METERS - LOCATION



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Use: To determine the proper location of electric meters.

 PREVIOUS REVISION
 ORIGINATED
 PREVIOUS NUMBER

 01-01-15
 03-94
 ER 800-C (09-16-93)

LATEST REVISION: Added working clearance and revised indoor electric meter location specification.

REFERENCE: CFR 49 192.353, 192.355, Uniform Mechanical Code, latest revision

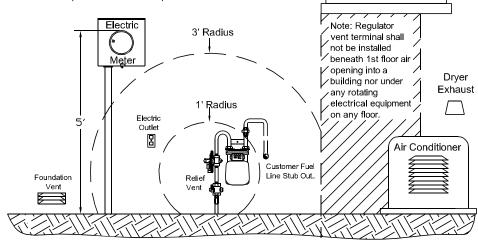
NIPSCO Gas Standard GS 6500.105(IN), latest revision

SPECIFICATION:

2nd Floor Line

Regulator vent terminal must be installed to maintain a minimum clearance of 3 feet radial separation from any door, window, gravity air opening into a building, or rotating electrical equipment. However, in no circumstances shall the vent terminal be installed beneath any 1st floor air opening into a building nor under any rotating electrical equipment on any floor.

The regulator vent terminal should be installed to maintain a 3 feet radial separation from electric meters, outlets, switches and disconnects, etc. However, if it is not practical to maintain 3 feet radial separation, not less than 1 foot radial separation shall be required.



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Figure 1 See NIPSCO Gas Standard GS 6500.105(IN) for detailed gas meter requirements.

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The meter socket shall be plumb, level, and securely mounted.
- 1.2 A minimum clearance of three (3) feet shall exist between the electric metering equipment enclosure (considered a source of ignition) and all gas metering and regulating equipment. The 3 foot clearance shall apply in all directions. (See Figure 1)
- 1.3 A minimum working clearance of three (3) feet shall exist in front of the electric metering equipment enclosure and all gas metering and regulating equipment.
- 1.4 For a single meter position, or a multiple meter position mounted in a horizontal row, the meter socket shall be five (5) feet above the permanent ground level, floor or suitable

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platform on which the meter reader will stand when reading the meter. When multiple meter positions are to be mounted in a vertical row, the meter sockets shall be mounted at a height such that the top of the highest meter socket or top of the lowest meter socket will not exceed 79 inches or be less than 39 inches respectively, above the permanent ground level, floor, or suitable permanent platform.

2. ALLOWED METER LOCATIONS

	Outdoor Location (See Spec. 3)	Indoor Location (See Spec. 4)
Residential Commercial Industrial	Any installation	Allowed only when outdoor installation is impractical and site must be approved by NIPSCO.

3. OUTDOOR LOCATION (See Spec. 2 above for allowed applications)

- 3.1 Meters, 6 or less, installed outdoors, should generally be located directly below the point of attachment of the overhead service drop or directly above the underground service lateral. Meters should be located in an area where the meter will not be damaged and which will remain free of obstructions and permit convenient accessibility for meter reading and testing. Additionally, residential electric and gas meters should both be located on the same side of the home within the front 1/3 to aid meter reading, testing and service, and to aid emergency response in the event of a fire or some other hazardous condition.
- 3.2 Meters on underground services shall not be installed on company-owned poles unless very unusual condition exist which make other meter locations impractical. A meter may be located on a Company-owned pole only by written permission of the Local Operating Area.

4. INDOOR LOCATION (See Spec. 2 above for allowed applications)

- 4.1 NIPSCO recommends that all newly installed metering equipment, including the electric meter, be located outdoors, and will approve indoor location of such equipment only when outdoor installation is impractical. When circumstances dictate that electric metering equipment must be located indoors, approval by the NIPSCO Electric Measurement group in conjunction with NIPSCO Engineering must be secured prior to the start of electric site work.
- 4.2 When indoor metering is approved by NIPSCO Electric Measurement group and NIPSCO Engineering, the metering shall meet the requirements noted in Spec. 1 as well as the following requirements:
 - 4.2.1 When meters are installed on the inside of the building, they shall be located as near the point of entrance of the entrance run as possible.
 - 4.2.2 All meters in a building shall be grouped in one location in a common areaway which shall be kept unlocked and readily accessible at any time. The location of the meters shall be such that one customer's premises being closed would not make it impossible to restore service to other customers in the building.
 - 4.2.3 In some locations it may be desirable to group meters by floors or building sections with these groups located within the areas they serve. This will be permitted provided no group consists of less than four (4) meters. The feeds to these groups shall each have a sealable switch--either accessible fuse type or manually operable automatic circuit breaker type and located at the service entrance of the building.