

RATE 444
RATE FOR GAS SERVICE
FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (FTS)

No. 1 of 6 Sheets

TO WHOM AVAILABLE

This Rate for Firm Transportation Service (FTS) for the transportation of natural gas by the Company is available for any Zones A, B, C, D and E Customer eligible for service under Rate 428 who has arranged for a supply of natural gas from a supplier other than the Company, and either its gas requirements during the most recent calendar year average at least 200 Dth per day, or is a new customer who certifies in writing that its gas requirements will average at least 200 Dth per day (Qualifying Customer).

The Company reserves the right to limit the total level of FTS service available if it determines, in its sole discretion, that it is unable operationally or administratively to accommodate additional FTS.

CHARACTER OF SERVICE

FTS shall be a firm delivery service involving the movement of gas through the Company's facilities on a nominated basis, subject to the imbalance tolerances as included in the Daily Imbalance Cash-out Provisions Rider applicable to this Rate Schedule.

A Qualifying Customer electing FTS shall do so for an initial term of one (1) year. Thereafter, availability of FTS shall be subject to a determination by the Company to extend service hereunder, based upon available capacity.

SERVICE AGREEMENT

As a condition for receiving service under FTS, Qualifying Customer shall be required to execute a Service Agreement for FTS.

The FTS Service Agreement shall, among other things, specify the maximum daily contract quantity (MDQ) and annual contract quantity (ACQ) of gas to be transported, and the mutually agreeable receipt point(s) on the Company's system at which Qualifying Customer's nominations will be accepted for delivery by the Company. The Qualifying Customer will also be required, on a non-discriminatory basis, to specify in the Service Agreement the maximum hourly quantities of gas to be transported.

REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

A Qualifying Customer desiring service under FTS shall submit a request for service to the Company, which shall include the following information:

1. The requested maximum daily contract quantity (MDQ);
2. The specific physical interconnection(s) between the Company and the interstate pipeline through which the Qualifying Customer will source its gas to the Company's facilities;

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REQUESTS FOR SERVICE (continued)

3. The specific meter(s) through which gas nominated under this Rate Schedule will be delivered to the Qualifying Customer's facilities for consumption; and
4. The requested term of service.

A Qualifying Customer that requests multiple receipt and delivery points shall allocate a share of its total MDQ among the specified receipt and delivery points so that the allocation equals 100% of the requested MDQ. To the extent operationally feasible, Qualifying Customer will have the option to adjust its receipt and delivery point MDQ allocation on a monthly basis.

In the event that requests for service under FTS exceed available capacity, the requests yielding the greatest economic benefit to the Company, as determined by the Company, shall be granted first. As used in this paragraph "economic benefit" shall be determined, on a net present value basis, based upon: 1) the proposed contract rate to be paid for the FTS service, 2) the proposed term of the FTS service agreement and 3) the proposed MDQ for the FTS service. In the event the net present value is equal among requests, then available capacity will be allocated on a pro rata basis among requesting Qualifying Customers. Allocation of capacity pursuant to this section shall not change the otherwise applicable curtailment priority of FTS service.

Company shall notify the Qualifying Customer whether it can provide the requested FTS.

DETERMINATION OF DAILY MAXIMUM AND ANNUAL CONTRACT QUANTITIES

A Qualifying Customer's maximum daily contract quantity (MDQ) will be defined by the Qualifying Customer and shall be included in the Qualifying Customer's FTS Agreement.

A Qualifying Customer's annual contract quantity (ACQ) shall be determined based on the Qualifying Customer's agreed to MDQ over 365 days. The Qualifying Customer's ACQ shall be included in the Qualifying Customer's FTS Agreement.

DETERMINATION OF MDQ AND ACQ FOR NEW QUALIFYING CUSTOMERS

The MDQ and ACQ for new Qualifying Customers will be determined based upon information provided by the Qualifying Customer with respect to anticipated load requirements. New Qualifying Customers shall certify in writing that their gas requirements will average at least 200 Dth per day. The MDQ and ACQ may be adjusted after the first twelve (12) months of service, as appropriate.

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ADJUSTMENTS TO MDQ AND ACQ

In the event that the Qualifying Customer exceeds its MDQ for more than five (5) consecutive days in any two (2) months within any twelve (12) month period without prior approval for authorized overruns, the Qualifying Customer's MDQ as stated in the Service Agreement will automatically be adjusted by the Company to the higher number for the remaining term of the FTS Agreement, subject to a determination by the Company, in its sole discretion, that such additional capacity is available. Qualifying Customer may request an increase in its contract MDQ and ACQ in its FTS Agreement in the event that its load requirements or usage patterns change. Said requests will be honored if the Company determines, in its sole discretion, that such increases will not adversely impact its ability to meet its contractual and service obligations or adversely impact its system operations. Said request shall be certified in writing by the Qualifying Customer.

METERING REQUIREMENTS

As a condition of receiving service under this Rate, Qualifying Customer will have a daily meter recording device which will be installed by the Company at the customer's expense. The Company may, on a non-discriminatory basis, require Qualifying Customer to furnish access to a phone line.

Cost of equipment installed by the Company will be assessed at the excess facilities charge of the estimated installed cost as defined in the Company's General Rules and Regulations Applicable to Gas Service.

DELIVERY OF GAS BY THE COMPANY

The Company shall deliver to the Qualifying Customer on a firm basis daily nominated gas quantities up to the Qualifying Customer's contract MDQ provided that Qualifying Customer has caused delivery on that day of an equivalent volume of gas to the Company at agreed to receipt points.

The Company is not obligated to deliver gas quantities on a firm basis in excess of the Qualifying Customer's MDQ or ACQ but may choose to do so in its sole discretion, such discretion shall not be unreasonably withheld. In the event Company agrees to allow the Qualifying Customer's takes of gas to exceed its MDQ, the Qualifying Customer shall be obligated to pay for such deliveries at the applicable authorized overrun charges under this Rate Schedule. Deliveries in excess of the Qualifying Customer's MDQ not authorized by the Company shall be treated as unauthorized overruns and such quantity of natural gas will be billed at the applicable unauthorized overrun charges as specified in this Rate Schedule.

All gas delivered by the Company to a Qualifying Customer under this Rate Schedule shall be subject to an unaccounted for gas adjustment specified in Appendix E.

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NOMINATIONS

Service shall be nominated by the Qualifying Customer (or Qualifying Customer's agent) as follows:

At least three (3) days prior to the beginning of the month, Customer will provide the Company a written estimate of its daily gas requirements for that month. Daily changes in nominations must be supplied to the Company no later than the time required for such nominations by the delivering pipeline(s). Company may, in its sole discretion, accept shorter notice provided that it determines that such service will not unacceptably impact the Company in any way, including but not limited to the following considerations: its ability to meet its contractual or service obligations; its system operational requirements; its upstream nominations; its upstream contractual obligations; or its service in any way, including but not limited to the following considerations: its ability to meet its contractual or service obligations; its system operational requirements; its upstream nominations; its upstream contractual obligations; or its service costs.

Company will not be required to accept any gas tendered by the Qualifying Customer (or Qualifying Customer's agent) that does not meet Company's quality specifications, which is not tendered for delivery at a mutually agreeable receipt point on the Company's system, or that exceeds the MDQ as specified in the Qualifying Customer's FTS Service Agreement.

DAILY IMBALANCE CASH-OUT PROVISIONS

The Qualifying Customer shall be subject to the daily imbalance cash-out provisions included in the Daily Imbalance Cash-out Provisions Rider to this Rate Schedule.

IMBALANCE NETTING OPTION

Qualifying Customer may elect to contract for an Imbalance Netting Option. Imbalance Netting shall entitle the Qualifying Customer to have daily over-and under-take imbalances netted within an eligible aggregated pool which pool shall be defined by the Company on a seasonal basis, consistent with its contractual, operational requirements, and administrative needs.

A Qualifying Customer that elects this option shall be billed the negotiated charges as included in the Customer's FTS Service Agreement.

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Customer Charge

\$350.00 per month.

Administrative Charge for Balancing Service

\$1,325.00 per month for Customers whose annual average daily gas use is 3,000 Dth per day or greater, or for Customers who currently have installed or elect the installation of telemetering equipment for remote access to metering data.

\$550.00 per month for Customers whose annual average daily gas use is less than 3,000 Dth per day.

Transportation Charge

The transportation charges shall be equal to the charges listed below (previous Rate Schedule 328) calculated at a 100% load factor using the Customer's MDQ, plus applicable balancing charges. No less than 50% of the charges as determined above shall be billed in the form of a monthly demand charge based on the agreed upon MDQ. The commodity charge will be applied to all therms delivered in the month. However, in no case shall the charges as determined above, on an annual basis, exceed the annual charges that would be generated by application of the rates listed below (previous Rate Schedule 325 minus gas supply charges). The commodity charge will be applied to all therms delivered in the month. The transportation charge shall be re-calculated annually on the anniversary date of the contract for the next annual period, or in the event of a change in the Qualifying Customer's MDQ.

Transportation Charges (previous Rate Schedule 328)

\$0.03070 per therm for the first 300,000 therms delivered in the month
\$0.00960 per therm for all over 300,000 therms delivered in the month

Commodity Charge (previous Rate Schedule 325)

\$0.44050 per therm for the first 6,000 therms used per month
\$0.38750 per therm for the next 24,000 therms used per month
\$0.35940 per therm for the next 60,000 therms used per month
\$0.35340 per therm for all over 90,000 therms used per month

Gas Supply Charges included in the above Rate Schedule 325 Commodity Charge

\$0.3126 per therm

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RATE (continued)

Daily Imbalance Cash-out Charges

As set forth in the Daily Imbalance Cash-out Provisions Rider.

Imbalance Netting Option

As negotiated.

Adjustment for Authorized Overruns

The Qualifying Customer may request, and the Company, in its sole discretion, may agree on a daily basis to grant authorized overtakes of natural gas, such authorization shall not be unreasonably withheld, in excess of the Qualifying Customer's MDQ for each day. The charge per Dth for such authorized overruns on any day shall be the applicable 100% load factor rate, which shall be equal to the demand charge divided by 30.42, plus the commodity charge.

Adjustment for Unauthorized Overruns

If the Qualifying Customer takes in any day a quantity of gas which is greater than Qualifying Customer's MDQ for said day and which quantity does not constitute authorized overtakes, the Customer shall pay \$10.00 per Dth on the quantity of gas so delivered which is in excess of the MDQ, except that the charge will be \$60.00 per Dth during any period identified by the Company as a Critical Period. Critical Period shall be as defined in the Company's Daily Imbalance Cash-Out Provisions Rider.

The payment of a penalty for unauthorized overtake as provided above shall not under any circumstances be considered as giving the Qualifying Customer the right to take unauthorized overtakes, nor shall such payment be considered as a substitute for any other remedies available to the Company, or any other Customer, against the offending Qualifying Customer for failure to respect its obligation to adhere to the provisions of its Service Agreement with the Company.

MINIMUM PAYMENT

The minimum monthly payment under this Rate Schedule shall be the Customer Charge plus the Administrative Charge and the Demand Charge as included in the Transportation Charge.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Service herein shall be subject to the Company's General Rules and Regulations Applicable to Gas Service and IURC Rules.

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