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Valley Energy, Inc. New York Division P.S.C. No. <u>1</u> Gas Leaf No. 24 Revision No. 1 Superceding Revision No. 0

GENERAL INFORMATION

7. METERING, BILLING, COLLECTIONS AND ESTIMATED BILLS:

A. Metering and Billing:

(a) Measurement of Gas Service:

Bills will be based upon the registration of the Company's meter except as otherwise provided.

(b) Diversion of Service:

"In accordance with 16 NYCRR Sections 11.30 through 11.39, and Section 52 of the Public Service Law, when a tenant's service meter also registers utility service use outside the tenant's dwelling; the tenant is not required to pay the charges for that service. The Company will establish an account in the owner's name for all service registered on the shared meter after that date and will rebill for past service in accordance with 16 NYCRR Part 11.34. A customer may request a copy of the entire rules governing shared meters from the Company's office."

(c) Testing of Meters:

At such times as the Company may deem proper or as the Public Service Commission may require, the Company will test its meters in accordance with the standards and bases prescribed by the Public Service Commission.

(d) Meter Reading and Billing Period:

Meters will be read monthly or bi-monthly. Where meters are scheduled to be read at two-month intervals (bi-monthly), the Company may render interim estimated bills based upon the best information available. The Company will furnish, upon request, postcards for customers to report their meter readings for the intervening months.

With the exception of Section 7(h) herein, the Company will issue bills monthly. A month is defined in the respective service classifications as any period consisting of not less than 27 days or more than 33 consecutive days. A bill for any shorter or longer period will be prorated on the basis of a 30-day billing period.

(e) Bills Due:

Bills of the Company are due three days after the mailing of the bill or when rendered if personally delivered.

- (f) Late Payment Charges:
 - (1) Except for State Agencies, the customer is in default if payment is made more than 20 days after bill is due, then the customer is required to pay late a payment charge of 1-1/4% per monthly billing period and this charge will be applied to all amounts previously billed including arrears and unpaid late payment charges applied to previous bills. When payments are mailed the postmark will be considered as date received. Payments must be made without regard to any counterclaims. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve responsibility for payment of amount due.

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Issued by: Robert J. Crocker, President & CEO, 523 S. Keystone Ave., Sayre, PA 18840