- (1) Description of test methods employed and frequency of tests or observations for determining quality and pressure of gas service furnished.
  - (2) Description of meter testing equipment, including methods employed to ascertain and maintain accuracy of all testing equipment.
  - (3) Rules covering testing and adjustment of service meters when installed and periodic tests after installation.
- Revisions in any portion of this statement after filing will necessitate the filing of an entire new statement, properly identified and dated, canceling the one on file.

RULE 16

**Reports to Commission:** Each utility shall make special reports at such time and in such form as the Commission may from time to time require.

RULE 17

**Microfilming of Records.**—Nothing in these rules shall prevent any utility from microfilming any records it desires, provided that the microfilm shall be retained by the utility for the same period of time as specified for the original records.

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**RULE 18**

**Construction Requirement.**—(a) The gas plant of the utility shall be constructed, installed, maintained and operated in accordance with accepted good engineering practice in the gas industry to assure, as far as reasonably possible, continuity of service, uniformity in the quality of service furnished and the safety of persons and property.

(b) Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, utilities shall use the Federal Minimum Safety Standards in part 192 of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations as of June 30, 1973, containing the minimum Federal Safety Standards for the transportation of gas and for pipeline facilities used for this transportation. These regulations which are made a part hereof by reference are set forth in detail in the Federal Register, Volume 35 No. 161 of Wednesday, August 19, 1970, and subsequent amendments 1 through 14 thereto, which are also made a part hereof by reference, are published in the Federal Register as follows:

**Amendment**

No.	Vol.	Federal Register No.	Date
1	35	205	10/21/1970
2	35	220	11/11/1970
3	35	223	11/17/1970
4	36	126	6/30/1971
5	36	176	9/10/1971
6	36	252	12/31/1971
7	37	172	9/2/1972
8	37	192	10/3/1972
9	37	193	10/4/1972
10	37	199	10/13/1972
11	37	200	10/14/1972
12	38	35	2/22/1973
13	38	68	4/10/1973
14	38	109	6/7/1973

**RULE 19**

**Definition of a Cubic Foot of Gas.**—(a) For the purpose of testing gas under these rules, a cubic foot of gas means that amount of gas which when saturated with water vapor at a temperature of sixty degrees (60°) Fahrenheit and subjected to an absolute pressure equal to thirty inches (30") of mercury, at thirty-two degrees (32°) Fahrenheit, (14.73 pounds per square inch) occupies a volume of one (1) cubic foot.

(b) Sales, Low Pressure Distribution. For the purpose of measurement of gas to a customer, a cubic foot of gas shall be taken to be the amount of gas which occupies a volume of one (1) cubic foot under the conditions existing in such customer's meter as and where installed, provided, however, that when gas is metered at a pressure in excess of four ounces above local atmospheric pressure a suitable correction factor shall be applied to provide for measurement of gas as if delivered and metered at a pressure of four (4) ounces above average local atmospheric pressure.

(c) Sales, High or Intermediate Pressure Distribution. In cases where gas is supplied to customers through orifice or other type meters at other than standard low pressure distribution conditions, the utility shall apply suitable correction factors as it deems necessary for measurement of gas as if metered at standard delivery.

RULE 20

Heating Value of Gas.—(a) Each utility supplying gas for domestic,

commercial or industrial purposes shall establish and maintain either a standard or a minimum heating value for its product. The standard shall be the monthly average total heating value determined by tests of the gas taken from such point or points on the distribution system and at such test frequencies as are reasonably necessary for a proper determination. The minimum shall be the lowest monthly average total heating value of gas supplied by the utility in any given service area. The utility shall declare such standard or such minimum, expressed in Btu per cubic foot, as a part of its schedule of rates on file with this Commission.

(b) This standard heating value shall be that value which is on file with the Commission as a part of the utility's schedule of rates on file effective date of this Revised Rule 20 or that value which shall be declared by the utility, provided, however, that any change in value shall be made in accordance with the conditions hereinafter stated.

(c) If the utility finds it more practical, economical and efficient to render service with gas of another heating value than the standard heating value on file with the Commission, the utility may file a new heating value standard and a new rate schedule; and if the conditions hereinafter stated shall have been complied with and the Commission shall not have suspended the new rate schedule as provided in Colorado Revised Statutes 1963, Chapter 115, Article 6-11 of the Public Utilities Act or ruled against the change, such new heating value standard and rate schedule shall become effective thirty days from the date on which they are filed with the Commission. The conditions from which must be met by a utility thus voluntarily changing its heating value standard are as follows:

The rate schedule for gas shall be so changed that every part or kind of change in the rate shall be reduced and may be increased in direct proportion to the reduction or increase of the Btu content, except that the minimum charge, service charge, or customer charge shall remain unchanged. Readjustment of customer's appliances and devices to render unimpaired service under the new standard shall be promptly made by the utility without charge to the customers. The utility shall be prepared to justify the standard it adopts before the Commission by such pertinent facts as may be required.

(d) The utility shall maintain the heating value of the gas with as little deviation as is practicable and such deviation is limited to the range of 5% above to 5% below the standard adopted.

(e) In the event a utility elects to file a minimum heating value for its gas, no deviation below said minimum shall be permitted. If the heating value of the gas delivered is increased to such an extent that it becomes necessary to adjust the customer's appliances, said adjustment shall be made at the expense of the utility.

(f) To obtain the monthly average heating value of gas, the results of all tests of heating value made on any day shall be averaged, giving total heating value for that day. The monthly average total heating value shall be the average of all such daily averages taken during the calendar month. It is understood that all records and statements are based on tests made under standard conditions, i.e., at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and under a pressure of 30 inches of mercury.

California twenty standard and the utility shall be determined by tests of the gas taken from such point or points on the distribution system and at such test frequencies as are reasonably necessary for a proper determination. The minimum shall be the lowest monthly average total heating value of gas supplied by the utility in any given service area. The utility shall declare such standard or such minimum, expressed in Btu per cubic foot, as a part of its schedule of rates on file with this Commission. (b) This standard heating value shall be that value which is on file with the Commission as a part of the utility's schedule of rates on file effective date of this Revised Rule 20 or that value which shall be declared by the utility, provided, however, that any change in value shall be made in accordance with the conditions hereinafter stated. (c) If the utility finds it more practical, economical and efficient to render service with gas of another heating value than the standard heating value on file with the Commission, the utility may file a new heating value standard and a new rate schedule; and if the conditions hereinafter stated shall have been complied with and the Commission shall not have suspended the new rate schedule as provided in Colorado Revised Statutes 1963, Chapter 115, Article 6-11 of the Public Utilities Act or ruled against the change, such new heating value standard and rate schedule shall become effective thirty days from the date on which they are filed with the Commission. The conditions from which must be met by a utility thus voluntarily changing its heating value standard are as follows: The rate schedule for gas shall be so changed that every part or kind of change in the rate shall be reduced and may be increased in direct proportion to the reduction or increase of the Btu content, except that the minimum charge, service charge, or customer charge shall remain unchanged. Readjustment of customer's appliances and devices to render unimpaired service under the new standard shall be promptly made by the utility without charge to the customers. The utility shall be prepared to justify the standard it adopts before the Commission by such pertinent facts as may be required. (d) The utility shall maintain the heating value of the gas with as little deviation as is practicable and such deviation is limited to the range of 5% above to 5% below the standard adopted. (e) In the event a utility elects to file a minimum heating value for its gas, no deviation below said minimum shall be permitted. If the heating value of the gas delivered is increased to such an extent that it becomes necessary to adjust the customer's appliances, said adjustment shall be made at the expense of the utility. (f) To obtain the monthly average heating value of gas, the results of all tests of heating value made on any day shall be averaged, giving total heating value for that day. The monthly average total heating value shall be the average of all such daily averages taken during the calendar month. It is understood that all records and statements are based on tests made under standard conditions, i.e., at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and under a pressure of 30 inches of mercury.

**RULE 21**

**Calorimeter Equipment.**—(a) Each utility whose gas output exceeds twenty million cubic feet per annum, shall equip itself with a complete standard calorimeter outfit and all necessary accessories acceptable to this Commission, by which it shall determine the heating value of gas at least once each week. A complete record of these tests shall be kept for a period of not less than two years from the date of such tests.

(b) The foregoing rule need not apply where the utility is purchasing gas on a heat value basis, or where the wholesaler makes available to the utility a record of the heating value of the gas delivered to the utility, and the tests by the wholesaler are made with at least such frequency as specified in part (a) above.

**RULE 22**

**Purity of Gas.**—All gas supplied to customer shall be substantially free of impurities which may cause corrosion of mains or piping, or form corrosive or harmful fumes when burned in a properly designed and adjusted burner.

**RULE 23**

**Pressure of Gas.**—(a) Subject to the approval of this Commission each gas utility may divide its distributing system into as many districts as it shall consider desirable, and it shall fix for each such district or for its distributing system as a whole, the normal pressure of gas which it proposes to maintain.

(b) For normal service, the gas shall be delivered by the utility at a pressure of 6 inches water column, plus or minus 2 inches water column, measured at the meter outlet.

(c) Where operating conditions are such that the utility deems a higher delivery pressure necessary, gas pressures at the meter outlet may exceed the limits prescribed in (b) preceding and the utility will require the customer to install adequate pressure regulating equipment in customer's lines so that the pressure at the outlet of such regulators shall be the proper value as to be utilized by customer's equipment.

(d) In distribution systems serving 100 or less customers, the utility shall semi-annually check distribution pressures by indicating gauges at the district regulator station or other appropriate point in the distribution system.

In distribution systems serving more than 100 and less than 500 customers, the utility shall maintain a graphic recording pressure gauge at its plant, office, district regulator station, or at some other appropriate point in the distribution system.

In distribution systems serving 500 or more customers, the utility shall maintain one or more additional recording pressure gauges and shall make frequent 24-hour records of the gas pressure prevailing at appropriate points in the system.

All such pressure records shall be appropriately annotated and kept on file available for inspection for a period of at least two years.

The intent of this rule is not to waive any requirements under Rule 18, but to be interpreted as being more stringent.

**RULE 24**

**Odorization of Gas.**—In accordance with Rule No. 18 herein.

**RULE 25**

**Gas Meter Accuracy and Testing.**—(a) Every gas service meter, whether new, repaired, or removed from service for any cause shall be in good order and shall be adjusted to be correct to within one percent when passing gas at twenty percent of its rated capacity at one-half inch water column differential before being installed for the use of a customer.

(b) No diaphragm type gas service meter in sizes having rated capacity of 800 cubic feet or less per hour at one-half inch water column differential shall be allowed to remain in service more than six years from the time when last tested without being retested and, if necessary, readjusted to be correct within one percent.

(c) No diaphragm type gas service meter in sizes having a rated capacity of more than 800 cubic feet per hour at one-half inch water column differential shall be allowed to remain in service more than five years without being retested and, if necessary, readjusted to be correct within one percent.

(d) No rotary displacement type gas service meter in sizes having a rated capacity of 5,000 cubic feet or less per hour at one-half inch water column differential shall be allowed to remain in service for more than five years without being retested and, if necessary, readjusted to be correct within one percent.

(e) Rotary displacement type gas service meters in sizes having a rated capacity of more than 5,000 cubic feet per hour at a differential not to exceed two inches water column shall be tested and calibrated at the factory in accordance with recognized and accepted practices and shall be adjusted to be correct within two percent slow and one percent fast when passing gas at ten percent of its rated capacity and shall be adjusted to be correct within one percent slow and one percent fast when passing gas at one hundred percent of its rated capacity. The length of period a meter of this type and size shall be allowed to remain in service before testing shall be established by the Company's experience, and is subject to the Commission's review.

(f) Orifice metering shall be tested not less than once each year.

**RULE 26**

**Meter Testing on Request.**—Each gas utility furnishing metered gas service shall at any time when requested by a customer make a test of the accuracy of any gas service meter free of charge; provided, first, that such meter has not been tested within the twelve months period prior to such request, and second, that the customer will agree to accept the result of such test made by the utility as the basis for settling the difference

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claimed. No charge shall be made to the customer for any such test except as may be allowed by the Commission in special cases. A written report giving the result of every such test shall be made to the customer who requested it, the original record being kept on file at the office of the utility for a period of at least two years.

**RULE 27**

**Tests by Commission.**—(a) Any gas service meter will be tested by an employe of the Commission upon written application by the customer. The application for such test shall be accompanied by a remittance of the amount fixed below as the fee for such test. If the meter is found to be fast beyond the limits prescribed in Rule 28, this fee shall be paid to the customer by the utility; otherwise, these expenses shall be borne by the customer requesting the test. The Commission's fee for gas meter tests are:

Capacity of 800 cubic feet or less per hour .....	\$ 2.00
Capacity of over 800 cubic feet per hour .....	4.00
Orifice meters .....	8.00
Rotary meters .....	16.00

(b) Upon written application to the Commission by any gas utility the Commission will make a test on any of the utility's service meters upon payment of the scheduled fee. This rule and the above schedule of fees apply only when there is a dispute between the customer and the company regarding the accuracy of the meter.

**RULE 28**

**Adjustment of Bills for Meter Error.**—(a) If on test of any gas service meter, on request of the customer either by the utility or the Commission, it be found more than two per cent fast, the utility shall refund to the customer such percentage of the amount of the bills of the customer for the period of six months just previous to the removal of such meter from service, or for the time the meter was in service, not exceeding six months, as the meter shall have been shown to be in error by such test.

(b) If on test of any gas service meter, on request of a customer, either by the utility or the Commission, it be found to be more than two per cent slow, the utility may collect from the customer the amount estimated to be due for gas not charged for in bills rendered for not to exceed the six months' period prior to such test.

(c) If a meter is found to have an incorrect register or multiplier, the error shall be corrected. Where the error is adverse to the customer, the utility shall refund to the customer an amount equal to the excess charged for the cubic feet of gas incorrectly metered for the period of time the meter was used in billing the customer. Where the error is adverse to the company, the utility may make a charge to the customer for the cubic feet of gas incorrectly metered for the period of time the meter was used in billing the customer.

(d) If a gas service meter is found not to register or to register intermittently for any period of time, the utility shall estimate a charge for the gas used but not metered by averaging the amounts used over similar periods, or over corresponding periods in previous years, or by any other acceptable available information.



**RULE 29**

**Meter Testing Facilities.**—Each utility having more than 200 gas meters in service shall maintain one or more suitable gas meter provers of standard design, and shall keep the same in proper adjustment so as to register the condition of meters tested within one-half of one per cent. Each meter prover must be accompanied by a certificate of calibration indicating that it has been tested with a standard which has been certified by the National Bureau of Standards or some testing laboratory of recognized standing. Meter provers must be located in a large, comfortable working space, free from excessive temperature variations, equipped with all necessary facilities and accessories, and at all reasonable hours accessible for inspection and used by the duly authorized representatives of this Commission.

**RULE 30**

**Main Extensions.**—Each gas utility shall file with the Commission its definite rules and regulations providing for the making of gas main extensions, and no utility shall make or refuse to make any extension except as permitted by these rules and regulations, regularly filed and approved by the Commission, and open to public inspection at each office of the utility where applications for services are received.