

AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

RULE NO. 16

SERVICE CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES ON CUSTOMERS' PREMISES

Extensions of gas distribution service pipes necessary to furnish permanent gas service to applicants, and installation of facilities on customers' premises will be in accordance with the following:

A. Allowance for Service Pipes

- 1. Upon application, the Company will furnish and install a service pipe of suitable capacity from its gas main to the property line of property abutting upon any public street, highway, alley, lane or road along which it already has or will install street mains, and will install as much of such extension as may be necessary to reach a meter location that is satisfactory to the Company so long as the direct costs do not exceed the extension Allowance described below:

Extension Allowance

The total cost of gas main extensions (Rule 15) and service connections (Rule 16) will be made by the Company, provided the total direct cost of the required extension from existing distribution mains to the meter location to be served does not exceed the following:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2024	\$2,500
2025	\$1,250
2026	\$750
2027	\$0

The Company will install that portion of each service pipe in excess of the portion installed at the Company's expense inside of the property line, subject to an advance to be paid by the applicant as set forth below.

- 2. In cases where the applicants' building is located a considerable distance from the main, or where service is taken off a high pressure transmission main, or where a hazard or obstruction such as plowed land between the gas main and the applicant's building prevents the Company from prudently installing a service pipe, the Company may, at its discretion, waive the above. In such cases, the meter may be located at or near the applicant's property line, as close as practical to the Company's main at a location agreed upon by the customer.
- 3. Service Pipes Exceeding the Allowance
When the length of service pipe on the applicant's premises, necessary to reach the approved meter location, exceeds the extension allowance as stated above, the applicant will have the following options:
 - a) Pay the Company for the installed cost of the excess length of service pipe; or
 - b) Provide "in-kind" services (e.g., ditching, labor, etc.) that are equal to or greater than the value of the installed cost of the excess length of service pipe; or
 - c) Use a combination of items a) and b) above.

If the customer chooses Option b) or c),above, the Company's total gas-service installation cost shall not exceed the original cost of installing the gas service from the gas main to the customer's property line as described in paragraph A.1. above.

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B. Service Pipes for Firm Industrial and Interruptible Service

The cost of a service pipe for firm industrial and interruptible service will be included in the determination of required investment for mains and service pipe and treated in accordance with the rule governing main extensions to these classes of service subject to the Allowance contained under section A above

(D)

(N)

C. One Service Pipe for a Single Premises

1. The Company will not install more than one service pipe to supply a single premises, unless it is for the convenience of the Company or an applicant requests an additional service pipe and, in the opinion of the Company, an unreasonable burden would be placed on the applicant if the additional service pipe were denied. When an additional service pipe is installed under these conditions at the applicant's request, the applicant will pay the installed cost for the entire length of said additional service pipe.
2. When a service pipe extension is made to a meter location upon private property which is subsequently subdivided into separate premises, with ownership of portions thereof divested to other than the applicant or the customer, the Company will have the right, upon written notice, to discontinue service without obligation or liability. Gas service, as required by said applicant or customer, will be re-established in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Company's rules.

D. Branch Service Pipe

For additional separately metered permanent customers on the same or adjoining premises, the Company will install a branch service pipe at the option of the Company, and will grant allowances on private property under the conditions as set forth in Sections A. and B.

E. Relocation of Service Pipes

1. When in the judgement of the Company the relocation of a service pipe, including metering facilities, is necessary and is due either to the maintenance of adequate service or operating

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convenience of the Company, the Company will perform such work at its own expense.

2. If relocation of service pipe is due solely to meet the convenience of the applicant or the customer, or is made necessary by acts of the customer which create hazards or which make the meter inaccessible, such relocation, including metering facilities, will be performed by the Company at the expense of the applicant or the customer.

F. Standby Use

No allowance will be made for equipment used for standby or emergency purposes only.

G. Other Types of Service Pipes

Where an applicant or customer requests another type of service pipe such as stub service pipes, or service from transmission mains, the Company will consider each such request and will grant an allowance in accordance with Section A above.

H. General

1. The applicant or customer shall not attempt to connect his piping to the Company's main, service pipe or meter, nor shall he connect, disconnect, turn on, or move or adjust any of the Company's facilities.

Only duly authorized employees or other persons specifically authorized by the Company are permitted to perform work of this nature or to break a Company seal. The Company shall not be responsible or liable in damages or otherwise for injury to person or property caused by the unauthorized use of its facilities on the customers' premises by him or others.

2. For each gas service pipe installed or reconstructed the Company will include a suitable shutoff valve, located so as to be accessible at all times, outside of the structure served and between said structure and the gas main from which the service pipe is supplied.

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3. The Company at its expense will provide, install, own and maintain a suitable meter.

I. Location of Meter, Protection and Service Facilities

1. Meters normally will be located above ground adjacent to the building and as near as practicable to the distribution main from which the service pipe is extended. Meters will be placed at locations satisfactory to the Company. Such meters will be situated so as to be accessible at all times, for inspection, reading, testing, etc. The Company will install adequate protection around meters in Company approved locations when, in the Company's judgment, such measures are necessary for safety. The customer shall protect meters and other property supplied by the Company from damage or theft. The applicant or customer shall be responsible for installing his piping to the point of delivery. If the Customer requests a different meter location that requires the installation of adequate protection, the Company will install the protection at the Customer's expense. If, in the Company's judgment, meters or other property are not accessible or safe because of customer improvements at the Premise, or because of hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions or other actions of the customer, the Company may move or relocate the meter or other property at the customer's expense.
2. Where separate meters are installed to measure gas supplied to customers such as tenants in commercial buildings or multi-family dwellings, the meters normally will be located at some central point at the ground level; except that where a central location is impractical meters may be placed at any other points satisfactory to the Company. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to identify his piping so as to indicate the particular location to be served by each meter.

J. Customer Facilities

1. The customer shall, at his 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, which may be required for receiving gas from the Company and for applying and utilizing such gas beyond the point of delivery, including all necessary protective appliances and suitable housing therefor. The customer shall not connect to his gas facilities any piping, equipment, or apparatus in such a manner as could cause a reversal of gas flow in the Company's facilities.

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2. The customer shall be responsible for any loss or damage to the Company and its property, and shall indemnify the Company against any loss, liability, claim, injury, or damage to any person or property, occasioned or caused by the negligence, omission, or wrongful act of the customer or any of his agents, employees, licensees, or other persons in installing, maintaining, using, operating, repairing, or removing such gas piping, gas appliances, and other equipment or facilities of any kind which are situated beyond the point of delivery.

K. Ownership

1. All meters, regulators, service pipes, and other facilities installed at the Company's expense, or with contributions or customer advances, located either wholly or partially upon the customer's premises will at all times be and remain the property of the Company.
2. When a meter and/or service facilities are installed by mutual consent on private property other than the applicant's the applicant will first secure, without cost to the Company, an easement for such installation satisfactory to the Company.

L. Maintenance

1. The Company will exercise reasonable care to operate and maintain in a safe, efficient and proper condition all of its facilities used in connection with the regulation, measurement, and delivery of gas to any customer.

All such facilities may be repaired, replaced, removed or abandoned by the Company at any time as operating conditions necessitate. Normally such facilities will not be subject to removal or abandonment except when:

- a. Service to the customer is terminated.
- b. The customer fails to comply with the Company's rules or other provisions of its tariff schedules.
- c. Hazardous or unsafe conditions exist.

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2. The customer shall exercise reasonable care to prevent the meters, regulators, service pipes and other facilities of the Company, located on the customer's premises, from being damaged, or destroyed, and shall not tamper with them or permit debris, refuse or other obstacles to accumulate in and around the meter location so that access to the meter becomes difficult or unsafe. The customer shall not ground electrical appliances or otherwise make electrical connections to the Company's gas facilities. In case any defect in the Company's facilities is discovered, the customer shall promptly notify the Company thereof.
3. No rent or charge whatsoever will be paid by the Company for placing or maintaining said meters, regulators, service pipes, or other facilities upon the customer's premises.

M. Right of Access

The Company will at all times have the right of ingress to and egress from the customer's premises at all reasonable hours for any purpose reasonably connected with the furnishing or termination of gas service and the exercise of any and all rights secured to it by law or by these tariff schedules.

N. Exceptional Cases

In unusual circumstances, when the application of this rule appears impractical or unjust to either party, the Company, the applicant, or the customer will refer the matter to the Commission for special ruling or for the approval of special conditions which may be mutually agreed upon, prior to commencing construction.

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