
SERVICE AREA: MINNESOTA

2. CLASSES OF SERVICE AND RATES AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMERS

2.1 CLASSIFICATION OF CUSTOMERS

Customers shall be classified according to their utilization of electric service. Such classification shall conform to the availability provisions contained in the Company's rate schedules. These available customer service and rate schedule classifications shall, in general, be as follows:

- Residential
- General Service
- Large Power & Lighting
- Farm

Standard retail electric rate schedules are based on exclusive use of the Company's service, and none of the Company's rate schedules, applied to service rendered under the conditions as stated herein, are available for emergency, standby, or supplementary service except as may be provided by appropriate contract and rate sheet riders. Under no conditions will service be available for resale by the Customer. Service will only be offered to the ultimate consumer, except as otherwise permitted herein where such consumer is the occupant of a rental area where service is furnished as an undefined part of the fixed rental.


A. RESIDENTIAL SERVICE

A residential Customer for both urban and rural areas is defined to include each separate house, apartment, flat, trailer, or other living quarters, including facilities for meal preparation and sleeping occupied by a person or persons constituting a distinct household and using energy for general illumination, heating, and for operating household appliances. Residential use may be extended to include the use of electric energy in private buildings which are adjacent to, or connected with, the residential building, and used exclusively by the occupants of the residence being served, but not when such adjacent or connected building is being used as a residency by another family unit or being used for commercial purposes; provided that garage space, not in excess of that usually permitted by City Zoning Ordinances for single family zones, may be included even through such garage space may at times be rented to others. Any rooming house or dormitory with less than 10 rooms used as individual sleeping quarters may be classified as a residential Customer. (See Section 2.1 B 2 (b) regarding exclusion for nursing and retirement homes.) (See Section 6.11-5 for Arc Welder use by residential Customers.)

1. Electric service for residential Customers will be provided on the standard residential rate schedules at a secondary voltage, provided that any motor in excess of five horsepower shall not be served on a residential service rate unless such installation has received prior approval of the Company.

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2. An apartment unit, which for purposes herein shall be defined as one of two or more complete and individual living units contained in a single structure, will be provided service under either of the following bases:

SEPARATE METERING

Each apartment will be metered separately. The applicable standard residential rate shall apply for each apartment. If a total electric apartment is one of four or more in a total electric (including heating, cooling and water heating if installed) building, the total electric multiple dwelling rate may be substituted for the residential rate. In either case, the applicable general service rate will apply in the general use areas of the apartment premises for hall lighting, laundry facilities, garages, etc. which are available for the direct benefit and general use of the tenants and for the care and operations of the apartment complex.

COMBINED METERING

If electric service used within each apartment is furnished to the tenants as an undefined part of the fixed rental, such service will be combined through one single meter on the regular residential rate; or if four or more apartments are part of a total electric building as set forth above, the total electric multiple dwelling rate. The service for general use areas, as above, will be through a separate meter and served on the applicable general service rate.

Total electric apartment buildings may be served through one meter, including general use areas, on the regular residential rate. For all service referred to in this paragraph that is billed on the residential or total electric multiple dwelling rates, the number of kilowatt-hours in each block of the rate will be multiplied by the number of apartments contained in the structure. The minimum bill for the applicable rate will also be multiplied by that same number of apartments. A general service rate will not be applicable to apartment buildings where all service, including residential service, is supplied through a single meter except for those connections receiving all service on such rate prior to July 1, 1974.

3. Residential water heating service is available through a separate meter to a water heater in a residence, apartment, group of apartments or central water heating system, and will be billed on the Company's applicable water heating rate, provided that the water heaters are in compliance with the provisions stated in water heating rate schedules. Water heating service may also be taken through a residential service meter on standard residential rates or total electric multiple dwelling rates.

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B. GENERAL SERVICE

A general service Customer is defined to include each separate business enterprise or institution taking service through a single meter and occupying for its exclusive use any unit or units of space as an entire building, entire floor, suite of rooms, or a single room.

1. In multiple occupancy commercial buildings service will be provided under either of the following bases:

- a. Each tenant will be metered and billed individually by the Company. All service used for general building use will also be metered and billed separately.
- b. Service may be secured by an owner or single lessee of a building for use of tenants as an undefined part of the fixed rental and for general building operation through a single meter.

Service will be billed on the applicable general service rate and the number of kWh in each block, including the minimum kWh stated in a variable size block of any rate, will be multiplied by the number of units of space available for occupancy by a separate business enterprise, including the building owner or lessee. The minimum monthly bill will also be multiplied by such number of units, except when connected load related minimum bills are applicable and are larger.

2. The following shall be considered as a commercial institution and the appropriate general service or large light and power rate shall apply:


- a. Any rooming house or dormitory with ten or more rooms used as individual sleeping quarters.
- b. As an option to individual or multiple blocked metering on the residential rate: any nursing or retirement home which includes separate living quarters (as defined in §2.1 A) and which are included in a common structure in which central kitchen, dining and other common use facilities are available and remain as a part of the services rendered to the occupant of such separate living quarters.

C. LARGE POWER AND LIGHTING SERVICE

A large power and lighting Customer is defined to include those Customers (generally commercial, industrial or institutional) who receive service under the Company's Large Power and Lighting Rate Schedules. No energy used either wholly or in part for residential purposes shall be sold under this rate classification, except as provided in the following:

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1. Section 2.1 B 2 (b), and
2. Where the owner and/or operator of a business enterprise occupies a single residential unit in a common building with such commercial enterprise. On all new construction after January 1, 1975 the residential unit must be wired in such a manner as to readily permit separate metering of the residential unit in the event the owner/operator-resident relationship changes from that permitted above. In such event wiring modifications for separate metering shall be at Customer's expense.

Service may be rendered to large power and lighting classification Customer's at secondary or primary voltage depending upon the capacity and voltage required and the voltage and capacity available, and under the conditions stated in the applicable rate schedules. Metering will be at the option of the Company, service conditions warrant multiple primary points of service or the supply of more than one secondary voltage. The Company reserves the right to supply secondary service, where conditions do not warrant rendering service at primary voltage. A Customer may be required to own the transformers necessary to supply his load, and take service at primary voltage, if Customer's load is a highly fluctuating load, on either a short time basis, or over an annual period, or when Customer's load is spread out over such a large area that service from one delivery point cannot be distributed a secondary voltage, thus making it necessary for Customer to take and distribute the service at primary voltage to various distribution load centers.

D. RURAL SERVICE


For definitions of the Company's "Rural Service Area"; "Rural Farm" and "Rural General Service" classifications, and for additional definition of "Residential" Customers in rural areas, refer to Section 9 of these service standards. All service standard provisions contained herein shall apply where applicable to Customers served in rural areas. However, where a conflict exists between provision stated in the "Rural Service Standards" section hereof and elsewhere in these standards the provisions as stated in the rural section shall apply.

2.2 CUSTOMER'S CHOICE OF RATES

If two or more rate schedules for the same class of service are or become available according to the availability provisions of the rate schedule, the Customer shall have a choice of rates; however, not more than one change in rate schedule will be made within any twelve month period for any Customer.

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2.3 ASSISTING CUSTOMERS IN RATE SELECTION

While the Company will endeavor to assist the Customer in the choice of the most advantageous rate schedule, either for initial service or subsequent thereto, it does not guarantee that the Customer will at all times be served under the most favorable rate; nor will the Company make refunds representing the difference in charges between the rate for which service was actually billed and another rate which is or may subsequently become available.

2.4 RATES AND PROVISIONS OF SERVICE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The rates, terms and conditions of all service rendered by the Company, including those covered by written agreements, shall be subject to change by order or approval of the Commission or any other duly authorized regulatory body having jurisdiction. Any changes in rate schedule shall apply to all Customers served on such schedule. For those Customers served under written agreement, the revised rate schedule shall become effective for the remainder of the contract term.

2.5 ELIGIBILITY FOR SINGLE METER SERVICE

For clarification in rate applications of "General Service" and "Large Power and Lighting" service, where a question exists on qualification for single meter service, the following shall determine when all service may be measured through a single meter.

For the purposes of this section, a single business establishment is defined as a business enterprise conducting a single and distinct activity (commercial or industrial) which is conducted under single ownership and located on a single parcel of land. Subject to the "Availability Qualifications" set forth below, this definition will be expanded to include the following:


1. Such a business enterprise occupying more than one parcel of land but all of which are contiguous.
2. More than one such business enterprise all of which are both owned and operated for profit by the same individual person (or other single legal entity) and are located on contiguous parcels of land.
3. Availability Qualifications:

A Customer qualifying under 1 or 2 above will be entitled to a single metered service in the same manner as any single business establishment provided each of the following additional qualifications are met:

- a. The Customer extends or installs all interconnecting electric facilities from a single common delivery point to serve every building or outdoor load center requiring electric service.

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- b. All such buildings or outdoor load centers are actually a part of the Customer's business enterprise(s);
- c. If all such buildings are located on property that is actually contiguous except for intervening streets or alleys, the Customer must receive permission from controlling governmental authorities to extend and construct electric facilities over, under, and/or across said public streets or alleys;
- d. Each separate building, or any part or parts of a common building structure, used by separate business enterprises, which, pursuant to this section, are collectively served from a single metered installation as a single business establishment, shall be so wired as to serve all electrical loads within each such building space occupied by a separate business enterprise by a single branch feeder circuit that can readily be converted to a separately metered service in the event that a separate business enterprise should subsequently be sold, leased or rented for operation by a different person (or legal entity). In such event, all wiring modifications required for separately metered service shall be made by either the existing or prospective Customer at his expense and in no event will such expense be the responsibility of the Company. Resale of energy or inclusion of electric energy as part of the rental charge will not be permitted in the event of a subsequent change in management of such a business enterprise due to a sale, lease or rental of any portion of the premises previously so served from a single metered service as part of a single business establishment.


2.6 SEASONAL SERVICE

In lieu of monthly minimum bills normally applicable under provisions of general service rate schedules, an annual minimum bill will be available to all general service classification Customers whose normal business operations are seasonal, but otherwise of a permanent nature. Such business shall include grain elevators, canning factories, pea viners, sugar beet dumps, drive-in theaters, irrigation pumps, golf courses and other similar establishments. For the purpose of this section only, the term "seasonal service" shall be defined as service confined to six consecutive months or less of normal operation per year. Any portion of a Customer's load that required non-seasonal service (more than 6 months) must be served on a separate meter on the rate applicable to the load served. The minimum annual charge shall be \$14.40 per year per horsepower (or per kW for non-horsepower rated loads) or fraction thereof, of total connected load. Energy shall be billed for in the month in which it is used. If the sum of the billings for any calendar year is less than the annual minimum, the billing for the difference shall be made at the end of the calendar year or at the end of the Customer's normal season of operations. Customers who take service for more than six months in any single calendar year shall be billed the same as regular (non-seasonal) Customers.

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2.7 TEMPORARY SERVICE


Where, in the opinion of the Company, circumstances indicate that service to a customer may be temporary in nature or, because of large investment in extending facilities, assurance of continued service is necessary to warrant such extensions, the Customer may be required to pay in advance to the Company a prepaid temporary service connection charge before connection of service. Such charge shall include the cost of equipment installed and its cost of removal, less the salvage value of materials removed, together with other possible charges and credits. If such service extension is used by the Customer for twenty-four consecutive billing months, Company will refund forty percent of the advanced deposit made for said service connection at the end of said twenty-four months of service. If service is continued beyond the initial twenty-four month period, the balance of the advanced deposit will be refunded monthly as a credit on monthly bills in the amount of 1/60th of such advanced deposit (1/36th of the unrefunded balance at the end of twenty-four months). In no event shall the total refund exceed the amount paid as a temporary service connection charge. If service is discontinued at any time during the first 60 months of service all or any portion of the deposit not refunded to the Customer under the above conditions will be retained by the Company.

Temporary extensions for service to construction projects, where such extension does not involve setting a pole or installing a transformer, shall be made on the basis of a uniform service connection charge as determined from time to time, based on the normal average extra cost of furnishing temporary service for typical types of such extensions. Only the "temporary" portion of the extension shall be included in this connection charge. Temporary installations requiring the setting of poles and/or transformers will be billed individually based on the actual cost of furnishing such temporary service.

The Company reserves the right to require any Customer applying for temporary service to make a security deposit, in addition to payment of the service connection charge, to guarantee payment of service bills in an amount equal to the estimated bill or bills for service during the period of temporary service.

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