

6.00 GAS METERS

6.01 Ownership, Care, and Control

All gas meters, regulators, gas service lines, and all other apparatus installed by CenterPoint Energy upon the customer's premises for the purpose of delivering gas to the customer are the property of CenterPoint Energy and may only be detached, removed, repaired, or replaced by CenterPoint Energy or its authorized agent.

The customer shall exercise reasonable care to prevent the gas meters, regulators, gas service lines and other apparatus of CenterPoint Energy upon the premises from being damaged or destroyed and shall not interfere or tamper with the facilities. If any defect in this equipment is discovered, the customer shall notify CenterPoint Energy immediately. CenterPoint Energy has the right to remove any and all of its facilities installed on the customer's premises at the termination of service.

6.02 Selection of Gas Meter

CenterPoint Energy has the right to specify the type, kind, and size of the gas meter to be installed.

6.03 Location of Gas Meter

CenterPoint Energy shall approve the location of all gas meters prior to their installation. The customer shall provide a safe and accessible place for installation of the gas meter in accordance with all applicable codes. If the customer selects a meter location(s) or alters their property in such a manner that exposes CenterPoint Energy's metering equipment to vehicular traffic, the customer will be charged for required guard post meter protection. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.)

6.03 Location of Gas Meter (Continued)

CenterPoint Energy may refuse to install a gas meter, including but not limited to the following reasons:

- 1) In a hazardous or unprotected location;
- 2) In any location where surrounding conditions or elements may expose the gas meter to damage;
- 3) At any location where the gas meter is inaccessible for inspection, reading, testing, maintenance, or removal.

Gas meters will normally be installed on the outside of the building to be served on the face or at the corner of the building in closest proximity to the gas main to which the gas service line is to be attached.

In certain cases, CenterPoint Energy may, at its discretion, install a gas meter at other locations. In such cases, the gas meter will be installed at the point nearest where the gas service line enters the building, when practical.

6.04 Cost of Meter Installation and Relocation

Initial installation of the gas meter will be made at CenterPoint Energy's expense. Relocation of the gas meter may be made by CenterPoint Energy at the customer's request and expense. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.) If the meter change is made in conjunction with a service line alteration which will result in additional sales (see Section 5.07), CenterPoint Energy will calculate the meter relocation charge with consideration of the estimated incremental revenues resulting from the change.

6.05 CenterPoint Energy's Right to Remove a Gas Meter

CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to remove a gas meter, and any and all of its other facilities installed on the customer's premises at any time when deemed necessary by CenterPoint Energy to protect such property from fraud, theft, damage, destruction, or in the event that the customer connects to another natural gas supplier, or in the event no gas usage has occurred at a non-locked meter for at least twelve (12) months.

Written notice of property removal shall be given to a bypass or non-use customer by registered mail at least 20 days prior to removal of property by CenterPoint Energy. Failure by the customer to respond to the notice shall be deemed as consent to the removal.

6.06 CenterPoint Energy's Right to Test a Gas Meter

CenterPoint Energy policies and procedures are consistent with Minnesota Rules 7820.3900, Adjustment of Gas Bills.

CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to remove and test all gas meters.

A customer may request a test of the gas meter for accuracy. CenterPoint Energy shall attach a tag to the meter being removed for the test that shows the date the meter was removed, the customer's name and the address from which the meter was removed. If the meter is inaccurate the customer's billing will be adjusted, or a refund issued in accordance with Section VI, subsections, 9.03, 9.04 or 9.05.