

## **ELECTRIC RULE 13—METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR**

### **A. METER TESTS**

Any Customer may, upon not less than five (5) working days notice, require IPUC to test the Customer's electric meter. No payment or deposit will be required from the Customer for such tests except when a Customer requests a meter test within six months after date of installation of the meter, or more often than once each six months thereafter. A deposit to cover the reasonable cost of the test will be required of the Customer, in accordance with the following:

1. Meter Installed Without Current or Potential Transformer: \$20.00 per meter.
2. Meter Installed With Current Transformer or With Current and Potential Transformer: \$100.00 per meter

The deposit will be returned to the Customer if the meter is found, upon testing, to register more than two percent fast or slow under conditions of normal operation. A Customer shall have the right to require to conduct the test in the Customer's presence or in the presence of an expert or other representative appointed by the Customer. A report giving the result of the test will be supplied to the Customer within a reasonable time after completion of the test. All electric meters will be tested at the time of their installation. No meter will be placed in service or allowed to remain in service, which has an error in registration in excess of two percent under conditions of normal operation. On newly purchased single-phase meters, the manufacturer's test may be used as the installation test when IPUC's random tests indicate satisfactory test results for a particular manufacturer and for a particular shipment.

### **B. ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR**

Meter error is the incorrect registration of the Customer's energy usage resulting from a malfunctioning or defective meter. It does not include incorrect registration attributable to billing error or unauthorized use. Where, as the result of a meter test, a meter is found to be nonregistering or incorrectly registering may render an adjusted bill to the Customer for the amount of any undercharge, without interest. shall issue a refund or credit to the Customer for the amount of any overcharge, without interest, computed back to the date that determines the meter error commenced, except that the period of adjustment shall not exceed the limits set forth below. Such adjusted bill shall be computed as follows:

#### **1. FAST METER**

If a meter for either residential or nonresidential service is found to be registering more than two percent fast, IPUC will calculate the amount of

the overcharge for refund to the Customer based on the corrected meter it is known that the period of meter error was less than six months, the overcharge will be calculated for only those months during which the meter error occurred.

2. SLOW METER

*If a meter for nonresidential service is found to be registering more than two percent slow, IPUC may bill the Customer for the amount of the undercharge based on the corrected usage or IPUC's estimate of the energy usage for a period of three years. However, if it is known that the period of meter error was less than three years, the undercharge will be calculated for only those months during which the meter error occurred.*

3. NONREGISTERING METER

*If a meter for nonresidential service is found to be nonregistering, IPUC may bill the Customer for the amount of the undercharge based on IPUC's estimate of the electricity used, but not registered, for a period of three years. However, if it is known that the period the meter was nonregistering was less than three years, the undercharge will be calculated for only those months the meter was nonregistering. Where the condition of the meter renders it un-testable (no-test), IPUC may bill the Customer for IPUC's estimate of the unmetered energy. Nothing herein is intended to limit IPUC's authority to bill the Customer for unauthorized use.*

4. NO-TEST METERS

Where the condition of the meter renders it untestable (no-test), IPUC may bill the Customer for IPUC's estimate of the unmetered energy. Nothing herein is intended to limit IPUC's authority to bill the Customer for unauthorized use.

5. ESTIMATED USAGE

When regular, accurate meter readings are not available or the electric usage has not been accurately measured, IPUC may estimate the Customer's energy usage for billing purposes on the basis of information including, but not limited to, the physical condition of the metering equipment, available meter readings, records of historical use, and the general characteristics of the Customer's load and operation.