Rule No. 03
APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

A. Application

An application for service is required. At the option of the Utility, a verbal request for service may be accepted. However, each applicant for service may be required to sign an application on a form provided by the Utility. The application information may vary depending upon the type of service requested by the applicant. Applicants desiring special rates and/or services may be required to complete additional forms and/or contracts in accordance with the Utility's applicable tariffs.

The application is a request for service and it does not bind the Utility to serve except under its filed tariffs and under reasonable conditions. The application does not bind the applicant to take service for a longer period than the minimum requirements of the Utility's tariffs. These tariffs constitute the terms and conditions of the agreement between the Utility and the customer for service rendered, unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

The Utility may refuse or discontinue gas service if the acts of the applicant indicate an intent to evade the credit practices of the Utility or if the conditions on the applicant's premises indicate an intent to evade payment of a Utility bill. If an applicant knowingly furnishes false, incomplete, misleading or inaccurate information or refuses to provide required information to the Utility, it shall be deemed to be an intent to evade the credit practices of the Utility. Upon written request of the applicant, the Utility shall provide a written statement of the reason for such refusal or discontinuance.

B. Information Required on Application

In addition to the information the Utility may require from applicants in order to establish credit in accordance with Rule No. 6, and to establish the identity of the applicant, all applicants shall provide such other information as the Utility may reasonably require for service. This information includes, but is not limited to:

1. Legal name of the applicant(s.)
2. Name of the applicant's spouse or other adults residing at the premises.
3. Service address.
4. Billing address.
5. Date applicant will be ready for service.
6. Purpose for which service is to be used with description of appliances.
7. Whether gas service has previously been supplied to the premises.
8. Whether applicant is the owner, agent or tenant of the premises.
9. Rate schedule desired (if optional schedules are available).
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B. Information Required on Application

The applicant may also be required to provide information necessary to the design, installation, maintenance and operation of the Utility's facilities, including the connected load, the number of residential dwelling units/spaces, the size or character of the appliances or apparatus to be installed, and other information required by the Utility's applicable tariffs. Further, prior to and while taking service, for every service, applicant must meet the Utility's creditworthiness requirements. In addition, a service establishment charge may be required when service is established or re-established.

C. Changes in Load or Operation

It is the customer's responsibility to notify the Utility in writing within 15 days if the customer makes any change in the connected load, in the number of residential dwelling units/spaces, or in the size or character of the appliances or apparatus. Such change(s) may require a new application for service and/or a change in the Utility's service facilities, and may result in the customer being transferred to a different tariff schedule.

D. Joint and Several Liability for Service/Beneficial Use

Where two or more applicants join in one application or contract for Utility service, they shall be jointly and severally liable under the terms of the application/contract and shall be billed by means of a single periodic bill mailed to the customer designated to receive the bill.

Whether or not the Utility obtained a joint application or contract for residential service, where there is evidence that an adult(s) other than the applicant resided at the premises and benefited from Utility service, the other adult(s) and the applicant shall be jointly and severally liable for service rendered while such other adults resided at the premises.

E. Refusal to Provide Service or Discontinuance of Service

The Utility may refuse to provide service or may disconnect service and/or may rebill the account when:

1. The information provided to the Utility in applying for service is false, incomplete, misleading or inaccurate; or

2. The applicant has applied for service under a fictitious name or under the name of another to avoid payment of any Utility bill for service provided at the current premises or any previous premises or that the applicant has requested service in his/her legal name to assist another in avoiding payment of any Utility bill for service provided at the current account location or any previous account location; or

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E. Refusal to Provide Service or Discontinuance of Service (Continued)

3. The applicant and/or other adults residing with the applicant have received the benefit of service without paying for it and are attempting to change the name on the account to avoid payment of any Utility bill for service provided at the current account location or any previous account location; or

4. The Utility is unable to arrange with the applicant or customer for a safe working environment for Utility employees on the premises being served.

In the event of a rebill, the Utility shall provide the customer with the reason for such rebill.

F. Request for Medical Baseline Allowance by Residential Customer

The Utility may require a residential customer, or prospective residential customer, to complete a Medical Baseline Allowance or Use of Natural Gas Medical Equipment for Life Support application, Form 4859-E, if appropriate, before additional medical baseline quantities can be determined. The additional medical baseline allowance will become effective for service rendered after the next regular meter reading following receipt of the Form by the Utility.