

CENTRAL HUDSON GAS & ELECTRIC CORPORATION
284 SOUTH AVENUE
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601

April 7, 2004

Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Re: Automated Meter Recording Equipment for Interruptible Services

Dear Commissioners:

Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation ("Central Hudson" or the "Company") hereby files proposed tariff changes to address the need for automated meter recording equipment requirements under Service Classification Nos. 8, 9, and 11. Central Hudson is issuing the attached proposed tariff leaves on April 7, 2004 to become effective on July 12, 2004.

P.S.C. No. 12 - Gas

Original Leaf No. 166.1
Original Leaf No. 170.1
2nd Revised Leaf No. 184

The purpose of this filing is to incorporate automated meter recording equipment requirements under Service Classification No. 8 - Interruptible Gas Sales and Service Classification No. 9 - Interruptible Transportation Service and to modify the current automated meter recording equipment requirements under Service Classification No. 11 - Firm Transportation - Core.

Service Classification Nos. 8 and 9

Central Hudson is incurring substantial labor costs during gas service curtailments because the meters for all interruptible gas customers without automated meter recording equipment must be read manually both before and after service curtailments. Central Hudson has 75 customers taking service under Service Classification Nos. 8 and 9 and only 20 of those customers have automated meter recording equipment. During the past heating season it was necessary to invoke three system curtailments resulting in 330 additional manual meter readings.

While the Company would favor requiring all customers currently operating under Service Classification Nos. 8 and 9 to install automated meter recording equipment, we understand this is not possible. However, the Company believes

that it is a reasonable request, that as a requirement for service, new installations be required to have automated meter recording equipment installed by the Company at the customer's expense.

Service Classification No. 11

Currently the Company's tariff provisions maintain that customers operating under Service Classification No. 11 must have installed automated meter recording equipment. This requirement is also addressed in the Service Classification No.11 - Form of Transportation Service Agreement, contained in the Company's tariff. However, the provision included in the service class tariff states that the costs for such equipment will be paid for through the monthly customer charge, while the provision included in the Service Agreement states that the equipment will be installed by the Company at the Customer's expense. The Company believes that the language in the Service Agreement is accurate and the language contained in the service class tariff needs to be amended. The cost of the automated meter recording equipment is an expense to be prepaid by the customer before service may commence. Therefore, the Company is requesting permission to correct the service class tariff language to make it consistent with the Service Classification No. 11 - Service Agreement. In addition, the correction will make the Service Classification No. 11 tariff provision consistent with the requirements the Company has requested in this filing for Service Classification Nos. 8 and 9 and the established meter requirement provisions contained in Service Classification Nos. 14 and 15.

Because the proposed metering requirements will not impact customers currently taking service from the Company, the Company requests the requirements of 66((12)b) of the Public Service Law as to newspaper publication be waived. Questions related to this filing should be directed to Patricia M. Buck at (845) 486-5244.

Yours very truly,
Arthur R. Upright

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