

GENERAL SERVICE PROVISIONS (Cont'd)

3. DEPOSITS TO GUARANTEE PAYMENT OF BILLS

- a. Before receiving gas service, a Customer shall establish or reestablish as the case may be, his credit to the satisfaction of the Company in accordance with the rules of the Commission and shall discharge, either by payment or agreement, any prior indebtedness to the Company for gas service. When credit is not otherwise established or maintained, the Customer shall deposit with the Company a cash sum which shall be no less than \$5.00 nor more than two-twelfths of the estimated charge for the ensuing twelve months for residential service, nor more than the maximum estimated charge for two consecutive months for nonresidential service. If the actual billing is substantially different from the estimated charge for service, then the amount of the deposit may be adjusted to the applicable portion of the actual billing.

If a customer has not paid any bill within 80 days of the bill rendition date, the Company may elect to assess a security deposit, or to increase an existing deposit up to the highest two bills in the preceding 12 months.

- b. Residential customers who are sixty (60) years of age or older shall be exempt from any cash deposit requirement provided:
- (1)The Customer presents satisfactory proof of age; and
 - (2)The Customer is the primary user, i.e., the service account is in his or her name and is to be responsible for the bill; and
 - (3)The Customer is not then delinquent in the payment of his bills.
- c. The deposit will bear simple interest at the rate prescribed by the Commission on an annual basis as applicable throughout the period that it is retained by the Company and service is rendered to the Customer.
- d. Deposits plus accrued interest will be credited to a customer's account as follows:
- (1)To all other residential customers after twelve months during which the Customer (a) has not had service discontinued for nonpayment of bill, (b) has not had more than two occasions in which a bill was not paid within twenty days after date of rendition, and (c) is not then delinquent in the payment of his bills.
 - (2)Upon termination of service, after deducting all sums due the Company.
 - (3)At any other time, at the option of the Company.