



**State of South Dakota  
 Gas Rate Schedule – SDPUC Volume No. 2**

Section No. 5  
 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 1.1  
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**CUSTOMER** – Any individual, partnership, corporation, firm, other organization or government agency supplied with service by the Company at one location and at one point of delivery unless otherwise expressly provided in these rules or in a rate schedule.

**DELIVERY POINT** – The point at which customer assumes custody of the gas being transported. This point will normally be at the outlet of Company’s meter(s) located on customer’s premises.

**EXCESS FLOW VALVE** – Safety device designed to automatically stop or restrict the flow of gas if an underground pipe is broken or severed.

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**GAS DAY** – Means a period of twenty-four consecutive hours, beginning and ending at 9:00 A.M. Central Clock Time.

**HOUSEHOLD** – A family or a group of people who live together.

**INDEBTED HOUSEHOLD** – A group of people living together among whom there is one who is indebted to a gas utility for service provided previously to the residence for which service is now sought.

**INTERRUPTION** – A cessation of transportation or retail natural gas service deemed necessary by the Company.

**NOMINATION** – The daily dk volume of natural gas requested by customer for transportation and delivery to customer at the delivery point during a gas day.

**PIPELINE** – The transmission company(s) delivering natural gas into company’s system.

**RATE** – Shall mean and include every compensation, charge, fare, toll, rental and classification, or any of them, demanded, observed, charged or collected by the Company for any service, product, or commodity, offered by the Company to the public. This includes any rules, regulations, practices or contracts affecting any such compensation, charge, fare, toll, rental or classification.

**RECEIPT POINT** – The intertie between the Company and the interconnecting pipeline(s) at which point the Company assumes custody of the gas being transported.

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Montana-Dakota reserves the right to provide service to customers with lower priority while service to higher priority customers is being curtailed due to restrictions at a given delivery or receipt point. When such restrictions are eliminated, Montana-Dakota will reinstate sales and/or transportation of gas according to each customer's original priority.

11. EXCESS FLOW VALVE – In accordance with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations 49 CFR 192.383, the Company will install an excess flow valve on an existing service line at the customer's request at a mutually agreeable date. The actual cost of the installation will be assessed to the customer. N  
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12. LATE PAYMENT – Amounts billed will be considered past due if not paid by the due date shown on the bill. An amount equal to 1% per month will be applied to any past due amount, provided however, that such amount shall not apply where a bill is in dispute or a formal complaint is being processed. T

All payments received will apply to the customer's account prior to calculating the late payment charge. Those payments applied shall satisfy the oldest portion of the bill first.

13. RETURNED CHECK CHARGE – A charge of \$40.00 will be collected by the Company for each check charged back to the Company by a bank. T

14. TAX CLAUSE – In addition to the charges provided for in the gas tariffs of the Company, there shall be charged pro rata amounts which, on an annual basis, shall be sufficient to yield to the Company the full amount of any usage fees or any sales, use, franchise or excise taxes, whether they be denominated as license taxes, occupation taxes, business taxes, privilege taxes, or otherwise, levied against or imposed upon the Company by any municipality, political subdivision, or other entity, for the privilege of conducting its utility operations therein. T

The charges to be added to the customers' service bills under this clause shall be limited to the customers within the corporate limits of the municipality, political subdivision or other entity imposing the tax.

15. UTILITY CUSTOMER SERVICES: T

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- a. The following services will be performed at no charge regardless of the time of performance:
  - 1. Fire and explosion calls.
  - 2. Investigate hazardous conditions on customer premises, such as gas leaks, odor complaints, and combustion gas fumes.
  - 3. Maintenance or repair of Company-owned facilities on the customer's premises.
  - 4. Pilot relights necessary due to an interruption in gas service be deemed to be the Company's responsibility.
- b. The following service calls will be performed at no charge during the Company's normal business hours:
  - 1. Cut-ins and cut-outs.
  - 2. Investigating high bills or inadequate service complaints.
  - 3. Location of underground Company facilities for contractors, builders, plumbers, etc.

16. UTILITY SERVICES PERFORMED AFTER NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS –  
 For service requested by customers after the Company's normal business hours, a charge will be made for labor at standard overtime service rates and materials at retail prices. Customers requesting service after the Company's normal business hours will be informed of the after hour service rate and encouraged to have the service performed during normal business hours.

To ensure the Company can service the customer during normal business hours, the customer's call must be received by 12:00 p.m. on a regular work day for a disconnection or reconnection of service that same day. For calls received after 12:00 p.m. on a regular work day, customers will be advised that over time service rates will apply if service is required that day and the work cannot be completed during normal working hours. Service may be scheduled for a future workday to avoid overtime charges.

17. NOTICE TO DISCONTINUE GAS SERVICE – Customers desiring to have

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their gas service discontinued shall notify the Company during regular business hours, one business day before service is to be discontinued. Such notice shall be by letter or telephone call to the Company's Customer Service Center. Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays are not considered business days.

18. INSTALLING TEMPORARY METERING FACILITIES OR SERVICE – A customer requesting a temporary meter installation and service will be charged on the basis of direct costs incurred by the Company. T

19. RECONNECTION FEE FOR SEASONAL OR TEMPORARY CUSTOMERS – A customer who requests reconnection of service, during normal business hours at a location where same customer discontinued the same service during the preceding 12-month period will be charged as follows: T

**Residential**

The Basic Service Charge applicable during the period service was not being used and a charge of \$30.00. The minimum will be based on standard overtime rates for reconnecting service after normal business hours.

**Non-Residential -**

The Basic Service Charge applicable during the period while service was not being used. However the reconnection charge applicable to seasonal non-space heating business entities such as irrigation, swimming facilities, grain drying and asphalt processing shall be the Basic Service Charge applicable during the period while service was not being used less the Distribution Delivery Charge revenue collected during the period in-service for usage above the annual authorized usage by rate class (Small Firm General = 130 dk; Large Firm General = 1,250 dk; and Small Interruptible = 5,214 dk), and a charge of \$30.00 will apply to all reconnections occurring during normal business hours. The \$30.00 reconnection charge will be based on standard overtime rates for reconnection of service occurring after normal business hours.

Transportation customers who cease service and then resume service within the succeeding 12 months shall be subject to a reconnection charge of \$160.00 whenever reinstallation of the remote data acquisition equipment is necessary.

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20. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE FOR NONPAYMENT OF BILLS – All amounts billed for services are due when rendered and will be considered delinquent if not paid by the due date shown on the bill. If any customer shall become delinquent in the payment of amounts billed, such service may be discontinued by the Company under the applicable rules of the Commission.

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The Company may collect a fee of \$30.00 before restoring gas service which has been disconnected for nonpayment of service bills during normal business hours. Standard overtime rates will apply for services performed after normal business hours.

21. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE FOR CAUSES OTHER THAN NONPAYMENT OF BILLS – The Company reserves the right to discontinue service for any of the following reasons:

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- a. In the event of customer use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's equipment or service to others.
- b. In the event of tampering with the equipment furnished and owned by the Company.
- c. For violation of, or noncompliance with, the Company's rules on file with the Commission.
- d. For failure of the customer to fulfill the contractual obligations imposed as conditions of obtaining service.
- e. For refusal of reasonable access to property to the agent or employee of the Company for the purpose of inspecting the facilities or for testing, reading, maintaining or removing meters.

The right to discontinue service for any of the above reasons may be exercised whenever and as often as such reasons may occur, and any delay on the part of the Company in exercising such rights, or omission of any action permissible hereunder, shall not be deemed a waiver of its rights to exercise same.

Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to prevent discontinuing service without advance notice for reasons of safety, health, cooperation with

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civil authorities, or fraudulent use, tampering with or destroying the Company's facilities.

The Company may collect a reconnect fee of \$30.00 before restoring gas service which has been disconnected for the above causes.

22. UNAUTHORIZED USE OF SERVICE – Unauthorized use of service is defined as any deliberate interference such as tampering with the Company's meter, pressure regulator, registration, connections, equipment, seals, valve, procedures or records resulting in a loss of revenue to the Company. Unauthorized service is also defined as reconnection of service that has been terminated, without the Company's consent.

- a. Examples of unauthorized use of service includes, but is not limited to, tampering or unauthorized reconnection by the following methods:
  - 1. Bypass piping around meter.
  - 2. Bypass piping installed in place of meter.
  - 3. Meter reversed.
  - 4. Meter index disengaged or removed.
  - 5. Service or equipment tampered with or piping connected ahead of meter.
  - 6. Tampering with meter or pressure regulator that affects the accurate registration of gas usage.
  - 7. Gas being used after service has been discontinued by the Company.
  - 8. Gas being used after service has been discontinued by the Company as a result of a new customer turning gas on without the proper connect request.
  
- b. Any charges for damage to Company property will be billed to the customer. The customer may also be charged for:
  - 1. Time, material and transportation costs used in investigation or surveillance.
  - 2. Estimated charge for non-metered gas.
  - 3. On-premise time to correct situation.
  - 4. A minimum fee of \$30.00 will apply.

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All such charges shall be at current standard or customary amounts being charged for similar services, equipment, facilities and labor by the Company.

- c. Reconnection of Service:  
 Gas service disconnected for any of the above reasons shall be reconnected after a customer has furnished satisfactory evidence of compliance with the Company's rules and conditions of service, and paid any service charges which are due, including:
  1. All delinquent bills, if any.
  2. The amount of any Company revenue loss attributable to said tampering.
  3. Expenses incurred by the Company in replacing or repairing the meter or other appliance costs incurred in preparation of the bill, plus costs as outlined in paragraph 20.b.above;
  4. Reconnection fee applicable.
  5. A cash deposit, the amount of which will not exceed the maximum amount determined in accordance with §V, paragraph 6 CONSUMER DEPOSITS.

23. GAS METER TEST BY CUSTOMER REQUEST - Any customer may request the Company to test its gas meter. The Company shall make the test as soon as possible after receipt of the request. If a request is made within one year after a previous request, the Company may require a deposit as follows:

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<u>Meter Rating</u>	<u>Deposit Amount</u>
<u>Residential</u>	
All	\$10.00
<u>Non-Residential</u>	
425 CFH* or less	\$40.00
426 CFH to 1000 CFH	\$40.00
Over 1000 CFH	\$70.00
* Cubic feet per hour	

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The deposit shall be refunded only if the meter is found to have an unacceptable error, as defined in the Commission's regulations. In the case where a meter is replaced due to malfunction, a customer will be allowed one additional free meter test within 12 months, if requested by the customer.

24. BILL DISCOUNT FOR QUALIFYING EMPLOYEES - A bill discount may be available for residential use only in a single family unit served by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. to qualifying employees and retirees of MDU Resources and its subsidiaries. The bill shall be computed at the applicable rate, and the amount reduced by 33 1/3%. T

25. SEE ALSO THE FOLLOWING RATES FOR SPECIAL PROVISIONS: T

- Rate 119 - Interruptible Gas Service Extension Policy
- Rate 120 - Firm Gas Service Extension Policy
- Rate 124 - New Installation, Replacement, Relocation and Repair of Gas Service Lines
- Rate 134 - Rules and Policies for Implementing Master Metering Restrictions

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**

		Amount or Reference
1.	Service Charges	
	a. Consumer deposit	Rate 100 §V.6.
	b. Return check	\$40.00
	c. Minimum reconnect charge after termination for nonpayment or other causes	
	- During normal business hours	\$30.00
	- After normal business hours	standard overtime rates
	d. Minimum reconnect charge applicable to seasonal or temporary customers	

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