

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

Original Sheet No. R9-1

P.S.C. Wyoming No. 17

## Deposits Rule 9

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The Company may require a deposit to guarantee payment for each service. This deposit shall not be considered advance payment of bills, but shall be held as security for payment of service rendered. The Company may refuse service to an Applicant or discontinue service to a Customer for failure to comply with this section. The Company shall apply the policies governing customer deposits uniformly.

- (a) The Company may require a deposit if:
- (i) A prior service account with the Company remains unpaid and undisputed at the time of application for service;
  - (ii) Service from the Company has been terminated for:
    - (A) Nonpayment of any undisputed delinquent bill;
    - (B) Failure to reimburse the Company for damages due to the Customer's negligent or intentional acts; or
    - (C) Acquisition, diversion or use of service without the authorization of or knowledge by the Company.
  - (iii) Information provided upon application for service is materially false or a misrepresentation;
  - (iv) The application is for initial service with the Company or the Applicant did not have service with the Company for a period of at least 12 consecutive months during the past four years;
  - (v) The Applicant or non-residential Customer is unable to pass the Company's objective credit screen. In order to pass the objective credit screen, the Applicant or non-residential Customer must fulfill at least one of the following:
    - (A) Have a favorable credit rating with a third-party credit reporting agency;
    - (B) Receive a favorable credit rating from the Company's financial risk assessment tool; or

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# ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

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- (C) Provide an irrevocable letter of credit that is acceptable to the Company.
  - (vi) The request is for service at an address where a former Customer with an undisputed delinquent bill for service still resides or conducts business;
  - (vii) The Applicant or Customer, has been brought within the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court, or has had a receiver appointed in a state court proceeding, within the five-year period immediately preceding the request for service; or
  - (viii) The Company has determined that it has a significant financial risk in continuing to provide service to a specific load or non-residential Customer. The Company and Customer may attempt to reach a deposit agreement. If the Company and Customer are unable to reach an agreement, the Company shall file a confidential petition requesting expedited review and Commission approval prior to collecting the Customer's deposit. The petition shall contain the basis for the Company's determination, the amount of deposit sought and sufficient information for the Commission to contact the Customer.
- (b) The Company shall not require a deposit as a condition of new or continued utility service other than as provided in this Tariff.
  - (c) The required deposit shall not exceed the total amount of the Customer's estimated bill for three months of highest use based on the premises' monthly bills during the immediate previous 12-month period. For residential Customers, if billing information for the immediate previous 12-month period is not available, the deposit shall not exceed the estimated average 90 days bill. For all other customer classes, the deposit will be based on anticipated service characteristics and anticipated load.
  - (d) The Company shall retain records showing:
    - (i) The name and address of each Customer making the deposit;
    - (ii) The date and amount of the deposit; and
    - (iii) Each accounting transaction concerning the deposit.

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# ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

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- (e) The Company shall provide the Customer a non-assignable receipt or other record of deposit, showing the date and amount received.
- (f) The Company shall calculate simple interest on deposits at the Commission Authorized Interest Rate, shown on Sheet No. 300-2. Interest shall apply only to deposits held for at least six months, but shall accrue from the initial date of deposit through the date the deposit is returned to the Customer.
- (g) The Company may accept a written guarantee from an acceptable guarantor in lieu of a deposit to pay a customer's bill. After the Company has verified the Customer's identity, the Customer shall agree to permit the Company to provide the Customer's account information to the guarantor upon the Customer's default.

The guarantor shall be removed when:

- (i) The customer has received 12 consecutive months of service with no cause for discontinuation, bills have been paid when due and the Customer passes an objective credit screen;
  - (ii) The guarantor has paid all amounts due for service through the date the Company receives the request to terminate the guarantor agreement; or
  - (iii) An additional agreement with the Company is in place.
- (h) Deposits and any unpaid interest earned on deposits shall be applied as a credit to the Customer's bill, unless requested by the Customer to be refunded, when:
- (i) The accrued interest equals or exceeds \$10.00. The Company shall apply the credit at least annually;
  - (ii) A residential Customer has received 12 consecutive months of service, with no cause to disconnect; and the Customer's bills have been paid when due;
  - (iii) A commercial or industrial Customer has received 12 consecutive months of service, with no cause to disconnect; the Customer's bills have been paid when due; and the Customer passes the Company's objective credit screen; or

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# ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

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- (iv) Service is discontinued. The Company shall not require the Customer to provide the original receipt in order for the deposit to be returned. Any credit balance on the account after the deposit is applied shall be refunded to the Customer. If the Company is unable to make the refund due to lack of knowledge of the Customer's location, additional interest will not accrue after the service discontinuation date. The Company shall manage such deposits as unclaimed property as required by Wyoming law (W.S. § 34-24-109).

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