

12. Meter Reading, Billing, Collection and Estimated Bills: (Cont'd.)

J. Dishonored Payment:

Should the Company receive a negotiable instrument from an applicant or customer in payment of any bill, charge or deposit due, and such instrument be subsequently dishonored or uncollectible for any reason, the Company shall charge the applicant or customer a handling charge of \$5.00 plus any amounts the Company was required to pay its bank for handling such instrument.

K. Increase in Rates Applicable in Municipality Where Service is Supplied:

The rates and charges for service under all Service Classifications, including gas cost adjustment and minimum charge, shall be increased to reflect the aggregate percentage rate of taxes imposed on the Company's gas revenues pursuant to Sections 186 and 186-a of the Tax Law, Section 20-b of the General City Law and Section 5-530 of the Village Law.

The rates and charges under all service classifications shall also be subject to an additional percent increase to recover the tax expense imposed by the temporary revenue tax surcharge, pursuant to Section 188 of the New York State Tax Law. Recovery of this surcharge is in accordance with the New York Public Service Commission's Order issued July 5, 1990 in Case 27611, and Order issued May 15, 1992 in Case 92-M-366.

The total of all rates and charges will be divided by a factor determined as the quantity one minus the quantity of (the applicable tax rate divided by 100).

The applicable surcharge factor shall be set forth on statements filed with the Public Service Commission. Whenever a city or village levies a new tax on the Company's gross revenue, repeals such a tax or changes the rate of such a tax, the Company will file a new statement. Every such statement shall be filed not less than fifteen business days before the date on which it is proposed to be effective, and no sooner than the date of the tax enactment to which the statement responds; shall become effective no sooner than the date when the tax enactment is filed with the Secretary of State; shall be applicable to bills subject to the tax enactments that are rendered on or after the effective date of the