

METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

A. Tests

1. Prior to Installation

Every meter will be tested prior to being installed and no meter will be placed in service if it registers less than 95% of the water passed through it at the minimum test flow or over or under registers more than 1½% in the normal test flow limits; with the exception that a repaired meter that was manufactured prior to January 1, 1947 shall register not less than 85% of the water passed through it and a repaired meter that was manufactured on or after January 1, 1947 shall register not less than 90% of the water passed through it at the minimum test flow and repaired meters shall not over or under register more than 2% in the normal test flow limits.

2. On Customer Request

a. A customer may, on not less than one week's notice, require the utility to proceed to test the meter serving his premises.

b. No charge will be made for such a test, except where a customer requests a test within six months after installation of the meter or more often than once a year, in which cases he will be required to deposit with the utility the following amount to cover the cost of the test:

<u>Size of Meter</u>	<u>Amount of Deposit</u>
One inch or smaller	\$2.00
Larger than one inch	\$3.50

c. Test Procedure. Every meter tested at the request of a customer shall be tested in the condition as found in the customer's service prior to any alteration or adjustment in order to determine the average meter error. This test shall consist of testing at the three rates of flow as determined in paragraph 3c, of G. O. No. 103, and in addition, at twice the minimum test flow. The average error shall be considered to be the algebraic average of the errors of the three highest test flows.

d. A customer shall have the right to require the utility to conduct the test in his presence or in the presence of his representative. Where the utility has no proper meter testing facilities available locally, the meter may be tested by an outside meter manufacturer or its agency, or by any other reliable organization equipped for water meter testing or by the utility's meter testing plant where located in some other community.

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(To be inserted by utility)

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Rule No. ~~17~~ 18

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(Continued)

in which latter case the customer may demand a duly notarized statement certifying as to the method used in making the test and as to the accuracy thereof.

e. A report showing the results of the test will be furnished to the customer within 15 days after completion of the test.

f. Any deposit made under paragraph b, above, will be returned to the customer if the average meter error is found to be more than 2% fast. The customer will be notified not less than five days in advance of the time and place of the test.

B. Adjustment of Bills for Meter Error

1. Fast Meters

When, upon test, a meter is found to be registering more than 2% fast, the utility will refund to the customer the amount of the overcharge based on corrected meter readings for the period the meter was in use but not exceeding six months.

2. Slow Meters

a. Commercial Service. When, upon test, a meter used for commercial (residential and business) service is found to be registering more than 25% slow, the utility may bill the customer for the amount of the undercharge based upon corrected meter readings for the period the meter was in service but not to exceed a period of three months.

b. Other than Commercial Service. When, upon test, a meter used for other than commercial service, is found to be registering more than 5% slow, the utility may bill the customer for the amount of the undercharge based upon corrected meter readings for the period the meter was in service but not to exceed a period of three months.

3. Nonregistering Meters. The utility may bill the customer for water consumed while the meter was nonregistering but for a period not exceeding three months at the minimum monthly water rate, or upon an estimate of the consumption based upon the customer's prior use during the same season of the year if conditions were unchanged, or upon an estimate based upon a reasonable comparison with the use of other customers during the same period, receiving the same class of service under similar circumstances and conditions.

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(Continued)

4. General

When it is found that the error in a meter is due to some cause, the date of which can be fixed, the overcharge or the undercharge will be computed back to but not beyond such date.

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