

RULE NO. 16

SERVICE CONNECTIONS, METERS AND CUSTOMER'S FACILITIES

A. Service Installation

1. Upon a bona fide application for service from the Utility's main to the property line of the property abutting upon a public street, highway, alley, lane or road along which the main exists or will be installed and further extension on the private property of the applicant, an underground service line will be provided by the Utility in accordance with the following provisions:

a. The Applicant shall:

- 1. Provide and install, at his or her expense, all trench, backfilling, backfill materials, excavation, and breaking of pavement for the service lateral. (T)
- 2. Provide, at his or her expense, any select backfill materials required. (T)
- 3. Provide, at his or her expense, any required permits from local, state, or federal agencies. (T)
- 4. Permit the Utility to use the trench for housing the Utility's service pipe(s).

b. The Utility Shall:

- 1. Designate the location of the point of delivery and meter;
- 2. Furnish and maintain, at its expense, all service pipe extension not exceeding seventy-five (75) feet on private property of applicant or as much of such extension as may be necessary to reach a meter location that is satisfactory to the Utility;
- 3. Furnish and maintain, at its expense, all service pipe, meters and standard appurtenances from the main; (N)
(N)
- 4. Not install, at its expense, more than one service pipe for any one building unless for the operating convenience of the Utility; (L)
- 5. At its option, supply an additional service pipe for reason(s) other than its operating convenience, if such additional service is installed entirely at the expense of the Applicant;
- 6. Install that portion of each service pipe in excess of the portion installed at the Utility's expense inside of the property line provided Applicants pay to Utility the cost of the excess service pipe. (L)

(Continued)

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RULE NO. 16
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 (Continued)

A. Service Installation (Continued)

c. The Utility, upon Applicant's request and at Utility's option, may provide all or part of the trenching and related material for an individual Applicant for service. When the Utility provides trenching for such an Applicant, Utility's cost for such shall be paid by Applicant to Utility as nonrefundable contribution except that the cost of trenching and related material for services related to retrofit gas service connections to existing residences shall be treated identically to main trenching as in Rule No. 9, Gas Main Extensions.

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B. Meter Installation

1. General

a. The Utility will upon a bona fide application for service and at no expense to the Applicant, install a suitable meter or meters on an Applicant's premises in a location furnished by the Applicant and approved by the Utility.

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b. In all buildings in which separate meters are hereafter required to be installed for various floors or groups of rooms in order to measure the gas supplied to each tenant, the Utility may require all meters to be located at a central point, and each such meter will be clearly marked to indicate the particular location supplied by it.

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c. All meters, regulators, service pipe, appliances, fixtures, etc., installed by the Utility upon the Customer's premises for the purpose of delivering gas to the Customer shall continue to be the property of the Utility, and may be repaired, replaced or removed by the Utility at any time. However, costs for changes caused or made necessary by the Customer will be the responsibility of the customer.

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(N)

d. No rent or other charge whatsoever will be made by the Customer against the Utility for placing or maintaining said meters, regulators, service pipe, appliances, fixtures, etc., upon the Customer's premises.

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e. The Utility will not be responsible for the loss of gas or damage caused by gas in piping beyond the Utility's meter.

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f. Only duly authorized employees or agents of the Utility are allowed to connect the service pipe to, or disconnect the same from, the Utility's gas facilities, or to turn the meter on.

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(Continued)

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 (Continued)

B. Meter Installation

- 2. Number of Meters
 - a. Where service is first requested after February 1, 1981, a Utility owned meter will be required for each residential or commercial unit in which the occupant controls at least a portion of the gas usage in that unit.
 - b. A Utility owned meter shall be required for each premises upon which, gas provided by the Utility, is utilized.

C. Relocation/Retrofit of Meters, Service and other Facilities

- 1. In those instances when, in the judgement of Utility, the relocation of a service pipe or metering facilities is necessary, either for the maintenance of adequate service or the operating convenience of the Utility, the Utility normally will perform such work at its own expense. (T)
- 2. In those instances where relocation of the service pipe or metering facilities or other facilities is necessary solely to meet the convenience of the Applicant or Customer, or is made necessary by acts of the Customer which create hazards or which make the service pipe, meter facilities or other facilities inaccessible, such relocation, including metering facilities, will be performed by Utility at the expense of such Applicant or Customer. Acts of the Customer which make relocation necessary include encroachments, including but not limited to permanent structures, that impair the serviceability of or access to Utility owned facilities. (T)
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(N)
- 3. In those instances where retirement of facilities is performed solely to meet the convenience of the Applicant or Customer or acts of the Customer make the retirement necessary, such retirement will be performed by Utility at the expense of the Applicant or Customer.

D. Customer's Responsibilities

- 1. Utility Owned Facilities. (T)
 Utility property installed on the premises for the purpose of measuring or supplying service to a Customer is placed there under the Customer or property owner's protection. The Customer or property owner will be held responsible for the breaking of seals, tampering or interfering with Utility's meter or meters or other facilities of the Utility placed under his or her protection. Only authorized employees of the Utility will be allowed to make repairs or adjustments to meters or other apparatus belonging to the Utility. Where such repairs or adjustments are necessary, a charge shall be made to the Customer or property owner as appropriate, in addition to actual material costs. See Schedule SC, PUCN Sheet Nos. 4 and 4A. (T)
(T)

(Continued)

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(T)

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 (Continued)

D. Customer's Responsibilities (Continued)

2. Non-Utility Owned Facilities

The Customer shall, at his or her own risk and expense, furnish, install, and keep in good and safe condition all regulators, gas piping, appliances, fixtures and apparatus of any kind or character located beyond the point of delivery which may be required for receiving gas from the Utility and for applying and utilizing gas, including all necessary protective appliances and suitable housing therefore, and the Utility shall not be responsible for any loss or damage occasioned or caused by the negligence or wrongful act of the Customer or any of his or her agents, employees or licensees in installing, maintaining, using, operating, or interfering with any such regulators, gas piping, appliances, fixtures, or apparatus.

3. Utility Right to Access Premises and Facilities

- a. The Utility shall at all times have the right of ingress to and egress from the Customer's premises for any purpose reasonably connected with the furnishing of gas, and the exercise of any and all rights secured to it by law or these Rules.
- b. Neither the Customer nor the property owner shall cover the meter, place any structure or materials within 36 inches of the front of the meter, or otherwise prevent the Utility from accessing the meter safely at all times.
- c. Neither the Customer nor the property owner shall interfere with the Utility's ability to access Utility owned facilities safely at all times.
- d. Where interference occurs that prevents the Utility from safely accessing Utility owned facilities, the Utility may terminate service if such interference is not corrected after the Utility gives the Customer notice of the interference.

E. Exceptions and Unusual Circumstances

In unusual circumstances when the application of this rule appears impractical or unjust to either party, the Utility, the Applicant or the Customer may refer the matter to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada for special ruling or for the approval of special conditions which may be mutually agreed upon, prior to commencing construction.

F. Tax Liability of Customer Contributions

Contributions by the Customer or Applicant of or for facilities provided under this rule will be increased by the appropriate tax liability factor from Section C.5. of Rule No. 9 to cover the Utility's tax liability on such contributions. Such tax liability will be paid in cash.

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HELD FOR FUTURE USE

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