

TITLE 19

ELECTRICITY AND GAS

CHAPTER

1. ELECTRICITY.
2. GAS.

CHAPTER 1

ELECTRICITY¹

SECTION

19-101. To be furnished under franchise.

19-101. To be furnished under franchise. Electricity shall be furnished for the city and its inhabitants under such franchise as the city council shall grant.² The rights, powers, duties, and obligations of the city, its inhabitants, and the grantee of the franchise shall be clearly stated in the written franchise agreement which shall be binding on all parties concerned. (1980 Code, § 13-301)

¹Municipal code reference
Electrical code: title 12.

²The agreements are of record in the office of the city recorder.

CHAPTER 2

GAS¹

SECTION

19-201. Schedule of rates.

19-202. Delinquent bills.

19-203. Gas service line installation policy.

19-201. Schedule of rates. All gas service shall be furnished under such rate schedules as the city may from time to time adopt by appropriate ordinance. (1980 Code, § 13-401)

19-202. Delinquent bills. A penalty of ten percent (10%) of the total charge shall be assessed against each delinquent customer for each month the bill is not paid after the delinquent date set by the city gas billing office. (1980 Code, § 13-402)

19-203. Gas service line installation policy. The City of Portland Natural Gas Department (a municipally-owned and operated system, referred to as OPERATOR) will install the approximately sized service line, where the main is available, from the main to the building wall of the residence, commercial or industrial establishment, set the meter, perform the necessary tests for required safety measures, inspect customer pipings, and turn the gas on for use by the customer, after the customer has paid applicable tap fees and meter deposits as are current. Approval will be subject to the compliance with the Standard Building Code as required by title 12, chapter 4, of the gas code of the City of Portland, §§ 12-401--12-404. The customer will also have been cleared for installation from the following:

The Portland Gas System reserves the right to refuse installation of more than 1,500 feet of service line to any customer, basing its decision on one or more of the following factors:

(1) Excessive length of service line over lands that may be tilled for crops, or that the customer plans to till, or may plan to clear of timber, and/or any similar work or procedure which would likely damage a service line;

(2) Roughness of terrain, such as rocky conditions, creeks or branches of water to cross, which could likely pose more damage to a service line, or create the possibility of wash-outs of the line, or of rock working its way into the pipe;

¹Municipal code reference
Gas code: title 12.

(3) The angle of installation which a customer may request across vacant property which could, at some point in time, be subdivided for development and make relocation necessary;

(4) Installation across private property for which the customer has not, or cannot obtain legal easement;

(5) Installation of service lines within the county/state rights-of-way for which the customer has no written permission from the appropriate authority.

These decisions will be based on the expertise and knowledge of the public works superintendent and gas department crew foreman/department head, and will be based on fact, and made as consistently to the individual situation as is reasonably possible, without bias or partiality, and with the safety of the customers and the OPERATOR'S liability and responsibility foremost in consideration.

In such cases when decision is made to go beyond the 1,500 feet limit, documentation will be kept with the tap sheet (work order) to verify the reasoning for the allowance. Said documentation will bear the signature of the decision maker. (Examples may be, but not limited to, a consumption factor which would render this tap installation more profitable to the system than the average service line connection, such as commercial versus residential, and/or no other heat source available to a customer experiencing extreme hardship.) Costs incurred for installation beyond 1,500 feet will be passed on to the customer.

Regulations governing the transportation and disposition of natural gas, the responsibilities and liabilities of the OPERATOR, and factors determining the feasibility for the municipally-owned system, make it necessary that this policy be adopted by the City of Portland, for compliance by its gas system, the public welfare requiring it. (1980 Code, § 13-403)