

## CHAPTER 6

### GAS SERVICE

#### Authority

N.J.S.A. 48:2-13 and 48:10-5.

#### Source and Effective Date

R.2001 d.306, effective August 1, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).

#### Chapter Expiration Date

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1c, Chapter 6, Gas Service, expires on January 28, 2007. See: 38 N.J.R. 3245(a).

#### Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 6, Gas Service, was adopted and became effective prior to September 1, 1969.

Pursuant to Executive Order 66(1978), Chapter 6, Gas Service, expired on March 3, 1991. See: 18 N.J.R. 486(a).

Chapter 6, Gas Service, was adopted as new rules by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991. See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).

Subchapter 5, Master Meter Systems, was adopted as R.1993 d.247, effective June 7, 1993. See: 24 N.J.R. 4494(a), 25 N.J.R. 2490(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 6, Gas Service, was readopted as R.1996 d.411, effective August 7, 1996. See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Chapter 6, Gas Service, was readopted as R.2001 d.306, effective August 1, 2001. As part of R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001, Subchapter 1, Plant, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 14:6-2; Subchapter 1, Scope, was adopted as new rules; Subchapter 2, Service, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 14:6-3; Subchapter 3, Meters, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 14:6-4; Subchapter 4, Uniform System of Accounts, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 14:6-5; and Subchapter 5, Master Meter Systems, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 14:6-6. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

Subchapter 7, Protecting High Pressure Natural Gas Meters from Vehicular and Other Damage, was adopted as new rules by R.2006 d.382, effective November 6, 2006. See: 38 N.J.R. 465(a), 38 N.J.R. 4721(b).

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#### SUBCHAPTER 1. SCOPE

##### 14:6-1.1 Scope

The rules in this chapter shall apply to gas public utilities, as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 48:2-13, to other operators of gas pipelines and underground gas facilities and excavators, and to owners or operators of gas master meter systems.

#### SUBCHAPTER 2. PLANT

##### 14:6-2.1 Plant construction

(a) The construction and installation of plant and facilities of gas utilities must be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 14:3-2.1 (Plant construction). In addition, plant construction and operation, including design, maintenance, security requirements, operator training, must meet the specific requirements of this subchapter.

(b) As a portion of this subchapter on utility plant, and all aspects of construction and operation thereof, and as a portion of all other subchapters under N.J.A.C. 14:6, Gas, the Board

hereby adopts, by reference, as though set out in full, the following:

1. The current edition (and amendments as issued) of Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Minimum Federal Safety Standards: Part 192, Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Federal Code).

2. The current edition (and amendments as issued) of Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities: Federal Safety Standards: Part 193, Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Federal Code).

(c) Any such plant and its facilities which were designed and constructed prior to March 3, 1986 shall be subject to all the provisions of the Federal Code herein adopted by reference, including effective dates set forth in the Federal Code. When existing facilities are replaced, relocated or significantly altered, the siting, design and construction requirements of the Federal Code sections cited above in (b)1 and 2 shall apply.

(d) The Natural Fuel Gas Code (ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54) shall apply to the construction, maintenance and all phases of operation of gas utility plant facilities which are beyond the scope of the Federal Code sections cited above in (b)1 and 2.

Amended by R.1986 d.46, effective March 3, 1986.  
See: 17 N.J.R. 2740(a), 18 N.J.R. 486(a).

Added (b)-(e).  
Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).

Stylistic changes.  
Petition for Rulemaking.  
See: 31 N.J.R. 3537(d).  
Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).  
Deleted former (d) and recodified former (e) as new (d).

#### 14:6-2.2 Tests of service

Each gas utility shall perform a leak test on each new or renewed service line prior to activating or restoring service to a customer.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Stylistic changes.  
Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

#### 14:6-2.3 Inspection of property

Prompt investigation of gas leaks shall be made by each gas utility and such corrective action taken as is required by the facts and circumstances disclosed. A sufficient number of reliable portable devices for detecting the presence of combustible gas in the atmosphere shall be maintained as well as sufficient number of reliable devices which assure a substantially accurate knowledge at all times of the pressure existing in the system. Regulator stations shall be inspected for gas leaks with a combustible gas indicating device. These regulators shall be inspected at least once a year and repaired as necessary. Individual district regulators shall be inspected

in such manner and with such frequency as may be necessary to maintain these regulators in condition to render safe and adequate service. A complete record shall be kept for two years of all such inspections, tests, conditions found and the corrective measures taken, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 14:3-6.2, Plant and operating.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Prompt inspection of leaks required.

#### 14:6-2.4 Service line valves

Each gas utility shall install an outside shutoff valve on every new and every renewed service line and on any existing service line that does not have such a valve when repairs are made that require excavation and the installation can be accomplished without further excavation.

R.1974 d.87, eff. April 1, 1974.  
See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).  
Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Stylistic changes.  
Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

#### 14:6-2.5 Emergency shutdown

Each gas utility shall provide a sufficient number of valves, in addition to inlet and outlet valves at regulator stations, in its high-pressure distribution system to allow the shut-down of any section of its high-pressure distribution system in an emergency. In addition, each gas utility shall train all employees in the procedures to follow when it is necessary to reduce the flow of gas because of an emergency.

R.1974 d.87, eff. April 1, 1974.  
See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).  
Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).  
Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).

Inserted "in addition to inlet and outlet valves at regulator stations" following "number of valves", and "gas" preceding "utility".

#### 14:6-2.6 Gas detectors

(a) Combustible gas detecting instruments shall be assigned to all service and other personnel who may be involved in the detection of gas leaks. The instruments shall be properly maintained and periodically calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Records shall be kept of such calibrations.

(b) A combustible gas detecting instrument shall be used by gas company personnel, in conjunction with other means of detection, in the investigation of any suspected gas leak. Any employee who may be called upon to investigate a suspected gas leak shall have adequate training in the use of gas detection instruments as well as other methods of leak detection.

R.1974 d.87, eff. April 1, 1974.  
See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).

Stylistic changes.

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

pertaining to the protection of underground facilities as set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:2.

(b) Mechanical equipment shall not be used within 24 inches of a gas pipe or facility unless the pipe or facility has

**14:6-2.7 Underground facility protection; 24 inch rule**

(a) Operators of gas pipelines and other underground gas facilities and excavators shall comply with the Board's rules

been located and exposed by hand excavation. Under such circumstances the equipment shall be used under adequate supervision. If the work is performed for the company by a qualified contractor, the contractor shall be informed, in writing, prior to the letting of the contract, of the requirements of this subsection.

R.1974 d.87, eff. April 1, 1974.

See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).

Inserted (a); designated former main paragraph as (b) and substituted "subsection" for "section".

## SUBCHAPTER 3. SERVICE

### 14:6-3.1 Service connections; interruptible customers

Each gas utility shall provide a service connection for an "interruptible" customer in accordance with its filed tariff or special agreement with the customer if special or unusual circumstances exist.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.2 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.1, Service connections; regular customers, repealed.

### 14:6-3.2 Heating value

(a) Each gas utility shall file with the Board information as to heating value of the gas (or gases) being distributed.

(b) The heating value shall be maintained with as little variation as is practicable.

(c) Each gas utility shall provide itself with a standard heating value measurement device outfit constructed and calibrated as approved by the National Institute of Standards and Technology with which periodic tests of the gas shall be made. The utility may use a recording heating value measurement device which shall be maintained in proper working order and checked periodically with a standard heating value measurement device or against a standard gas. Such equipment shall be available, at all reasonable times, for the inspection by and the use of any authorized representative of the Board.

(d) The average heating value for any one day may be determined from the record of a recording heating value measurement device or it shall be taken as the average of all individual tests made that day using a standard heating value measurement device. The average, by volume, of all such daily averages shall be taken as the monthly average.

(e) Each gas utility shall report to the Board not later than the 15th of each month the daily average and the monthly

weighted average heating value of the gas (or gases) distributed in its system during the previous calendar month.

(f) Heating value tests shall be made at a location or locations which will insure a representative sample of the gas being sent out to the distribution system.

(g) The characteristic quality of the gas shall be such as to permit satisfactory combustion in the customer's appliances at all times without repeated adjustments of the burners.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).

Bureau of Standards updated to Institute of Standards and Technology; calorimeter changed to heating value measurement device. Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.3 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.2, Service connections; interruptible customers, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.1.

### 14:6-3.3 Purity

All gas distributed to customers shall be pipeline quality gas.

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.4 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.3, Heating value, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.2.

### 14:6-3.4 Pressure requirements

(a) The pressure of the gas measured at the outlet of the meter of any customer, sometimes known as normal utilization pressure, shall be maintained to that point required to provide safe and efficient utilization of the gas in any properly adjusted appliance supplied through adequately sized customer's facilities.

(b) The allowable pressure variations within any 24 hour period shall not exceed 50 per cent above or 50 per cent below the normal utilization pressures, except for special arrangements made with industrial and commercial customers.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.5 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.4, Purity, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.3.

### 14:6-3.5 Venting of customer's service regulator

(a) Each gas utility customer's service regulator installed indoors shall be vented to the outside atmosphere and shall have a vent pipe sized no smaller than the manufacturer's vent connection built into the regulator.

(b) The venting capacity of every service regulator shall be such as to protect the customer's appliances from an unsafe operating pressure. As an alternative, a separate pressure

relief valve with a capacity such as to protect the customer's appliances from an unsafe operating pressure may be provided.

(c) Each gas utility shall determine the maximum pressure that can be delivered to residential customers under both normal and service regulator failure modes, such that the pressure would not cause an unsafe condition in any connected and properly adjusted customer equipment.

As amended, R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.

See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).

Added (c).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.6 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.5, Pressure requirements, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.4.

### 14:6-3.6 Testing of customer's piping

A gas utility shall not establish service unless a sticker, tag or other evidence is present at the location indicating that the customer's piping has been approved by the plumbing subcode official.

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.7 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.6, Venting of customer's service regulator, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.5.

### 14:6-3.7 Odorization

(a) All gas transmitted and distributed which does not naturally possess a distinctive odor to serve as a warning agent to employees and the public in the event of the escape of unburned gas shall be odorized with a suitable odorant. The amount of odorant in the gas shall not be less than that which is required to readily permit detection of its presence when the gas concentration in mixture with air is 20 percent of the lower explosive limit. Each utility shall notify the Board of the type of odorant used and the location of the odorization stations. A suitable record shall be maintained for the most current two years showing the quantity of the odorant added and the volume of gas odorized. Sufficiently frequent periodic tests shall be made at various points in each system to determine the adequacy of the odorization of the gas, and a suitable record of such tests shall be maintained for two years. Equipment for introduction of the odorant into the gas shall be designed so as to provide a reasonably uniform level of odor in the gas. The equipment and facilities for handling the odorant shall be located where the escape of odorant would not be a nuisance.

1. Testing shall be performed as frequently as necessary but not less than once every 30 days.

Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).

Designated main paragraph as (a) and added (a)1.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.8 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.7, Testing of customer's piping, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.6.

### 14:6-3.8 Customer information

(a) All customers shall be supplied by the gas company, at the time the meter is turned on or a new account is opened, printed information concerning the odor of gas and its characteristics and action to be taken if gas is detected (including a telephone number for the purpose of reporting such detection). The customer shall be also informed of the potential hazards of gas, the correct procedures for using gas appliances and how to keep them in safe operating condition. In addition, verbal instructions on the above matters shall be offered to the customer, if possible.

(b) The printed information shall be such that it can be easily understood and shall also be available in languages other than English which are spoken by a substantial number of non-English speaking people who reside in the company's service area.

(c) Additionally, each gas company shall periodically take steps to inform the general public in its service area of the odor of gas and its hazards along with correct procedures to follow if gas is detected.

R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.

See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.9 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.8, Odorization, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.7.

### 14:6-3.9 Liaison with public officials

Each gas utility shall maintain liaison with emergency personnel of each municipality and county in its service area, as well as with Board emergency coordinators, and shall periodically make available information concerning the characteristics and hazards of natural gas that would be useful in handling an emergency in which natural gas may be a factor. A list of the names and phone numbers of the designated Board emergency coordinators shall be prepared and updated by the Board and forwarded to each gas utility to assure compliance with this section.

R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.

See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).

Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).

Inserted "and county" following "municipality", ", as well as with Board emergency coordinators," following "service area", substituted "that" for "which", and added the second sentence.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.10 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.9, Customer information, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.8.

**14:6-3.10 (Reserved)**

R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.  
 See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).  
 Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.11 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.  
 See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).  
 Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.10, Liaison with public officials, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.9.

**14:6-3.11 Analysis and reporting of odor, leak and emergency calls**

(a) Each gas utility shall maintain a listed telephone number in appropriate telephone directories designated as a 24-hour number at which leak, odor or emergency calls may be received. These numbers shall be tended by utility personnel in order that such calls can be answered on a 24-hour basis with the assurance that appropriate action will be taken as rapidly as possible.

(b) Each gas company shall maintain a log that shows the receipt and handling of each leak, odor or emergency report received. Information concerning the time that the report was first received, that company personnel were first dispatched to the scene, that such personnel arrived, and that the condition was considered safe should be included. In addition, each gas company is required to analyze its performance in responding to such reports. Both the logs and the analysis shall be made available to the Board upon request. Summary reports shall be furnished to the Board quarterly in the form specified by the Board.

1. The report shall include the information required in (b) above for both normal working hours and other than normal working hours by each operating division or district in the gas utility.

R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.  
 See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).  
 Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.  
 See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).  
 Added (b)1.  
 Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.12 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.  
 See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).  
 Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.11 was Reserved.

**14:6-3.12 Emergency personnel**

(a) Each gas company shall have available and equipped an adequate number of personnel to handle gas emergencies on a 24-hour a day, seven days a week basis. Emergency personnel must be able to reach all parts of the company's service area as rapidly as possible.

(b) Each employee who would respond to a gas emergency shall have adequate training in the proper procedures for handling gas emergencies, including but not limited to emergency shutdown procedures.

R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.  
 See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).  
 Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.13 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.  
 See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.12, Analysis and reporting of odor, leak and emergency calls, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.11.

**14:6-3.13 Training**

Each gas company employee shall be adequately trained for the job to which he is assigned and shall have adequate knowledge of the characteristics and hazards of natural gas.

R.1974 d.87, effective April 1, 1974.  
 See: 5 N.J.R. 122(a), 6 N.J.R. 201(d).  
 Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.14 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.  
 See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).  
 Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.13, Emergency personnel, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.12.

**14:6-3.14 Drug testing; incorporation by reference of Federal regulations**

(a) The Board hereby adopts, by reference, as though set out in full, the current edition (and amendments as issued) of Drug Testing, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 199 (Federal Code).

(b) Each gas company employee, as defined in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 199, shall be tested for the presence of prohibited drugs and shall be provided with an employee assistance program as required by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 199.

New Rule, R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
 See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
 Recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.15 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.  
 See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).  
 Former N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.14, Training, recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.13.

**14:6-3.15 (Reserved)**

Recodified to N.J.A.C. 14:6-3.14 by R.2005 d.377, effective November 7, 2005.  
 See: 37 N.J.R. 1401(a), 37 N.J.R. 4292(a).  
 Section was "Drug testing; incorporation by reference of Federal regulations".

**SUBCHAPTER 4. METERS****14:6-4.1 Testing of gas meters**

Each gas utility shall provide itself with equipment necessary for testing meters that are either in use or in inventory. Utilities may cooperate in arranging for such facilities. A bell type prover shall be set up permanently in the location where it is to be used. All provers will be calibrated according to ANSI B109. Whenever a utility calibrates a prover, the calibration shall be witnessed and approved by the Board. Whenever a manufacturer calibrates a prover, the calibration shall be verified and approved by the Board. Each prover will be furnished an inspection and approval tag by the Board.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
 See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).

Bell-type provers calibrated to ANSI B109 required.  
Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

#### 14:6-4.2 Periodic meter testing

No gas utility shall allow a gas meter to remain in service for a period longer than 10 years, except where a sampling program has been established in accordance with ANSI B109 and approved by the Board. Meters shall neither remain in service after testing nor be placed in service if the meters are outside the adjustment limits in accordance with ANSI B109. For any group of meters in a sampling program to remain in service, at least 80 percent of the meters in the sample tested must be within the accuracy limits of 98 percent (two percent error slow) to 102 percent (two percent error fast) at the low flow (check) rate, with no more than 10 percent of the meters exceeding 102 percent (two percent error fast). If a group of meters does not meet the performance standard, then corrective action shall be taken.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Testing standards completely revised.

#### 14:6-4.3 Determination of gas meter accuracy

A gas meter shall be considered correct if it, when passing gas at the flow rates of 20 to 35 percent of its rated capacity, shows in comparison with a standard gas prover, an error which is not greater than two percent.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Flow rate of 20 to 35 percent used to test.

##### Case Notes

Customer was not overcharged for gas service where amount billed reflected reading obtained from accurate meter. *Rucker v. Public Service Electric & Gas Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (BRC) 70.

Customers not entitled to be billed on basis of 1,136 ccf of gas usage, rather than 11,136 ccf, for eight year period. *Thomas v. New Jersey Natural Gas Company*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (BRC) 145.

### SUBCHAPTER 5. UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS

#### 14:6-5.1 Adoption by reference of the Uniform System of Accounts

The Board adopts by reference the Uniform System of Accounts for Classes A and B Gas Utilities that have been promulgated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as well as all present and subsequent amendments, revisions, deletions and corrections which the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may adopt insofar as they relate to gas utilities subject to the jurisdiction of the Board and are in accordance with the Board's policies and procedures.

Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Stylistic changes.

#### 14:6-5.2 Adoption by reference of rules concerning preservation of records; gas utilities

(a) The "Regulations to Govern the Preservation of Records of Electric, Gas and Water Utilities" promulgated and published in April 1972 by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and all subsequent amendments thereto, are adopted by reference as the rules of the Board governing the preservation and destruction of records for all classes of electric, gas and water utilities subject to its jurisdiction and as a supplement to its uniform system of accounts for all classes of electric, gas and water utilities.

(b) Copies of the full text of these rules are available for examination in the Board's offices at Two Gateway Center, Newark, New Jersey 07102, and are included in the case files in these dockets. Copies of these rules may be purchased through the Secretary of the Board.

R.1972 d.181, effective September 18, 1972.  
See: 4 N.J.R. 241(b).  
Public Notice: Change of address.  
See: 19 N.J.R. 890(a).  
Amended by R.1991 d.456, effective September 3, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 944(a), 23 N.J.R. 2652(a).  
Source of copies changed.  
Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

### SUBCHAPTER 6. MASTER METER SYSTEMS

#### 14:6-6.1 Scope

Unless otherwise ordered or permitted by the Board of Public Utilities, the following rules shall apply to the inspection and operation of all master meter systems.

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

#### 14:6-6.2 Definitions

The following words and terms when used in this subchapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Board" means the Board of Public Utilities.

"Federal Code" means the Federal Pipeline Safety Code, 49 CFR 192.

"Master meter system" means any underground gas pipeline system operated by a residential or commercial customer of a New Jersey gas utility which is utilized for the distribution of gas to ultimate consumers within, but not limited to, a definable area, such as a mobile home park, a housing project or an apartment complex, where the operator purchases metered gas from a public utility for resale through the operator's distribution system which is beyond the control of the utility. The ultimate consumers served by the operator's distribution system will subsequently purchase the gas directly through a meter or by other means, such as through rents.

Amended by R.1996 d.411, effective September 3, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 2830(a), 28 N.J.R. 4106(a).

#### 14:6-6.3 Service to master meter systems

No gas utility in this State shall provide gas service to any newly developed master meter system as defined in N.J.A.C. 14:6-6.2.

Amended by R.2001 d.306, effective September 4, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 1891(a), 33 N.J.R. 3041(a).  
Substituted "No" for "After June 7, 1994, no", and "6.2" for "5.2".

#### 14:6-6.4 Inspection and compliance

(a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) below, after June 7, 1994, no gas utility in this State shall continue to provide gas service to any residential or commercial master meter system unless the utility is provided by the owner or operator of the master meter system with an annual certification, on a form, supplied by the Board, reflecting Federal Code specifications, from a licensed professional engineer, that the system has been inspected within the last six months and that it complies with all applicable safety requirements. The owner or operator may request from the servicing utility a list of those licensed professional engineers known to the utility who are qualified to perform such services. A copy of such certification shall be submitted to the Board by the owner or operator. In the event that the owner or operator can demonstrate that the services of a licensed professional engineer could not be obtained after utilization of the list provided by the utility, then, alternatively, the owner or operator of the master meter system may make arrangements with the servicing utility to provide the required inspection and certification at the expense of the owner or operator.

(b) If the results of the inspection reveal that the master meter system does not satisfy the requirements of the Federal Code, the owner or operator of the system shall furnish the utility, in the event that the utility did not perform the inspection, and the Board with a copy of the inspection report and shall submit a detailed plan of action to bring the system into compliance with the requirements of the Federal Code within 12 months. The owner or operator shall submit to the utility proof of compliance with the requirements of the Federal Code within the 12 month period. A copy of such compliance shall be forwarded to the Board by the owner or operator. Should the inspection uncover a condition that constitutes an immediate safety hazard, the owner or operator shall immediately notify the servicing utility. Until repairs can be made to the system that will either sufficiently abate or eliminate the hazardous condition, service to the system may be subject to discontinuance as provided in N.J.A.C. 14:3-3.6a3x.

(c) If the owner or operator of the master meter system does not comply with (a) and (b) above, the owner or operator shall attempt to arrange with the utility to take over the master meter system and make corrections to bring the system into compliance with all applicable safety standards at

the expense of the owner or operator. If such an arrangement cannot be effected within one year, the utility shall promptly petition the Board for permission, upon notice and hearing, to discontinue service to the master meter system.

### SUBCHAPTER 7. PROTECTING HIGH PRESSURE NATURAL GAS METERS FROM VEHICULAR AND OTHER DAMAGE

#### 14:6-7.1 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Additional definitions that apply to this subchapter can be found at N.J.A.C. 14:6-6.2, and in the rules for all utilities at N.J.A.C. 14:3-1.1.

"Excess flow valve" or "EFV" means a flow limiting safety device that is designed to shut off or significantly reduce the flow of natural gas when the flow rate of the gas exceeds a rated closure flow rate, such as that when a break in the service line occurs.

"Gas meter set" means a natural gas meter and any associated piping and appurtenances, including, but not limited to, a service regulator, valve, or other piping equipment located above ground and within the immediate vicinity of the gas meter.

"High pressure gas meter set" means a gas meter set in which the inlet pressure of the service line is greater than the pressure supplied to the customer.

"Vehicle zone" means a street, parking space, driveway, loading dock, garage entrance, or other area intended for vehicle traffic or where vehicle traffic occurs or is likely to occur.

#### 14:6-7.2 Applicability and purpose

(a) This subchapter sets forth requirements that will enhance the safety of people and property in proximity to a high pressure natural gas meter set or service line that is located where vehicular or other damage may be anticipated.

(b) This subchapter sets forth safety requirements for new and renewed or replaced gas service lines and new and existing high pressure natural gas meter sets.

(c) This subchapter is intended to operate in coordination with the Department of Community Affairs rules at N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.22, 6.6, and 6.7.

(d) This subchapter is intended to operate in coordination with 49 CFR 192.353.

#### 14:6-7.3 New residential construction

(a) This section governs when new single residential customer gas service lines are installed after November 6, 2006.



(b) Each gas public utility shall ensure full compliance with this section before natural gas service is supplied to the customer.

(c) Wherever natural gas distribution operating conditions are such that the pressure and flow of natural gas allow for the proper operation of an excess flow valve (EFV), the gas public utility shall ensure that each new single residential customer service line is equipped with an EFV.

(d) The gas public utility shall ensure that:

1. All EFVs installed meet the requirements of 49 CFR 192.381 incorporated herein by reference; and

2. The EFV is located as close to the point where the gas service line connects to the gas main as feasible, given the conditions of the site and the characteristics of the equipment.

(e) The gas public utility shall ensure adequate protection is provided, in accordance with (f) or (g) below, of any high pressure gas meter set that is:

1. Located three feet or less from a vehicle zone; and
2. Not protected by an EFV.

(f) The gas public utility shall ensure that any high pressure gas meter set that meets the qualifications under (e) above is protected by physical barriers as specified in N.J.A.C. 14:6-7.8.

(g) If the placement of the physical protections required under (f) above will intrude into the vehicle zone and/or impede movement of vehicles, or if the requirements at (f) above cannot practically be met for other reasons, the gas public utility shall ensure that the high pressure gas meter set is relocated so that it will be more than three feet from any vehicle zone.

#### **14:6-7.4 New non-residential construction**

(a) This section governs when new single non-residential gas service lines are installed after November 6, 2006.

(b) Each gas public utility shall ensure compliance with this section before natural gas service is supplied to the customer.

(c) The gas public utility shall ensure adequate protection is provided, in accordance with (d) or (e) below of any high pressure gas meter set connected to a new non-residential service line that is located three feet or less from a vehicle zone.

(d) The gas public utility shall ensure that any high pressure gas meter set that meets the qualifications under (c) above is protected by physical barriers as specified in N.J.A.C. 14:6-7.8.

(e) If the placement of the physical protections required under (d) above will intrude into the vehicle zone and/or impede movement of vehicles, or if the requirements at (d) above cannot practically be met for other reasons, the gas public utility shall ensure that high pressure gas meter set is relocated so that it will be more than three feet from any vehicle zone.

#### **14:6-7.5 Renewed/replaced residential high pressure gas service lines**

(a) This section governs when a residential high pressure gas service line serving a gas meter set is renewed or replaced and the main is exposed after November 6, 2006.

(b) Each gas public utility shall ensure full compliance with this section.

(c) This section does not apply to certain emergency repairs wherein the installation of the EFV is not practical.

(d) Wherever natural gas distribution operating conditions are such that the pressure and flow of natural gas allow for the proper operation of an excess flow valve (EFV), a gas public utility shall ensure that each renewed or replaced single residential customer service line shall be installed with an EFV in accordance with the requirements for new residential construction at N.J.A.C. 14:6-7.3(d).

(e) The gas public utility shall enhance protection by installing physical barriers in accordance with N.J.A.C. 14:6-7.8 on the replaced or renewed high pressure residential gas meter sets, whenever the high pressure gas meter set is:

1. Located three feet or less from a vehicle zone; and
2. Not protected by an EFV.

#### **14:6-7.6 Renewed/replaced non-residential high pressure gas lines**

(a) This section governs when a non-residential high pressure gas service line serving a gas meter set is renewed or replaced and the main is exposed after November 6, 2006.

(b) Each gas public utility shall ensure full compliance with this section.

(c) This section does not apply to emergency repairs wherein the immediate installation of the physical protections is not practical.

(d) The gas public utility shall install physical barriers in accordance with N.J.A.C. 14:6-7.8 on the replaced or renewed non-residential high pressure gas meter set whenever the high pressure gas meter set is located three feet or less from a vehicle zone.

**14:6-7.7 Existing high pressure gas lines**

(a) This section governs all existing residential and non-residential high pressure gas meter sets that were installed prior to November 6, 2006.

(b) Each gas public utility serving customers in New Jersey shall complete a high pressure gas meter set survey to determine which meter sets are inadequately protected from anticipated vehicular damage by November 6, 2007.

(c) Each gas public utility shall file by February 6, 2008 a report with the Bureau of Pipeline Safety which summarizes where enhancing the protection of gas meter sets is warranted. The report shall include the address location where enhancements would be provided.

**14:6-7.8 Physical protection requirements**

(a) To meet the requirements of this subchapter, a physical barrier shall provide an adequate level of protection to reasonably protect against the potential hazards to gas meter sets from vehicular impact, based on the factors listed at (b) below.

(b) In determining the level of protection to reasonably inhibit damage to a meter set, the gas public utility shall take all of the following factors into consideration:

1. The anticipated speed of nearby vehicle travel;
2. The proximity of the meter set to the vehicle zone;
3. The type of vehicles anticipated in the vehicle zone;
4. The physical attributes of the location of the meter set, such as, but not limited to, the width and length of vehicle zones;
5. The operating pressure of the gas service line that supplies the meter set;

6. The volume of anticipated traffic in the vehicle zone;
7. The configuration of the vehicle zone and the likely approach of vehicle movement in the zone;
8. The physical features already present that serve to provide adequate protection; and
9. Any other relevant factors.

**14:6-7.9 Inspections and recordkeeping**

(a) Each gas public utility shall perform visual inspections of all gas meter sets equipped with the physical protections required under this subchapter at least once every three years.

(b) The gas public utility shall:

1. Identify and record any gas meter set that is inadequately protected and reasonably anticipated to be damaged by vehicular traffic;
2. Take steps to adequately protect the gas meter set identified in (b)1 above and keep a record of those steps;
3. Identify and record any physical barriers that have been damaged or are missing;
4. Identify and record any high pressure gas meter sets that have been damaged by vehicular traffic; and
5. Annually notify the Bureau of Pipeline Safety of the location of any damaged high pressure gas meter sets or damaged/missing physical barriers, in a format to be specified by the Bureau of Pipeline Safety.

(c) The gas public utility shall retain complete and accurate records required by this subchapter for the life of the gas service covered by the record.