Received: 06/30/2003 Status: CANCELLED Effective Date: 08/01/2003

PSC NO: 219 GAS LEAF: 72
NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION REVISION: 0
INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/01/03 SUPERSEDING REVISION:

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## 15. BILLING AND COLLECTION: (continued)

- 15.1.3 The date bills are rendered is the date bills are 1) personally served; or 2) three calendar days after the mailing of the bill; or 3) the date posted, if electronically provided.
- 15.1.4 Customers receiving bills produced and issued by the Company's Customer Service System (CSS) may elect to receive and pay their bill electronically under the Company's Online Bill-Pay program. Under the Online Bill-Pay program, a bill shall be deemed rendered in accordance with Rule 15.1.3.
- Bills are due when rendered, in accordance with Rule 15.1.3. A customer is in default unless payment is made at or is mailed to a designated office or bill paying agency of the Company on or before the date specified on the bill. Payment under the Online Bill-Pay program shall be considered paid the date a customer submits a payment online unless the payment is made on a weekend, holiday or after 3:00 p.m., in which case the payment will be considered paid on the next business day. The date specified on the bill shall be at least twenty (20) calendar days subsequent to the date the bill is rendered. If payment is not made on or before the date specified on the bill, a late payment charge at the rate of one and one-half percent (1 ½%) per monthly billing period will be applied to all amounts previously billed under this tariff, except for state agencies, including arrears and unpaid late payment charges applied to previous bills. Payment must be made without regard to any counterclaims relating to matters other than for service rendered and failure to receive a bill does not relieve responsibility for payments of amounts due.
  - 15.2.1 Service to state agencies will be rendered in accordance with the provisions of Article XI-A of the State Finance Law (Chapter 153 of the Laws of 1984, effective July 1, 1984).
  - 15.2.2 The continuing late payment charge shall not be imposed on any bill that is the subject of a pending complaint before the Company or the Public Service Commission, provided, however, that a late payment charge may be imposed on the balance due where the final resolution of the complaint directs payment of the entire disputed amounts to the Company, and provided further that no such charges may be imposed for more than two months of the duration of the complaint unless authorized by the Commission or its designee.
    - 15.2.2.1 Late payment charges will be charged when the amount billed for non-residential service used that was previously unbilled because the service was being provided through tampered equipment and the Company can demonstrate either that the condition began since the customer initiated service or that the customer actually knew or reasonably should have known the original billing was incorrect.

Issued By: William F. Edwards, President, Syracuse, New York