

5.00 GAS SERVICE LINES

5.01 Gas Service Line Design

CenterPoint Energy will determine the location, size, kind, and type of all gas service lines, the method and manner of installation, and their connection with the gas main and the customer's gas piping.

5.02 Ownership

All gas service lines are the property of CenterPoint Energy.

5.03 Regular Use of Gas

The building to which the gas service pipe is installed must be permanent in nature and not a temporary or portable building. CenterPoint Energy holds the sole right to determine whether a facility meets the stated qualifications before providing gas service. In making this determination, CenterPoint Energy may consider the use for which the building is intended, the type of construction, the location of the building, the size of the building, the absence or presence of other utility services to the building, including water and sanitary sewer service and any other criteria it deems relevant.

5.04 Gas Service Line Installations

Gas service lines shall be constructed or installed only by CenterPoint Energy or its authorized agents. No building, structure or slab shall be constructed over a gas service line without CenterPoint Energy's prior written consent. CenterPoint Energy has the right to recover the costs of relocating services if the customer has impaired CenterPoint Energy's access to the service line.

5.04 Gas Service Line Installations (Continued)

A gas service line will not be installed through one person's private property in order to serve a premise located beyond unless CenterPoint Energy deems it necessary and desirable to do so and all necessary easements are obtained without cost to CenterPoint Energy. Gas service lines will not be extended beyond the outlet side of the gas meter.

CenterPoint Energy will not install more than one gas service line to the same premise unless CenterPoint Energy finds that an additional gas service line is the most practical way to serve the applicant for gas service or an applicant requests an additional gas service line, and in the opinion of CenterPoint Energy, an unreasonable burden would be placed on the applicant if an additional gas service line were denied. When an additional gas service line is installed at the applicant's request, the applicant may be required to pay the cost incurred by CenterPoint Energy in making the installation. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.) Gas provided by each gas service line shall be billed as a separate account.

When the gas service line is installed between November 1 and April 1, inclusive, because the requirements set forth by CenterPoint Energy to complete installation during normal construction were not met or because the customer's property, or the streets leading thereto, are not ready to receive the service pipe, such work may be subject to a fixed winter construction charge established annually. Winter construction will not be undertaken by CenterPoint Energy where prohibited by law or where it is not practical or prudent to install gas service pipe during the winter season. (See Section VI, Part 15.01 for Winter Construction details.)

5.05 Gas Service Line to Curb

CenterPoint Energy may install gas service connections to the curb under the following conditions:

- 1) The street is at final width and grade.
- 2) Sanitary sewer, water mains, and service connections to the abutting property are installed in the street.
- 3) CenterPoint Energy's gas main is located in the street
- 4) The street is scheduled for permanent paving or resurfacing.
- 5) CenterPoint Energy determines that gas service to abutting property owners will be requested within five (5) years from the permanent paving or resurfacing.

5.06 Maintenance and Responsibility

CenterPoint Energy will maintain all gas service lines to provide an adequate and continuous supply of gas to the customer, but it will not be liable for a failure to deliver gas, wholly or in part, by any cause not reasonably within its control including but not limited to the following: fire, explosion, flood, strike, unavoidable accident, rupture of pipe from ground disturbances, federal, state, or municipal interference, failure to receive an adequate supply of gas at suitable pressure from its supplier, or acts of God. CenterPoint Energy will not be liable for any loss of profits or other consequential damages resulting from the use of service or any interruption or disturbance of service.

5.07 Alterations Requested by Customer or Contractor

All renewals, changes, alterations, disconnections or relocations of gas service line for the convenience of the customer or at the request of a contractor will be made by CenterPoint Energy at the customer's or contractor's expense. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.)

If the service line alteration will result in additional sales, CenterPoint Energy will calculate the alteration charge with consideration of the estimated incremental revenues resulting from the change.

5.08 Notice to CenterPoint Energy Before Alterations

When it becomes necessary to alter, change, renew, disconnect or relocate a gas service line because of changes in remodeling or removing a building, installation of other utilities, for the convenience of a customer, or at the request of a contractor, CenterPoint Energy shall be notified in ample time so that it may properly protect and care for its facilities.

5.09 Economic Feasibility

CenterPoint Energy may install gas service lines without charge to service applicants where the anticipated revenues are sufficient to warrant such installation or in other cases where CenterPoint Energy determines the conditions justify such installation.

5.10 Expense of Installation

Subject to reasonable construction schedules, availability of materials, reasonable notice by the applicant, and upon application, CenterPoint Energy will furnish and install a gas service line of suitable capacity from its gas main to a normal meter location, satisfactory to CenterPoint Energy, subject to the following qualifications:

- 1) CenterPoint Energy will install a gas service line to serve a residential customer in a permanent structure using gas for primary space heating without charge to the extent of 75 feet measured from the property line or 105 feet from the center of the publicly dedicated street, alley, or public or private utility easement, whichever is greater.

If additional gas service line is required, CenterPoint Energy may require the applicant to make a non-refundable contribution in aid-of-construction calculated at \$4.00 per foot of gas service line in excess of the allowance provided for above. The customer may pay the contribution in equal monthly installments over a period not to exceed ninety (90) days interest free.

- 2) If it is not practicable to locate the gas meter in the normal meter location and it is necessary to locate the gas meter at an alternate meter location, the customer will pay for the added gas service pipe beyond the service line allowance provided above.

5.10 Expense of Installation (Continued)

- 3) If the design of a building, its arrangement, or location on the lot, its interior occupancy, or the existence of obstructions between the building and the gas main makes it impractical in CenterPoint Energy's opinion to install a gas service line and at the same time satisfy all safety requirements, CenterPoint Energy may refuse to install a gas service line to the premises. Where such a situation exists and it is possible to install a gas service line by special design or extra construction and such gas service line can be installed safely, CenterPoint Energy will design and install the gas service line to suit the particular circumstances, providing the following conditions are met:
 - a) The design, arrangement, and location of the gas service line is accepted and approved by the applicant.
 - b) The applicant agrees to pay CenterPoint Energy for all extraordinary or abnormal construction costs including the cost of casing, if required.