

COST OF GAS CLAUSE

A. APPLICABILITY

This Cost of Gas Clause shall apply to all general service rate schedules of Texas Gas Service Company ("Company") in its unincorporated areas in the Rio Grande Valley Service Area including the unincorporated Areas of Alamo, Alton, Brownsville, Combes, Donna, Edcouch, Edinburg, Elsa, Harlingen, Hidalgo, La Feria, La Joya, La Villa, Laguna Vista, Los Fresnos, Lyford, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palm Valley, Palmhurst, Palmview, Penitas, Pharr, Port Isabel, Primera, Progreso, Rancho Viejo, Raymondville, Rio Hondo, San Benito, San Juan, Santa Rosa, and Weslaco, Texas, the unincorporated cities of Bayview, Laguna Heights, Monte Alto, Olmito, and San Carlos and the unincorporated areas of Jim Hogg and Starr counties, Texas.

B. DEFINITIONS

1. Cost of Gas - The rate per billing unit or the total calculation under this clause, consisting of the Commodity Cost, the Reconciliation Component, any surcharges or refunds, Uncollectible Cost of Gas and the revenue associated fees and taxes.
2. Commodity Cost - The Cost of Purchased Gas multiplied by the Purchase Sales Ratio plus an adjustment for any known and quantifiable under or over collection prior to the end of the reconciliation period.
3. Cost of Purchased Gas - The estimated cost for gas purchased by the Company from its suppliers or the estimated weighted average cost for gas purchased by the Company from all sources where applicable. Such cost shall include not only the purchase cost of natural gas, but shall also include all reasonable costs for services such as gathering, treating, processing, transportation, capacity and/or supply reservation, storage, balancing including penalties, and swing services necessary for the movement of gas to the Company's city gate delivery points. The cost of purchased gas may also include costs related to the purchase and transportation of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG). Renewable Natural Gas is the term used to describe pipeline-quality biomethane produced from biomass. The cost of purchased gas shall not include the cost of financial instruments that were entered into after April 15, 2018, unless the use of such financial instruments is approved in advance and in writing by the Director of the Oversight and Safety Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Such approval would be requested as part of the Company's annual gas purchase plan, which shall be submitted annually to the Commission no later than June 15th.
4. Reconciliation Component - The amount to be returned to or recovered from customers each month from December through August as a result of the Reconciliation Audit.

5. Reconciliation Audit - An annual review of the Company's books and records for each twelve-month period ending with the production month of August to determine the amount of over or under collection occurring during such twelve-month period. The audit shall determine: (a) the total amount paid for gas purchased by the Company (per Section B(3) above) to provide service to its general service customers during the period, including prudently incurred gains or losses on approved use of natural gas financial instruments, (b) the revenues received from operation of the provisions of this cost of gas clause reduced by the amount of revenue associated fees and taxes paid by the Company on those revenues, (c) the total amount of refunds made to customers during the period and any other revenues or credits received by the Company as a result of relevant gas purchases or operation of this Cost of Gas Clause, (d) the total amount accrued during the period for imbalances under the transportation rate schedule(s) net of fees and applicable taxes, (e) the total amount of net Uncollectible Cost of Gas during the period, and (f) an adjustment, if necessary, to remove lost and unaccounted for gas during the period for volumes in excess of five (5) percent of purchases.
6. Purchase/Sales Ratio - A ratio determined by dividing the total volumes purchased by general service customers during the twelve (12) month period ending June 30 by the sum of the volumes sold to general service customers. For the purpose of this computation all volumes shall be stated at 14.65 psia. Such ratio as determined shall in no event exceed 1.0526 i.e. $1/(1 - .05)$ unless expressly authorized by the applicable regulatory authority.
7. Reconciliation Account - The account maintained by the Company to assure that over time it will neither over nor under collect revenues as a result of the operation of the cost of gas clause. Entries shall be made monthly to reflect, (a) the total amounts paid to the Company's supplier(s) for gas applicable to general service customers as recorded on the Company's books and records (per Section B(3) above), including prudently incurred gains or losses on the use of approved natural gas financial instruments, (b) the revenues produced by the operation of this cost of gas clause, and (c) refunds, payments, or charges provided for herein or as approved by the regulatory authority, (d) amounts accrued pursuant to the treatment of imbalances under any transportation rate schedule(s), and (e) the total amount of Uncollectible Cost of Gas during the period, and (f) an adjustment, if necessary, for lost and unaccounted for gas during the period in excess of five (5) percent of purchases, and (f) an adjustment, if necessary, for lost and unaccounted for gas during the period in excess of five (5) percent of purchases.
8. Uncollectible Cost of Gas-The amounts actually written off after the effective date of this rate schedule related to cost of gas will be tracked along with any subsequent recovery/credits related to the cost of gas clause. Annually the charge offs minus recoveries will be included in the annual reconciliation and factored into the resulting reconciliation component.

C. COST OF GAS

In addition to the cost of service as provided under its general service rate schedules, the Company shall bill each general service customer for the Cost of Gas incurred during the billing period. The Cost of Gas shall be clearly identified on each customer bill.

D. DETERMINATION AND APPLICATION OF THE RECONCILIATION COMPONENT

If the Reconciliation Audit reflects either an over-recovery or under-recovery of revenues, such amount, plus or minus the amount of interest calculated pursuant to Section E below, if any, shall be divided by the general service sales volumes, adjusted for the effects of weather, growth, and conservation for the period beginning with the December billing cycle through the August billing cycle preceding the filing of the Reconciliation Audit. The Reconciliation Component so determined to collect any revenue shortfall or to return any excess revenue shall be applied, subject to refund, for a nine (9) month period beginning with the December billing cycle and continuing through the next August billing cycle at which time it will terminate.

E. INTEREST ON FUNDS

Concurrently with the Reconciliation Audit, the Company shall determine the amount by which the Cost of Gas was over or under collected for each month within the period of audit. The Company shall debit or credit to the Reconciliation Account for each month of the reconciliation period: (1) an amount equal to the outstanding over collected balance multiplied by interest of 6% per annum compounded monthly; or, (2) an amount equal to the outstanding under collected balance multiplied by interest of 6% per annum compounded monthly. The Company shall also be allowed to recover a carrying charge calculated based on the arithmetic average of the beginning and ending balance of gas in storage inventory for the prior calendar month times the authorized rate of return of 7.35%.

F. SURCHARGE OR REFUND PROCEDURES

In the event that the rates and charges of the Company's supplier are retroactively reduced and a refund of any previous payments is made to the Company, the Company shall make a similar refund to its general service customers. Similarly, the Company may surcharge its general service customers for retroactive payments made for gas previously delivered into the system. Any surcharge or refund amount will be included in the Reconciliation Account.

Refunds or charges shall be entered into the Reconciliation Account as they are collected from or returned to the customers. For the purpose of this Section F, the entry shall be made on the same basis used to determine the refund or charge component of the Cost of Gas and shall be subject to the calculation set forth in Section (E) Interest on Funds, above.

G. COST OF GAS STATEMENT

The Company shall file a Cost of Gas Statement with the Regulatory Authority by the beginning of each billing month. The Cost of Gas Statement shall set forth (a) the estimated Cost of Purchased Gas; (b) that cost multiplied by the Purchase/Sales Ratio; (c) the amount of the Cost of Gas caused by any surcharge or refund; (d) the Reconciliation Component; (e) the revenue associated fees and taxes to be applied to revenues generated by the Cost of Gas; (f) the Cost of Gas calculation, including gains and losses from approved hedging activities for the month; and (g) the beginning and ending date of the billing period. The statement shall include all data necessary for the Regulatory Authority to review and verify the calculations of the Cost of Gas.

H. ANNUAL RECONCILIATION REPORT

The Company shall file an Annual Reconciliation Report with the Regulatory Authority which shall include but not necessarily be limited to:

1. A tabulation of volumes of gas purchased and costs incurred by month for the twelve months ending August 31.
2. A tabulation of gas units sold to general service customers and related Cost of Gas clause revenues.
3. A description of all other costs and refunds made during the year and their effect on the Cost of Gas Clause to date.
4. A description of the imbalance payments made to and received from the Company's transportation customers within the service area, including monthly imbalances incurred, the monthly imbalances resolved, and the amount of the cumulative imbalance. The description should reflect the system imbalance and imbalance amount for each supplier using the Company's distribution system during the reconciliation period.
5. A description of Uncollectible Cost of Gas during the period and its effect on the Cost of Gas Clause to date.

This report shall be filed concurrently with the Cost of Gas Statement for December. If the Regulatory Authority determines that an adjustment to the Reconciliation Component is required, such adjustment shall be included in the Reconciliation Component for the next annual Reconciliation Audit following the date of such determination.