

Rule No. 9

RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

A. Rendering of Bills

Bills for service will be rendered each customer on a monthly or bimonthly basis at the option of the utility, unless otherwise provided in the rate schedules.

1. Metered Service

- a. Meters will be read at regular intervals for the preparations of periodic bills and as required for the preparation of opening bills, closing bills, and special bills.
- b. The opening bill for metered service will not be less than the established monthly minimum or readiness-to-serve charge for the service. Any amount paid in excess of the prorated charges otherwise applicable to the opening period will be credited against the charge for the succeeding regular billing period, except that no such credit shall accrue if the total period of service is less than one month.
- c. It may not always be practicable to read meters at intervals which will result in billing periods of equal number of days.
 - (1) Should a monthly billing period contain less than 27 days or more than 33 days a pro rata correction in the amount of the bill will be made.
 - (2) The charge for metered service for a bimonthly period will be computed by doubling the monthly minimum or readiness-to-serve charge and the number of cubic feet to which each block rate is applicable on a monthly basis.
 - (3) For billing periods other than monthly or bimonthly, adjustments will be made proportionate to that for a monthly billing period.
- d. Bills for metered service will show at least the reading of the meter at the end of the period for which the bill is rendered, the meter constant, if any, the number and kinds of units, and date of the current meter reading.
- e. Each meter on a customer's premises will be considered separately and the readings of two or more meters will not be combined except where combination of meter readings is specifically provided for in the applicable rate schedule, or where the utility's operating convenience or necessity may require the use of more than one meter or a battery of meters. In the latter case, the monthly minimum or readiness-to-serve charge will be prorated from the monthly minimum or readiness-to-serve charges of the applicable rate schedule upon the basis of a meter size, equivalent in diameter to the total combined discharge areas of such meters.

2. Flat Rate Service

- a. Bills for flat rate service are payable in advance.

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

(To be inserted by Cal. P.U.C.)

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Karen L. Ball

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NAME
Manager

Effective JUL 14 1997

TITLE

Resolution No. W 4035

**Rule No. 9
(continued)**

RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

(1) Metered Service

The amount of the minimum charge (and the quantity allowed therefore) or the readiness-to-serve charge and the quantity in each of the several quantity rate blocks will be prorated on the basis of the ratio of the number of days in the period to the number of days in an average billing period. The measured quantity of usage will be applied to such prorated amounts and quantities.

(2) Flat Rate Service

The billing period charge will be prorated on the basis of the ratio of the number of days in the period to the number of days in an average billing period.

(3) Average Billing Period

The number of days in an average billing period is defined as 365 divided by the number of billing periods in a year. (It is 30.4 days for a monthly billing period.)

B. Payment of Bills

Bills for service are due and payable upon presentation and payment may be made at any commercial office of the utility or to any representative of the utility authorized to make collections. Collection of closing bills may be made at the time of presentation.

1. The utility may charge \$20.00 for any bad check or electronic fund transfer not honored. (N)

2. Credit Card, Debit Card Payment Options (N)

At the option of the customer, a credit card or debit card may be used to pay monthly bills, for a convenience fee set forth by the third party credit card vendor. This proposed payment option should reduce the number of late payment fees and customer water shutoff due to non-payment, as well as promote customer service by providing another payment option requested by the customer base. (N)

(To be inserted by utility)

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Assistant Manager

(To be inserted by P.U.C.)

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