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**Rule No. 12**

**ESTABLISHMENT , MAINTENANCE AND REESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT**

**A. Requirement for Satisfactory Credit**

The Utility may require an Applicant for service to establish Satisfactory Credit before Utility furnishes gas service. Further, the Utility may require existing customers to maintain Satisfactory Credit as prescribed in Rule No. 1 as a condition of continued service. Customers who have not maintained Satisfactory Credit may be required to reestablish credit prior to reestablishing service.

**B. Service Under Residential Tariffs**

1. Establishing Credit

a. Credit may be established by an Applicant by:

- i. maintaining prior Utility service with Satisfactory Credit as prescribed in Rule No. 1; or
- ii. receiving Residential Service from another municipal or regulated energy utility within the preceding two years and having made timely payment of each bill during the 12 months immediately preceding the request for service from Utility; or
- iii. receiving benefits from a retirement plan or the Social Security Administration, unless the Applicant has had a termination of service for non-payment of a bill or has had four or more Delinquent Bills within a 12-month period; or
- iv. making a cash Deposit to ensure the payment of bills for service as prescribed in Rule No. 13.

b. The Utility shall provide, at the request of a Customer, a form to request the Customer's credit history from another utility.

c. The Utility may not require a Customer to use a Guarantor to begin service, though the Customer may opt to use a Guarantor as prescribed in Rule No. 13.

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**Rule No. 12**

**ESTABLISHMENT , MAINTENANCE AND REESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT**

**(Continued)**

**B. Service Under Residential Tariffs (Continued)**

1. Establishing Credit (Continued)

- d. An Applicant for Residential Service will not be denied service for failure to pay bills for other classes of service.
- e. An Applicant for Residential Service may be required to pay any past due balances on prior accounts for the same class of service prior to service being established.

2. Maintaining Satisfactory Credit

- a. Satisfactory Credit must be maintained as prescribed in Rule No. 1.
- b. If Satisfactory Credit is not maintained, a Deposit (or increase in an existing Deposit) to secure payment of the Customer's bills for service shall be required as prescribed in Rule No. 13.

3. Reestablishing Credit

- a. For customers who are subject to or incur termination of service for non-payment of bills, a Deposit pursuant to Rule No. 13 shall be required to reestablish service.
- b. After resumption of service when termination of service was for non-payment of bills, Satisfactory Credit may then be reestablished as prescribed in Rule No. 1.

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**(Continued)**

**C. Service Under Non-Residential Tariffs**

- 1. Establishing Credit
  - a. Credit may be established by an Applicant by:
    - i. maintaining prior Utility service with Satisfactory Credit as prescribed in Rule No. 1; or
    - ii. making a Deposit as prescribed in Rule No. 13, or in a form otherwise acceptable to the utility, to secure payment of the Applicant's bills for the service.
  - b. The Customer may be required to pay any past due balances on prior accounts for the same class of service prior to service being established.
- 2. Maintaining Satisfactory Credit
  - a. Satisfactory Credit must be maintained as prescribed in Rule No. 1.
  - b. If Satisfactory Credit is not maintained then a Deposit (or increase in an existing Deposit) as prescribed in Rule No. 13, or in a form otherwise acceptable to the Utility, shall be required for the Customer's Utility accounts in order to secure payment of the Customer's bills for future service.
- 3. Reestablishing Credit
  - a. For Customers who are subject to or incur termination of service for non-payment of bills, a Deposit pursuant to Rule No. 13 shall be required to reestablish service.
  - b. After resumption of service when termination of service was for non-payment of bills, Satisfactory Credit may then be reestablished as prescribed in Rule No. 1.

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