

Natural Gas Rules and Regulations

Updated May 2022

METROPOLITAN
UTILITIES DISTRICT

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Preface

These Rules and Regulations are made by authority of Neb. Rev. Stat. 14-2101 et seq which provide, in part that the board of directors shall also have authority to make such rules and regulations for the conduct of the utilities controlled and operated by the metropolitan utilities district and the use and measurement of water or natural gas supplied by the district as it may deem proper, including the authority to cut off any natural gas or water service for nonpayment, for nonmaintenance of the pipes and plumbing connected with the supply main, or for noncompliance on the part of any natural gas or water user with the rules and regulations adopted by the board for the conduct of its business and affairs and that the board of directors of a metropolitan utilities district is hereby empowered to (1) adopt all necessary rules and regulations for the operation and conducting of the business and affairs of its natural gas and water utilities for the purpose of supplying gas for heat and power purposes for public and private use and for the purpose of supplying water for domestic, mechanical, public, and fire purposes and (2) fix the prices to be charged therefor.

These Rules and Regulations have the same legal force and effect as a City Ordinance and are binding upon the consumers as one of the conditions of their service.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. No appliances shall be used or installations made which do not conform with the Rules and Regulations. Installations made prior to the adoption of these Rules and Regulations shall be changed to conform when the service piping, meter assembly, customer-owned piping or the appliance is to be replaced, reinstalled or extensively repaired or when its inability to operate safely is demonstrated.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

2. Furnaces, boilers, conversion burners, and all other space heating equipment which does not have safety devices called for herein at the time these Rules and Regulations are adopted shall be changed to comply with these Rules and Regulations when requested by the Utilities District.
3. Failure to conform to these Rules and Regulations and the District's Billing Price Book, as they may be amended from time to time shall be cause for the District to shut off the gas supply to the premises in which the failure to comply exists. Gas service will not be restored until any such condition is corrected and made to conform to these Rules and Regulations. The District, subject to the Nebraska law, reserves the right to correct any billing errors.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (5-4-05)

4. Where there are practical difficulties or unnecessary hardships in the way of carrying out the strict letter of these Rules and Regulations, the matter may be submitted to an appeals committee, appointed by the President, which committee, upon making a finding to that effect in such case, may vary or modify the application of these Rules and Regulations, so that the spirit of the Rules and Regulations shall be observed, public safety secured, unjust discrimination avoided and substantial justice done.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is, for any reason, held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of these Rules and Regulations.
6. All references to National Codes and Standards in these Rules and Regulations shall refer to the revised editions as set forth in Part VII, Appendix.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (7-1-09; 9-5-07; 5-4-05; 6-7-00; 2-5-97)

7. The definitions of words and terms contained in these Rules and Regulations shall be the same as defined in the **National Fuel Gas Code**, unless otherwise defined herein.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 1994

8. In the event these Rules or the **National Fuel Gas Code** is silent or incomplete as to the type or quality of materials to be used or the means or procedure by which a rule-regulated activity must be accomplished, the District shall have the authority to impose such requirements as deemed appropriate to accomplish the intent of these Rules, taking into account other recognized standards, procedures and authorities.

Amendment Adopted: July 5, 1995

9. The District may temporarily interrupt a customer's gas supply in order to make repairs on the system after making a reasonable effort to notify. In case of emergencies, such as a main break or where in the District's opinion considerable damage may be caused, the gas supply may be interrupted without notification.

Amendment Adopted: February 5, 1997

10. The District may terminate a customer's gas service if the customer denies the District access to a building in which the customer is provided service for the District's purpose of investigating whether a District gas service or main penetrates the building's sewer lateral.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011

11. In emergency situations, the District may utilize a locksmith and law enforcement to gain entry to serviced facilities.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022

Part I

APPLICATIONS AND THE USE OF GAS

A. Application

1. Applications for the use of gas shall be made by contacting the District. By accepting gas service from the District, the applicant agrees to comply with all the District's gas rules and regulations.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

2. If there is no gas service into the premises, see Part II and Part III.

B. Deposit

Gas customers shall make and keep a deposit with the District as a guarantee for the payment of their gas bills.

The District, in its sole discretion, may waive a deposit where its account records disclose that the customer regularly pays gas bills when due or where a new customer submits adequate evidence of financial responsibility.

If a customer who does not have a deposit fails to pay a gas bill when due for a period of two months, the customer shall be required to make a deposit as a condition for future service.

If the District determines, in its sole discretion, that a customer who does not have a deposit is at financial risk of failure to pay future gas bills, the customer may be required to make a deposit as a condition of future service.

Amendment Adopted: August 7, 2002 (5-5-93)

C. Rates and Types of Service

1. All charges for gas supplied by the District shall be at the rates established by the Board of Directors of the District.
2. Availability and priorities of use of gas shall be determined solely by the Utilities District.
3. Gas supplied for any purpose or use will be interruptible or firm as prescribed under Gas Rate Schedules, contracts and resolutions as adopted by the Board of Directors.
4. Customers desiring gas service should consult the District as to terms and conditions upon which it may be available.
5. Charges made by the customer for natural gas resold shall not exceed the charges which would have been applicable under District rates for firm gas. This restriction shall not apply to gas used for vehicular fuel.

The gas bill for a master meter residential housing complex of four or more units in one building may be apportioned and billed to the individual unit occupants. Such billing shall be measured either by a private meter or by a measurement system approved by the District.

Gas usage for common areas may be apportioned to unit occupants on an equitable basis.

The unit price for gas billed by the customer to the unit occupants shall not exceed the unit price paid by the customer to the District.

Charges for unit measured gas usage, apportioned common usage gas, and service charge or billing cost assessment to unit occupants shall be shown as separate line items on the billing statement.

The customer shall provide District with reasonable access to inspect the books, records and equipment used in customer's utilities cost measurement system.

Amendment Adopted: August 7, 2002 (5-5-93; 12-4-91)

D. Transportation Stranded Costs

If, within three years after the date of a gas service installation, any customer elects to transport and continues to transport all or any part of customer's gas supply, stranded pipeline/supply costs as described in the current schedule FT or other equivalent schedules shall not be assessed against the customer regardless of type or level of service the customer obtained from the District.

If, after such three-year period, any customer first elects to transport or resumes transportation of all or any part of customer's gas supply, customer shall be assessed stranded pipeline/supply costs.

Amendment Adopted: June 3, 1998

E. Remedy for Unauthorized Bypass of the District System

The District does not consent to or authorize any customer to bypass the District gas distribution system to obtain gas from an interstate pipeline or another distribution company's pipeline. If after the installation of a gas service, any customer obtains all or any part of customer's gas supply by installing a service pipe directly to an interstate pipeline or another distribution company's pipeline, customer shall compensate the District for its unrecoverable costs for the gas main, gas service and meter installation based on the following formula:

(cost of installation divided by 10) x (10 minus number of years customer and any prior customer was served exclusively by District's main) x percentage of average daily contract requirements obtained through the non-District source.

This amount shall be recomputed annually to reflect changes in the percentage of daily contract requirements. The District reserves all rights with respect to the bypass of its gas distribution system and the remedy set forth in this section is in addition to any other remedies to which the District may be entitled.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (6-3-98)

F. Metering

1. Gas shall be supplied by meter measurement only, and bills rendered at regular periods so far as practicable. In case of inability to read a meter for any reason, or of a meter failure to register, the gas consumed shall be determined by estimate.

The District reserves the right for economy reasons, to implement a program of reading meters at varying monthly intervals, but not less often than bimonthly, with estimated bills rendered in months when meter readings are not obtained. Estimated bills will be based upon previous usage and seasonal conditions (*degree days*).

Exception will be made in the case of industrial or commercial processing usage where billings in such cases may be estimated by the District's engineers on the basis of consumption for like periods of operations.

Amendment Adopted: September 2, 1987

2. All customers shall allow the District to obtain readings of any gas meter. The gas service may be terminated if the District is not allowed to read meters.

Amendment Adopted: September 5, 2007 (4-6-94)

G. Payment

1. All bills due the District for gas service shall be payable as instructed on the billing invoice or by visiting the District's website at www.mudomaha.com for other payment options and locations.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022

2. Gas service to mobile home parks will be supplied by one of two methods:

- (a) Whenever a mobile home park is supplied with individual gas meters for spaces and each mobile home has a mailing address assigned by the Postal Department with direct mailing facilities, and each owner or occupant of a mobile home has filed an application for service which has been approved by the District, service will be supplied to such customer on the same basis as for single occupancy residences, except that no billing will be made for months of no consumption, due to vacated site.
- (b) If the conditions of Subparagraph (a) of this section cannot be met, or if the owner or operator of the mobile home park shall so elect, the owner or operator of a mobile home park shall be responsible for collection and payment of all bills for gas consumed on premises of a mobile home park as provided for in a gas service contract to be furnished by District and executed by the mobile home park operator as the applicant for gas service. No gas service shall be provided to such mobile home park unless a contract has been executed.

Amendment Adopted: February 1, 1978

H. Default in Payment

1. The District may terminate gas service to a customer at one or more addresses upon the customer's default in payment for gas service to any of the customer's current or prior service addresses, or based upon the customer's default on any payment due to the District.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

2. Where a gas service has been turned off because of a violation of rules and regulations, or because of nonpayment of bills due, a charge as provided by law and stated in the **District Billing Price Book** shall be collected for restoring service.

I. Unauthorized Use of Gas

1. The obtaining of gas service so as to avoid payment for such service, including but not limited to tampering with the meter, installing a bypass around the meter, connections for service without a meter, or by any other method, is prohibited and shall be cause for termination of service (*see note*).
2. Before gas service which has been terminated as provided in Paragraph 1 may be restored, charges and fees will be payable, as follows:
 - (a) Cost of removal of unauthorized piping, repair or replacement of any meter damaged by tampering, and all other incidental costs involved in the turn-off and turn-on.
 - (b) An estimated bill for gas consumption as determined by District.
 - (c) A finding fee payable to the person reporting the unauthorized use, as determined by the Board of Directors and published in the **District Billing Price Booklet**.

NOTE: State law provides for fine or imprisonment or both for theft of services.

Amendment Adopted: July 11, 1979

J. Customer Responsibility

1. Liability for Gas.

- (a) In the case of any service, the customer shall be liable for the cost of gas consumed until 48 hours after a turnoff order is received by the District.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

- (b) In the case where there has been gas consumption and there is no applicant for service, the owner of the premises shall be liable for the cost of gas consumed.

Amendment Adopted: September 5, 2007 (2-5-97)

2. Liability for Meters, Regulators, Services.

- (a) All customers shall protect and safeguard gas service pipes, meters, excess flow valves, regulators and related equipment on their property and shall promptly report any leak or any evidence thereof to the District, as well as any other unsafe condition of which they have knowledge. Loss or damage as a result of the customer's negligence or deliberate act shall be at the customer's expense.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

- (b) The amount due for loss or injury to meter, plus the charges for gas consumed, shall become at once due and payable.

3. **Operation.** It shall be the responsibility of the customer to maintain the air passages and flues of gas appliances open, free from dust, lint or other obstructions to insure proper combustion and to maintain efficient operation.

Amendment Adopted: August 7, 2002 (4-6-94)

K. Pressures

Delivery pressure of gas for each location will be specified by the District as either 2-PSIG or 7-inch W.C. In no case will the District regulate to deliver more than one pressure from one given meter.

L. Availability of Gas

Sale and delivery of gas shall be subject to all present and future orders, Rules and Regulations of the District. District shall be obligated to deliver gas under its rates and contracts only to the extent that the District shall have a sufficient supply of gas therefore.

When gas supplies are not sufficient to meet all requirements, the District's board of directors may establish priorities, restrictions and curtailments as it may deem necessary, or as may be required under the tariff of the District's gas supplier, or orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Amendment Adopted: May 6, 1981

M. Ownership

All mains, gas services, meters, and associated piping, valves and regulators, to and including the meter set installation, shall be the sole property of the District. All piping and equipment downstream of the meter set installation, with the exception of the sub-meter, shall be the property of and responsibility of the owner or occupant of the premises.

Amendment Adopted: May 6, 1981

N. Access to Customer's Premises

In the discharge of their duties, District employees shall have the authority to enter upon the customer's premises for examination or survey thereof, for the purpose of repairing any gas pipe, for the purpose of inspecting any gas service or the piping connected with any such service, for the purpose of removing or connecting any apparatus required in connection with such service under these Rules and Regulations, for the purpose of reading any meter or meters attached to such service, or for any other purpose whatsoever in connection with such gas service.

Amendment Adopted: May 5, 1993

Part II

GAS MAIN EXTENSION

A. General

1. Gas main will be extended, subject to the availability of gas, provided it is determined by the District that gas usage will occur and that the revenues of such usage will justify the cost of the main extension.

Amendment Adopted: March 7, 1990

2. In instances where the District determines that revenues will not justify the cost of the main extension, the applicant must contribute the amount of the deficiency. The applicant will also be eligible for refunds from ensuing connections that were not considered in the original economic analysis.

Amendment Adopted: March 7, 1990

3. The economic criteria used in the justification analysis and deficiency calculations shall be determined and set by the Board of Directors.

Amendment Adopted: March 7, 1990

4. Consideration for a main extension will be made upon receipt of a written request from the applicant. Applicants shall submit sufficient data for the economic feasibility study and to adequately size and design the main.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005 (3-7-90)

B. Definitions

Gas Main. A gas main is a pipe usually installed in a public right-of-way for the purpose of transmission of supply to more than one gas service.

Amendment Adopted: March 7, 1990

Part III

GAS SERVICES

A. General

All gas service installation requests will be granted subject to availability of gas, and applicable gas rate schedules, and the availability of gas mains as provided in Part II, and the provisions of this part of the **Gas Rules and Regulations**.

All new gas service installations, the relocation of existing services or the enlargement of existing services shall be performed by the District and shall comply with these rules and regulations.

B. Definitions

1. **Gas Service Installation.** A gas service installation includes the tap, service piping, excess flow valve, meter set installation, and all valves, regulators and fittings necessary to furnish metered gas to the customer at available volumes and pressures.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

2. **Service Pipe.** A service pipe is the pipe which connects the gas main to the meter set installation.
3. **Meter.** The device used to measure gas flow included as a part of the meter set installation.
4. **Meter Set Installation.** A meter set installation includes the gas service regulator for reducing the gas pressure to the pressure at which it is delivered to the customer, the gas service valve ahead of the service regulator, the meter, the remote device, and all associated piping and fittings including bypasses installed by the District. The outlet of the meter set installation is the point of delivery.
5. **Sub-Meter.** A sub-meter, including reading device, is a meter owned by the District used to measure gas flow installed downstream of the meter set installation and utilized by the District for billing purposes.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009 (5-6-92)

6. **Private Meter.** A meter owned by the customer and maintained at the customer's expense.

Amendment Adopted: May 6, 1992

7. **Residential Customer.** A residential customer is an applicant for service to a single or two-family dwelling unit with a limit of 2 units per building. For the purpose of determining rates, see the definition of residential customer in the applicable M.U.D. rate schedule.

Amendment Adopted: July 5, 1995

8. **Excess Flow Valve.** A safety device that is designed to restrict gas flow in a certain high pressure gas service lines in certain emergencies.

Amendment Adopted: May 3, 2017 (7-1-09)

9. **Multiple Unit Building.** A building housing two or more separate customers under the same roof.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011

C. Gas Service Installations, Enlargements or Relocations

1. The District will provide to each customer a gas service installation, enlargement or relocation.
2. Charges, if any, for a gas service installation, enlargement, or relocation will be in accordance with the **Billing Price Book**, as approved by the Board of Directors.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

D. Design of Gas Service

The design of the gas service, including size, type, and line and grade will be determined by the District. The service will normally be installed at right angles to the street right-of-way.

E. Installation of Service

The District shall install all gas services. Prior to installation, the owner, contractor or applicant shall establish the finished landscaping grade. If the District relocates a gas service due to a change in the finished landscaping grade, the owner shall pay the cost of the relocation. No other pipe, conduit or electrical conductor shall be installed in the same trench as the gas service pipe or within 12 inches of the gas service pipe.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009 (8-7-02)

F. Buildings or Structures over Service

1. Where unavoidable, a service pipe may be run under a building, mobile home or unexcavated portion of the basement of the building, provided that such service pipe is encased in a gas-tight conduit in accordance with District specifications.

If the service supplies the building it underlies, the conduit and service shall extend into a normally usable and accessible part of the building.

Where permitted for new buildings, the service pipe and conduit shall be installed before the floor is constructed.

2. No building or other structure shall be built or placed over an existing gas service. Paving slabs and sidewalks may be constructed over services.

Pipes, conduits, cables or retaining walls crossing at approximately right angles to the gas service also are permitted.

No mobile home or recreational vehicle intended for occupancy at that location shall be placed over an existing gas main or service.

G. Services for Multiple Unit Buildings or Multiple Buildings

1. **Services for Multiple Unit Buildings.** Multiple unit buildings shall be served by one common service line and a multiple meter header having a meter for each unit.

Multiple unit residential buildings with individual unit ownership, such as townhomes, shall be served through individual service lines and individual meter locations on each unit.

2. **Services for Multiple Buildings.** Multiple buildings shall be served by separate lines except under the following conditions:
 - (a) Where buildings are located on a common lot and none of the buildings are separated by a dedicated street, a common service with subservice branches may be installed. Such lot shall be of one ownership, except for condominiums or similar systems of ownership, where responsibility for maintenance of common areas and facilities is by an association or other entity formed for that purpose.

Where all buildings are owned by one owner, and one or more of the buildings is sold or transferred to any other owner, the District may require installation of a separate service line to the separately-owned buildings.

If the association or other entity accepting responsibility for common areas and facilities is dissolved, the District may require installation of separate gas services to each building at the property owner's expense, in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.
 - (b) Where customer-owned fuel lines between buildings are permitted, Part V of these Rules and Regulations shall apply.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011

H. Repair of Existing Gas Service

The District will repair the gas service installation in active use, from the main to and including the meter set installation, without expense to the customer, except that repair which may be required by reason of customer's negligence or deliberate act shall be at his expense. Damage to such pipes by others will be repaired at their expense.

All customers shall protect and safeguard gas service pipe on their property, and shall report promptly any leak or any evidence thereof to the District, *phone: 402.554-7777*, as well as any other unsafe condition of which they have knowledge.

The District shall determine the need for replacement of a gas service for the purposes of maintenance or repair. The District shall determine the location and size of replacement gas services and meter assemblies. Replaced residential and commercial gas meter assemblies shall be located outside of the building.

Any alteration or revisions for the benefit of the customer shall be at the customer's expense.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

Part IV

GAS METERS AND SUB-METERS

A. Meter Applications

A gas meter or meters shall be set only by the District upon application of the owner or consumer.

B. Location of Meter

1. All gas meters shall be located outside of the building or residence. A minimum clear working area of 3 feet around the meter set, excluding the distance between the meter and the building, shall be provided and maintained.

The working area shall be free of appurtenances or obstructions including, but not limited to, electric air conditioning units, electric heat pumps, electric meters, downspouts, exhausts, or air intakes.

To avoid hardships, the District may for good and sufficient reason permit the installation of the meter inside.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005 (4-6-94)

2. Meters shall be set in a safe location where they are easily and continuously accessible for reading and service and not exposed to corrosion or other damage. If the District determines that it cannot routinely and safely read the meter, it may, at its discretion, require installation of an automatic meter reading device at the customer's expense.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

3. Existing gas meters in a building or residence shall be located in ventilated places and at least 3 feet from any source of ignition or any source of heat which could damage the meter.

Meters shall not be installed in bedrooms, closets, bathrooms, under combustible stairways or in inaccessible locations.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

4. Inside meter sets on the high-pressure system (exceeding 14 inches water column) shall be moved outside if there is required relocation work on the gas service or main.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

5. Residential Multiple Housing Units.

- (a) In residential multiple housing complexes individual meters for each unit will be installed, except as provided in Part IV, B5, (b) and (c).
- (b) In each building consisting of four or more individually-owned housing units, where each individual unit does not have an exterior wall at ground level to facilitate a direct supply of gas from the main to the appliances of each unit without constructing any part of the service or fuel line

through any unit other than the served unit, gas may be supplied through a single meter for each building under a separate rate schedule.

Such billings may be apportioned to tenants, owners, and occupants as provided in Part I, C5, or individual sub-meters for each housing unit may be installed as provided in Part IV, B6.

- (c) In each apartment building consisting of four or more housing units, the gas may be supplied through a single meter for each building under a separate rate schedule.

Such billings may be apportioned to tenants, owners and occupants as provided in Part I, C5, or individual sub-meters for each housing unit may be installed as provided in Part IV, B7.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009 (5-4-05)

- 6. Meters sets and all associated piping shall be kept readily accessible. If obstructions exist which interfere with meter reading or operation of the service cock, the gas service may be discontinued until the obstructions are removed. In the case of obstructions interfering with the meter reading, the customer may be required to purchase an automated meter reading device at the District's discretion.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (5-4-05; 8-17-02)

- 7. **Sub-Meters.** New Sub-meter installations are prohibited. Existing Sub-meters shall be allowed to remain installed as set forth below or where gas is purchased under more than one rate schedule and the District determined a sub-meter is necessary to achieve the necessary metering accuracy.

Amendment Adopted: May 3, 2017 (5-4-05; 5-6-92)

- (a) The District will permit sub-meters for each housing unit as provided in Part IV, B5, (b) and (c). Sub-meters shall be located where they can be read at all times without entering the individual units; however, sub-meters located in housing units shall be equipped with automated meter reading devices. Sub-meters that are located in individual housing units shall be made accessible for service or disconnection within twenty-four (24) hours of notification to the main meter customer.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009 (8-7-02)

- (b) Installation of sub-meters in housing units shall comply with all District rules and regulations and any applicable rules of the State Fire Marshal, with regard to meters except for Paragraph B1 of this part. Sub-meters will be furnished and installed by the District.

The customer shall provide and install the sub-meter bars, together with a shut-off valve immediately ahead of each sub-meter bar, in accordance with District specifications.

All piping and equipment, except sub-meters, downstream from the master meter set installation shall be and remain the property of

the owner of the building, who shall have the responsibility for its maintenance.

Gas sub-meters shall be maintained only by the District. Such maintenance will be at the expense of the District, except that repair or replacement required by external damage other than normal environmental deterioration shall be paid by the owner of the building.

The District may refuse service to any individual unit whenever it has notice of a hazardous condition or defect in the piping or equipment serving each unit, until such defect or condition has been corrected.

Amendment Adopted: August 7, 2002

- (c) Housing units individually sub-metered will be provided service only after application for service is made by the tenant, owner, or occupant of the unit who will be the District's customer.

No billings will be rendered for a gas sub-meter when the sub-meter has been shut off due to vacancy of the unit and there is no consumption on the sub-meter.

Sub-meter consumption occurring during vacancy or when there is no customer of record shall be the responsibility of the owner.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

- (d) All gas consumed through sub-meters for individual units for which there are District customers will be deducted from the master meter reading to determine consumption for which the building owner, manager or association is responsible.
- (e) The District will assess and charge to the main meter customer a monthly fee for each gas sub-meter in accordance with the **Billing Price Book**. This fee will be assessed regardless of the occupancy status of the individual housing unit.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009

- 8. **Private Metering.** A customer may install metering equipment downstream of the meter set installation for monitoring purposes only. Private meters shall not be used for billing except as provided in Part I, C5.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005 (8-7-02; 5-6-92)

C. Size of Meter

1. The owner or customer shall advise the District as to the number, kind and size of appliances he intends to use so the proper size meter may be installed by the District.
2. On appliances or apparatus other than domestic ranges, water heaters, and refrigerators, the owner or customer shall supply the District with information as to the hourly Btu input and the approximate daily use.

D. Interconnection Not Permitted

Fuel piping systems which are supplied by separate meters shall not be interconnected.

E. Moving Meters

1. Installing or moving of meters shall be done only by District employees.
2. If it is necessary to move a meter for the convenience of a customer, it will be done at the expense of the applicant in accordance with the prices posted in the **District Billing Price Book**, as approved by the Board of Directors.

F. Testing Meters

The District will test any meter upon application by the customer and payment of a fee in accordance with the **District Billing Price Book**, as approved by the Board of Directors. If the meter test indicates more than 2 percent fast, the fee will be refunded.

Part V

INSTALLATION OF GAS PIPING ON CONSUMERS' PREMISES

A. General

All work in conjunction with the installation, operation and maintenance of gas piping on consumer's premises shall be performed in accordance with the **National Fuel Gas Code** except as noted in the following paragraphs of this Part V.

Amendment Adopted: February 5, 1997 (5-5-93)

B. Manufactured Homes and Mobile Home Parks

All work in conjunction with the installation, operation, and maintenance of gas piping and gas equipment in manufactured homes and mobile home parks shall be performed in accordance with NFPA 501A "Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites and Communities."

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (7-1-09; 6-3-98)

C. Bending

Bending of metallic pipe in place of fittings is prohibited.

D. Piping in Floors

Gas piping shall not be embedded in concrete floor slabs.

E. Piping Joints

1. All fittings and joints of piping larger than 2 inches in diameter shall be welded, flanged or press-connect fittings.
2. Any piping system operating with a pressure of 5-PSIG or greater shall be welded. No threaded piping shall be allowed other than final equipment connections.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (4-6-11)

F. Metallic Tubing

Steel tubing, except corrugated stainless steel tubing, is prohibited. A corrugated stainless steel tubing system shall be listed and installed in accordance with the requirements of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (4-6-11)

Aluminum tubing shall be used only where the operating pressure is less than 14-inch W.C.

Aluminum tubing shall be coated to protect against external corrosion where it is in contact with or where it may potentially come in contact with masonry, plaster or insulation; or is subject to repeated wettings by such liquids as water, detergents or sewage.

Copper tubing installed outdoors above ground shall be securely supported and located where it will be protected from physical damage.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 1994

G. Sizing

1. In this Section G, references to residential piping systems shall include apartment piping systems.
2. Piping shall be of a size and so installed as to provide a supply of gas sufficient to meet the maximum demand without undue loss of pressure between the point of delivery and the appliance. No rigid pipe smaller than one-half inch shall be used.
3. If supply is from a low pressure main, residential piping systems shall be sized for a maximum pressure loss of 0.3-inch W.C.

If supply is from a higher pressure main, residential low pressure piping systems shall be sized for a maximum pressure loss of 0.5-inch W.C.

Industrial and commercial low pressure piping systems shall be sized for the same maximum pressure losses as residential piping, unless higher losses are approved by the District.

Amendment Adopted: June 3, 1998

4. Residential piping systems operating at a pressure of 2 PSIG shall be sized for a maximum pressure loss of 1.0 PSIG in the high pressure portion of the system.

Industrial and commercial piping systems operating at 2 PSIG shall be sized for a maximum pressure loss of 1.0 PSIG in the high pressure portion of the system, unless higher losses are approved by the District.

Amendment Adopted: May 5, 1999 (6-3-98)

5. If a piping system contains a 2 PSIG system which is zoned to a low pressure piping system, the low pressure piping system shall be sized so that there is a minimum of 5-inch W.C. at the equipment. The high pressure portion of the system shall be sized as stated above.

Adopted: June 3, 1998

H. Plastic Pipe, Tubing and Fittings

1. Approved polyethylene plastic tubing sized for load and length according to Part V, Section G may be used for underground fuel lines to appliances located outside. This plastic tubing shall not be used above ground, inside buildings or through building walls.

Amendment Adopted: July 1, 2009 (6-3-98)

2. Polyethylene plastic may be used for underground commercial fuel lines 1/2-inch C.T.S. and larger when approved by the District. Detailed plans and specifications for the fuel line shall be submitted to the District and the installer shall demonstrate to the District the ability to install plastic pipe.

For fused pipe, the installer shall demonstrate that the personnel installing the pipe are qualified under appropriate procedures to fuse the pipe. Design and installation shall be in accordance with Part 192 of the **National Gas Pipeline Safety Regulations** and the **National Fuel Gas Code**.

Fuel lines operating at 10 PSIG or less shall be tested at a pressure of not less than 40 PSIG and fuel lines operating at over 10 PSIG shall be tested at 100 PSIG.

Amendment Adopted: September 5, 2007 (6-3-98)

I. Fuel Lines

Fuel lines may be installed between buildings under the following conditions and applications.

1. Buildings must be located on a common lot under one ownership.
2. The buildings involved must be in one of the following categories:
 - (a) Single or duplex residential unit to a detached Non-Residential building or garage
 - (b) Non-Residential Commercial buildings not connected by the same roof.
 - (c) Buildings where permitted under a special contract as provided in Part I, C-5.
3. Underground fuel lines shall be installed in accordance with specifications issued by the District and the following:
 - (a) All residential and commercial fuel lines installed below grade shall be inspected and approved by the District prior to the backfill.
 - (b) No other pipe, conduit or electrical conductor shall be installed within 12 inches horizontally of the underground gas fuel line piping.

Amendment Adopted: August 7, 2002 (4-6-94; 11-6-13)

J. Marking of Piping

All residential piping systems, including those in apartments, which are intended to operate at a nominal pressure of 2 PSIG or higher shall be legibly marked in an approved manner with the pressure the pipe is carrying at all appliances and shut-off valves.

Amendment Adopted: February 5, 1997 (9-4-91)

K. Interconnections Between Gas Piping Systems

When a supplementary gas supply for standby use is connected downstream from a meter, an approved three-way valve or other approved device, to admit the standby fuel and at the same time shut off the regular supply, shall be installed.

Amendment Adopted: September 4, 1991)

L. Pressure Testing

Fuel gas piping in commercial, industrial, and multi-family residential buildings where three or more units reside under a common roof shall be air tested at 40 PSIG for a period of 15 minutes with no loss of pressure. In the event a fuel gas piping system has been subjected to heat from a fire, the system that was exposed to the heat shall be air tested at 40 PSIG for a period of 15 minutes with no loss of pressure. A District representative shall witness both pressure tests.

Amendment Adopted: November 6, 2013 (9-5-07;5-4-05; 9-4-91)

All pressure testing of residential piping shall follow the requirements of the **National Fuel Gas Code**. At the discretion of the District, a District representative shall witness the test. When increasing the fuel line pressure in commercial or residential buildings more than 1 PSIG above the existing pressure provided by the District, the piping shall be air tested at 40 PSIG for a period of 15 minutes. At the discretion of the District, a District representative shall witness the test.

Amendment Adopted: September 5, 2007 (5-4-05; 4-6-94)

M. Valves

1. All manually operated valves on gas piping systems at pressures from 1/2 PSIG to and including 2 PSIG shall conform to ASME B16.44, Manually Operated Metallic Gas Valves for use in Above Ground Piping Systems up to 5 psi or shall be a listed ball or lubricated plug type.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (5-5-99; 6-3-98)

2. All manually operated valves on gas piping systems in excess of 2 PSIG shall be of the listed ball or lubricated plug type.

Amendment Adopted: June 3, 1998 (4-6-94)

Part VI
INSTALLATION OF GAS EQUIPMENT
AND APPLIANCES

A. General

1. All work in conjunction with the installation, operation and maintenance of natural gas appliances and equipment, new or used, shall be performed in accordance with the **National Fuel Gas Code** except as noted in the following paragraphs of this Part VI.

Amendment Adopted: February 5, 1997 (5-5-93)

2. No gas service shall be turned on where there are leaking or unsafe fuel lines or unsafe appliances.

Amendment Adopted: February 5, 1997

B. Application, Permit, Inspection

1. **Applications.** An application for a permit shall be submitted to the District by the installer for all equipment to be permitted and inspected.

Amendment Adopted: August 7, 2002 (4-6-94)

2. **Equipment to be permitted and inspected:**

- (a) All gas space heating, including combination water and space heaters known as combo-heaters, and gas cooling equipment, except unvented room heaters.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 1994

- (b) Water heating equipment with an input rating in excess of 100,000 Btu/hour. Pool heaters with an input rating in excess of 400,000 Btu/hour or installed in an enclosed structure.

Amendment Adopted: May 3, 2017 (7-5-95;4-6-94)

- (c) Water heating equipment with an input in excess of 100,000 Btu/hour and all space heating equipment that is converted from another fuel.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (4-6-11; 8-7-02)

- (d) Gas equipment subject to permitting, including appliances converted to natural gas, less than five years old.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (7-3-01)

- e) Natural gas-fired generators.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022

- f) Replacement of natural gas space heating equipment or water heating equipment with an input in excess of 100,000 Btu/hr in manufactured homes. Manufactured homes with preinstalled natural gas equipment will not be inspected, but shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 501A, "Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites and Communities."

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022

3. **Inspection Fees.** Inspection of natural gas appliances and equipment shall be billed in accordance with the District's **Billing Price Book**. Where a permit

request is prepaid and denied, canceled or withdrawn, the fee will be refunded unless an inspection has been made.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005 (5-3-17)

4. **Permits.** Permits may be denied if the gas supply is inadequate or if the equipment is not properly sized to be operated safely.

Where the gas supply is inadequate, improvements to the gas supply will be permitted in compliance with other parts of these Rules.

Installers will not operate gas equipment which does not meet the requirements of these Rules and until adequate gas mains, service, meter, and fuel lines are installed.

Where enlargement of those facilities is required, it shall be in compliance with these Rules and be completed before the equipment is operated.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2005

5. **Term.** Permits shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance. No refunds will be given after the term has expired.

Amendment Adopted: May 3, 2017 (5-4-05; 7-5-95)

6. **Equipment Relocation.** When equipment requiring a permit is relocated, the owner shall obtain a new permit for such installation, which shall be subject to all of the requirements of the Gas Rules.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (5-4-05)

7. **Inspection.** Upon completion of the installation of equipment requiring permits, the installer shall notify the property owner to notify the District to conduct an inspection of the installation and the equipment.

When deficiencies are found, the District will notify the installer of all deficiencies found. Such deficiencies must be corrected within the time limit specified at the time of the inspection and be subject to reinspection and reinspection fees as applicable.

Where the installation passes the District inspection, notice of approval of the installation will be affixed to the equipment by the inspector.

Amendment Adopted: November 6, 2013 (5-4-05)

C. Appliance Requirements

1. Approved Appliances:

- (a) All gas appliances and accessories shall be listed and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (7-1-09; 7-3-01; 5-6-92)

- (b) In-lieu-of the above, appliances may be acceptable to the District after testing.

Amendment Adopted: July 3, 2001

2. **Unvented Room Heaters.** Unvented room heaters shall conform with ANSI Z21.11.2 and Z21.11.2a.

Unvented room heaters shall not be installed in mobile homes, trailers, recreational vehicles, bathrooms or sleeping rooms.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011 (7-1-09; 6-3-98)

3. **Conversion Burners.** Installation of conversion burners shall conform to ANSI Z21.8, except that an automatic means to shut off the fuel supply to the burner(s) shall be provided if the boiler water level drops to the lowest safe water line.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (7-1-09; 6-3-98)

4. **Electrical Switch.** All appliances requiring an external source of electrical power for its operation shall be provided with a readily accessible electrical disconnecting means (within sight of the appliance) that will completely de-energize the appliance.

Amendment Adopted: November 6, 2013 (5-4-05; 5-5-93)

5. **Flexible Connectors.** All existing and future flexible connectors used to connect gas appliances to house piping shall be manufactured and installed in accordance with ANSI Z21.24 and Z223.1, with the following exceptions:

- (a) When a brass connector is used, no brazing will be allowed on the flexible connector. End connections will be flared construction.
- (b) All brass connectors shall have a minimum of 2 mil epoxy coating.

Amendment Adopted: October 3, 1990

6. **Combustion and Ventilation Air.**

- (a) **Engineered Solutions.** Engineered provisions for combustion, ventilation and dilution air for natural gas utilization equipment shall be stamped by a registered professional engineer in the State of Nebraska and submitted to the District prior to inspection.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 1994

- (b) **Gas Equipment on More Than One Floor Connected to a Common Vent.** All gas utilization equipment in existing multi-level buildings connected to a common vent may take air for combustion and ventilation from habitable space, subject to the habitable space having adequate volume as defined in the **National Fuel Gas Code**. If the volume is inadequate, provisions shall be made to supply adequate combustion and ventilation air from outdoors. A combustion and ventilation air duct may serve equipment on more than one floor.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 2011

7. **Appliance Controls and Ignition Systems.** Natural gas appliances which have had controls or ignition systems partially or totally submerged in water shall be inspected by qualified personnel prior to returning the appliance to service.

Amendment Adopted: April 6, 1994

8. **Regulators.** A regulator vent shall terminate at least 10 feet horizontally from or 3 feet above any forced air inlet. Regulator vents shall not be installed directly in front of equipment exhaust.

Amendment Adopted: November 6, 2013 (4-6-94)

9. **Combustion Vent Piping Penetrations.** Any penetration or hole installed in combustion vent piping for analyzing combustion products shall be positively sealed after each use with one of the following methods:
 - a) A threaded plug or screw with high temperature sealant.
 - b) A rubber reusable hub-less coupling with hose or band clamps securing coupling over the penetration.

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022

Part VII

APPENDIX

References to National Codes and Standards

The following is a list of the national codes and standards referred to in these Rules and Regulations together with the source from which these documents may be secured:

Code:

ASME B16.44-2017 MANUALLY OPERATED METALLIC GAS VALVES FOR USE IN ABOVE GROUND PIPING SYSTEMS UP TO 5 PSI

ANSI Z21.8-2017 1994 (R2012) STANDARD FOR INSTALLATION OF DOMESTIC GAS CONVERSION BURNERS*

ANSI Z21.11.2-2016 GAS-FIRED ROOM HEATERS — VOLUME II, UNVENTED ROOM HEATERS*

ANZI Z21.24-2020 CONNECTORS FOR GAS APPLIANCES

ANSI Z223.1-NFPA 54 2021 NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE*, **

NFPA 501A-2021 FIRE SAFETY CRITERIA FOR MANUFACTURED HOME INSTALLATIONS, SITES AND COMMUNITIES*, **

Available from:

* American National Standards Institute
11 W. 42 St., 13th Fl., New York, NY 10036-8002
Phone: 212.642.4900
Fax: 212.398.0023
email: <http://www.ansi.org>

** National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Rd., Quincy, MA 02269-9101
Phone: 617.777.3000
Fax: 617.770.0700
email: <http://www.nfpa.org>

*** Underwriters' Laboratories Inc.
333 Pfingsten Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062
Phone: 847.272.8800
Fax: 847.509.6283
email: <http://www.ul.com>

Amendment Adopted: May 4, 2022 (5-3-17; 4-6-11; 7-1-09; 9-5-07; 5-4-05)