Section 4.04 METER TESTING AND METER FAILURE

The Company will maintain and test its metering equipment in accordance with the Rules of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. If a Meter tested by the Commission or the Company is found to have an average error of two percent fast or more, the Company shall refund to the Customer the overcharge. If a Meter tested by the Commission or the Company is found to have an average error of two percent slow or more, the Company may charge for the electricity consumed but not included in previously rendered bills. The average error of a Meter shall be defined as one-fifth the algebraic sum of: **T**

(1) One times the error at a light load; and
(2) Four times the error at a heavy load

A refund or charge shall be calculated as accurately as possible from the date of the Meter error. However, for a Residential Customer, a charge for a slow Meter may not exceed one year. If the error date cannot be fixed with reasonable certainty, a refund or a charge is limited to one year consisting of the 12 months prior to the date the error is discovered. **T**

Only the Customer served by the Meter at the time of testing is eligible for a refund. **T**

The Customer shall be advised of metering equipment failure, and of the basis for the estimated bill.

In accordance with South Dakota Administrative Rule 20:10:17:08 and this Section, if a Meter is found not to register or to register intermittently for any period, the Company may charge for an estimated amount of electricity used. The estimate shall be calculated by averaging the Energy usage registered over corresponding periods in previous years. In the absence of such information, similar periods of known accurate measurement preceding or subsequent to the period in question shall be used. For a Residential Customer, the charge may not exceed one year. **T**

The Customer may request the Company to test the Meter. If the request to test a Meter is made within one year of a previous test, a charge will be added to the Customer's bill if the metering equipment tests accurate (Meter error is plus or minus less than two percent). The charges will be as follows:

Single-Phase or Residential Customer Meter	$10.00
Single-Phase Demand or Self-contained Three-phase Meter	$20.00
All Other Three-phase Meters	$30.00