

Union Gas  
**CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

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June 1, 2016

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## Foreword

Union Gas is a distributor of natural gas in the province of Ontario. We are committed to serving our customers in a safe, reliable and efficient manner. This document has been prepared to explain, in a summary form, the conditions which govern our operations. It is intended that this communication will help us to better serve our customers.

Except as otherwise noted, the following conditions apply to all gas rates and gas service, by or with Union Gas (referred to as “us” or “we” throughout this document).

We reserve the right to modify, alter or amend these conditions and to make further and other conditions as experience may suggest and as we may deem necessary or convenient in the conduct of our business. These conditions do not supersede any terms and conditions agreed to in our contracts for gas supply with you.

## Basic Terminology

British Thermal Unit (BTU)	The amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water 1 degree Fahrenheit at 60 degrees Fahrenheit.
Company	Union Gas – also referred to as “We” and “Us” throughout this document. Refers to Union Gas, and where appropriate, any member that provides you with Union Gas services or products.
Cubic Metre	One standard cubic metre of gas is the volume of the gas that occupies one cubic metre at a temperature of 15 degrees Celsius and an absolute pressure of 101.325 kPa. (One standard cubic metre equals 35.494 standard cubic feet).
Curtailement	An unplanned suspension of gas delivery caused by a physical failure or a high risk failure on our pipeline system, or non-delivery of gas into our pipeline system.
Customer	An individual, group of individuals, company or corporation responsible for the receipt and payment of goods and/or services provided by the Company. Referred to as “you” and “your” throughout this document.
Customer Service	Work done for you by our service personnel or authorized agents on behalf of us, including the installation and adjustment to meters and regulators and the associated appliance inspections.
Degree Days	<p>A measure of the coldness of the weather experienced, based on the extent to which the daily mean temperature falls below the reference temperature of 18 degrees Celsius.</p> <p>A heating degree day is the difference between 18 degrees Celsius and the average temperature of the day. For example if the average given temperature on any given day is 10 degrees Celsius, then the number of degree days would be 8 (18-10). If the average temperature for the day is 18 degrees Celsius or higher, then the number of degree days for that day would be zero. As the weather gets colder the number of degree days increases.</p> <p>Union Gas uses degree days as a measure of coldness for comparative purposes. Generally the higher the degree days recorded, the higher the gas used on an account.</p>
Gas	Natural gas or manufactured gas or liquefied petroleum gas or any mixture of these containing not less than 36 megajoules per cubic metre.
Gas Appliance	A device that consumes or is intended to consume a gas

	and is certified or field approved as acceptable to the provincial authority having jurisdiction.
Gas Sales Contract	A contract between the Company and a customer prescribing rates and conditions for the supply of gas, transportation and storage services to the customer.
Main	The pipe that is used to carry natural gas to a service.
Main Extension	The addition of pipe to an existing main to serve new customers.
Point of Delivery	The point(s) or points at the outlet side of our meter(s) at the location(s) where the gas is delivered to you.
Property Line	The Line that separates the boundary between one property and the next immediately adjacent property whether it is public or private.
Rate Schedule	<p>One of a set of schedules filed with and approved by the Ontario Energy Board describing a category of customer, the rates charged for gas supplied to customers in the category and the particular terms under which gas is supplied to such customers.</p> <p>The rates determined by Union Gas and approved by the Ontario Energy Board that outlines the type of customer and the payment schedules for each of these customer types.</p>
Service Lateral	Piping that conveys gas from a main to your meter.
Service	<p><i>Residential:</i> Customers supplied for residential purposes in a single family dwelling or building, or in an individual flat or apartment within a multiple family dwelling or building or a portion of a building occupied as the home, residence, or sleeping place of one or more persons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ When service for residential purposes is supplied to two or more families served as a single customer under one rate classification contract that service is considered as commercial but is counted as only one customer.</li> <li>▪ Residential premises also used regularly for professional or business purposes (such as doctor's office in a home or where a small store is integral with the living space), are considered as residential where the residential use of gas is half or more than half of the total service.</li> </ul> <p><i>Commercial:</i> Applies to customers engaged in selling, warehousing or distributing a commodity, in some business activity or in some other form of economic or social activity (also includes professions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The size of the customer's operation or volume of use is not a criterion for determining Commercial service.</li> </ul> <p><i>Industrial:</i> Customers engaged in a process which creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product, or who change or complete a semi-finished</p>

material into a finished form.

- All gas used on premises which qualify under the industrial classification is to be classified as industrial service.
- The size of the customer's operation or volume of use is not a criterion for determining Industrial Service.

# 1. About our Area and Gas Services

## 1.1 Area Served by Company

As outlined in these conditions of service, Union Gas has an adequate supply of gas to serve its customers, and has properly installed pipe and piping according to the appropriate legislative requirements. Union Gas supplies gas to over 400 communities within the 230 municipalities where Union Gas holds a franchise agreement. These are considered traditional place names and may not in all cases reflect the current names of these communities.

### Communities

Aberfoyle	Bayham Twp	Burford Twp
Acton	Beachville	Burgessville
Adelaide Twp	Beardmore	Burks Falls
Ailsa Craig	Belleville	Burlington
Alberton	Bentinck Twp	Cache Bay
Aldborough Twp	Berwick	Caledonia
Alma	Bewdley	Callander
Alvinston	Blandford-Blen Twp	Calstock
Amabel Twp	Banshard Twp	Cambridge
Amherstburg	Blenheim	Camden Twp
Amherstview	Bleazard Valley	Camlachie
Ancaster	Blind River	Campbellville
Appin	Bloomfield	Canboro
Arkona	Bloomingtondale	Canborough Twp
Arran Twp	Blue Mountains	Canfield
Artemesia Twp	Blyth	Cannifton
Arthur	Bosanquet Twp	Capreol
Arthur Twp	Bothwell	Caradoc Twp
Astra	Bracebridge	Cardinal
Atherley	Branchton	Carlisle
Atikokan	Brant Twp	Carrick Twp
Atwood	Brantford	Castleton
Awrey Twp	Brantford Twp	Cathcart
Ayr	Breslau	Cayuga
Azilda	Brigden	Cayuga N Twp
Baden	Brighton	Cayuga S Twp
Balmertown	Brights Grove	Cedar Springs
Baltimore	Brooke Twp	Centralia
Barwick	Brookville	Centreton
Batawa	Bruce Mines	Chaput Hughes
Bath	Brussels	Charing Cross
Bayfield	Burford	Charlotteville Twp

Chatham	Dryden	Forest
Chatham Twp	Duart	Fort Frances
Chatsworth	Dumfries N Twp	Foxboro
Chelmsford	Dumfries S Twp	Frankford
Chesterville	Dundas	Freelton
Clifford	DunnTwp	Fullarton Twp
Clinton	Dunnville	Gananoque
Cobalt	Dunwich Twp	Garafraxa W Twp
Cobourg	Durham	Garden River
Cochenour	Dutton	Garson
Cochrane	Ear Falls	Georgetown
Colborne	Earlton	Geraldton
Colborne Twp	East Wawanosh Twp	Glanbrook Twp
Colchester N Twp	Easthope N Twp	Glen Williams
Colchester S Twp	Easthope S Twp	Glencoe
Collingwood Twp	Echo Bay	Glenelg Twp
Conestogo	Eden	Goderich
Coniston	Egmondville	Goderich Twp
Copetown	Egremont Twp	Gosfield S Twp
Copper Cliff	Ekfrid Twp	Gowanstown
Corbyville	Elginburg	Grafton
Cornwall	Ellice Twp	Grand Bend
Corunna	Elliot Lake	Gravenhurst
Courtland	Elma Twp	Greensville
Courtright	Elmira	Grey Twp
Crediton	Elora	Guelph
Crysler	Emo	Guelph Twp
Culross Twp	Englehart	Hagersville
Cumberland Beach	Enniskillen Twp	Haileybury
Dashwood	Eramosa Twp	Hallebourg
Dawn Twp	Erie Beach	Halton Hills
Delaware Twp	Erieau	Hamilton
Delhi	Espanola	Hanmer
Derby Twp	Essex	Hanover
Dereham Twp	Euphemia Twp	Harrisburg
Desbarats	Exeter	Harriston
Deseronto	Falconbridge	Harrow
Devlin	Fauquier	Harty
Dorchester	Fergus	Harwich Twp
Dorchster N Twp	Finch	Hawkesville
Dover Centre	Fisherville	Hay Twp
Dover Twp	Flamborough	Hearst
Dowling	Flamborough W Twp	Heidelberg
Downie Twp	Flesherton	Hensall
Drayton	Floradale	Hepworth
Dresden	Florence	Hibbert Twp



Highgate	Listowel	Morpeth
Hillier	Lively	Morris Twp
Holland Twp	Lobo Twp	Morrisburg
Holtyre	Logan Twp	Morrison
Hornell Heights	Londesborough	Mosa Twp
Howard Twp	London	Moulton Twp
Howick Twp	London Twp	Mount Brydges
Hullett Twp	Long Sault	Mount Elgin
Huntsville	Longford Mills	Mount Forest
Hurkett	Longlac	Mount Hope
Huron Park	Lowbanks	Mount Pleasant
Ignace	Lowville	Murillo
Ingersoll	Lucan	Nairn Centre
Ingleside	Lynden	Nanticoke
Inkerman	Lynedoch	Napanee
Innerkip	Madoc	Naughton
Inwood	Maitland	Neebing
Iron Bridge	Mannheim	New Dundee
Iroquois	Markdale	New Hamburg
Iroquois Falls	Markstay	New Liskeard
Jarvis	Marmora	Newburgh
Jerseyville	Maryborough Twp	Newbury
Joyceville	Maryhill	Nichol Twp
Kakabeka Falls	Matheson	Nipigon
Kapuskasing	Mattawa	Nissouri W Twp
Keewatin	Mattice	Norfolk Twp
Kenora	Maynard	Normanby Twp
Kent Bridge	McGillivray Twp	North Bay
Keppel Twp	McKillop Twp	North Buxton
Kilbride	Meaford	North Cobalt
Kilsyth	Merlin	Norval
Kilworth	Metcalfe Twp	Norwich
Kilworth Heights	Middleport	Norwich N Twp
Kingston	Middleton Twp	Norwich S Twp
Kingsville	Mildmay	Norwich Twp
Kirkland Lake	Millgrove	Novar
Kitchener	Milton	Oakland
Komoka	Minto Twp	Oakland Twp
La Salette	Mississauga	Oakville
Lakeport	Mitchell	Odessa
Lakeshore	Mitchell's Bay	Oil City
Langton	Monteith	Oil Springs
Lasalle	Moonbeam	Oliver Paipoonge
Leamington	Moore Twp	Onaping
Levack	Mooretown	Oneida Twp
Linwood	Morewood	Onondaga Twp

Opasatika	Red Lake	Stoney Creek
Orford Twp	Ridgetown	Stratford
Orillia	Rockwood	Strathroy
Orkney	Rodney	Stratton
Orland	Romney Twp	Sturgeon Falls
Orrville	Rondeau Park	Sudbury
Otterville	Roseville	Sullivan Twp
Owen Sound	Rothsay	Sundridge
Oxford Southwest Twp	Rutherglen	Swastika
Paincourt	Salem	Sydenham Twp
Palmerston	Sarawak Twp	Tara
Paris	Sarnia	Tavistock
Parkhill	Sauble Beach	Tecumseh
Parry Sound	Saugeen Twp	Teeswater
Peacock Point	Sault Ste. Marie	Teeterville
Peel Twp	Schumacher	Temagami
Petersburg	Scotland	Thamesford
Petrolia	Seaforth	Thamesville
Picton	Sebringville	Theford
Pilkington Twp	Selby	Thessalon
Pinewood	Selkirk	Thornbury
Plainfield	Seneca Twp	Thorne
Plattsville	Shallow Lake	Thunder Bay
Plympton Twp	Shanty Bay	Tilbury
Point Edward	Sherbrooke Twp	Tilbury E Twp
Porcupine	Shrewsbury	Tillsonburg
Porquis Junction	Shuniah Twp	Timmins
Port Dover	South Mountain	Townsend
Port Elgin	South Porcupine	Townsend Twp
Port Hope	South River	Trenton
Port Lambton	Southampton	Trout Creek
Port Rowan	Southwold Twp	Tuckersmith Twp
Port Ryerse	Springford	Tupperville
Port Stanley	St Agatha	Turnberry Twp
Port Sydney	St Andrews West	Tweed
Powassan	St Clements	Usborne Twp
Prescott	St George	Val Caron
Princeton	St Jacobs	Val Gagne
Puslinch Twp	St Marys	Val Rita
Quinte West	St Thomas	Val Therese
Rainham Twp	St Vincent Twp	Vanastra
Rainy River	St Williams	Vermilion Bay
Raleigh Twp	Stanley Twp	Verner
Rama	Stephen Twp	Vickers Heights
Ramore	Stirling	Village of York
Red Rock	Stockdale	Vittoria

Wahnapiatae  
Walkerton  
Wallace Twp  
Wallaceburg  
Wallenstein  
Walpole Twp  
Walsingham  
Walsingham N Twp  
Walsingham S Twp  
Wardsville  
Warren  
Warwick Twp  
Waterdown  
Waterford  
Waterloo  
Watford  
Wellesley

Wellesley Twp  
Wellington  
West Lorne  
West Montrose  
Westbrook  
Westlake  
Westminster Town  
Wheatley  
Whitefish  
Wiarton  
Wilkesport  
Williams E Twp  
Williams W Twp  
Williamsburg  
Wilmot Twp  
Winchester  
Windham Twp

Windsor  
Wingham  
Winterborne  
Woodhouse Twp  
Woodlawn  
Woodslee  
Woodstock  
Wooler  
Woolwich Twp  
Wyoming  
Yarmouth Twp  
Zone Twp  
Zorra Twp  
Zorra-Tavistock East  
Zurich

## 1.2 Quality of Gas

The gas to be delivered shall be natural gas or its equivalent from our present or future sources of supply, and shall:

- Have a heating value of a minimum 36 megajoules per cubic metre
- Be commercially free from objectionable matter

**NOTE:** *The gas delivered to customers attached to field gathering lines may vary from pipeline quality gas due to local well conditions.*

## 1.3 Gas Distribution Services

Gas distribution services will be made available to all residential, commercial and industrial customers in all communities served by us:

- When we have determined transportation, distribution and/or storage capacity is available, and
- When we determine that the installation of gas piping (and related gas equipment) to serve you is economically feasible

### Applying for more than one type of rate schedule

Customers may have gas distribution services under more than one rate schedule, as follows:

- Provided the customer meets all of the requirements for applicability, which are found in each rate schedule.
- This service may be taken through one meter, provided:
  - there is agreement upon a definite volume of gas that you will purchase under each rate
  - the volume of gas that falls under distribution charges, and
  - the delivery sequence

### Gas Distribution Interruptions

Curtailment, or requests to stop gas use, may be required if the supply of gas is jeopardized, in the following situations:

- If there is an actual or threatened shortage of natural gas beyond our control
- When required because of curtailment or restrictions ordered by an authorized government authority

We assume no liability for any loss of production or for any damage whatsoever due to curtailment or discontinuance or because of the length of advance notice given that directs that curtailment or discontinuance.

## 1.4 Limitations of Liability

We shall use care and diligence to furnish sufficient gas distribution capacity but we assume no liability for damages or loss resulting from any failure of supply.

It is the customer's responsibility to provide and maintain:

- All pipes and valves to take the gas from the meter
- All equipment used in the burning of gas
- All vents necessary to efficiently take all products of combustion (including unburned gas if any) to the outside air

## 2. Initiation of Service

### 2.1 Main Extensions

We will extend our gas main within our franchise area to serve new customers (or potential customers) when:

- Those requirements will not disturb or impair the service to prior users
- We determine the extension of the gas main is economically feasible

When we determine the extension of our facilities is not economically feasible, the applicant will be required to pay a contribution in aid of construction. We will determine the contribution amount before the extension of such facilities.

### 2.2 Service Lateral Installations

Service laterals will be installed provided that:

- There is an application for gas.
- The site of the service lateral installation is within our franchise area.
- Adequate distribution facilities are available.
- Any necessary main extension can be justified in accordance with our line extension practice.
- The requested hourly volume is available in accordance with the required supply pressure.
- In our sole discretion, we have an adequate gas supply to provide gas service.

We will designate the location of the service lines, meters and regulators, and will determine the amount of space that must be left unobstructed for the installation.

We do not assume ownership, responsibility or maintenance of piping beyond the outlet side of the meter or regulator set up.

If a customer wants us to install main on property that is not owned by the customer, such as road allowance, municipal or neighbouring property, land rights (in the form of easement) will be required for the installation / maintenance of gas lines (and equipment) from that property owner.

We shall try to restore property to the approximate condition in which it was found before starting our operations. This includes property that is excavated or may be disrupted during laying, constructing, repairing or removing our facilities.

### 2.3 Customer Costs

Gas service laterals extending from the property line to the meter location will be installed according to our policies and procedures. Customers are charged for these services as follows:

#### Residential Customers

- Billed for any excess charges beyond 30 metres

- Billed for aid as calculated using the Company's test of economic feasibility for service lateral extensions
- Billed for charges related to the installation of the meter set beyond our approved location.

### **Commercial and Industrial Customers**

- Union Gas uses a Distribution Related Economic Analysis Model to cost Commercial and Industrial services. If the service does not meet an economic feasibility benchmark, a customer will be expected to pay aid to construction costs in order to meet our internal economic feasibility benchmark.
- If aid to construction is required, Union Gas will provide the costs to the customer, for approval prior to initiating the installation of the service

When the installation is effected by us, our cost is:

- Material used at inventory value (including appropriate stores expense).
- Cost of direct labour on installation (including appropriate payroll burden).
- Cost of transportation and mobile work equipment.
- Cost of contract work.

## **2.4 Relocation of Service Laterals**

For service lateral relocations requests, the cost will be based on size and nature of any added gas that is required. Requested relocations for convenience or aesthetics will normally be on a charge basis.

We reserve the right to make changes, extensions, or replacements of service lines.

## **2.5 Customer Piping**

As an applicant for service, a customer shall at their expense, equip premises with all piping and attachments from the meter to the appliances or equipment served. It is the customer's responsibility to maintain the piping and equipment beyond the outlet side of the meter. Such piping and attachments shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the Ontario Regulation 212/01 – Gaseous Fuels, as amended.

If we know that the piping and/or appliances or heating equipment are defective, or not in accordance with applicable rules and regulations, ordinances or codes, we will not connect a meter.

We may discontinue gas service at any time that we find defective or unsafe conditions on:

- The piping
- The venting
- The appliances or other gas-fired equipment

### **Notification and Maintenance**

If there is leakage or escape of gas on a customer's premises, the customer is required to immediately notify Union Gas. The emergency number for Union Gas Limited is 1-877-969-0999.

Customers should ensure that their chimney or gas equipment venting system is clean and clear of obstructions.

If injury or damage occurs because of the escape of gas or products of combustion of gas from building piping, venting systems, or appliances on the customer's side of the Point of Delivery, we are not liable, unless the injury or damage can be traced to our negligence.

## **2.6 Meters and Meter Location**

A meter or meters of standard manufacture, that we install (unless otherwise specified) shall measure the gas supplied. We will furnish each customer with a meter of a size and type that will adequately serve the customer's requirements. These meters are our property. We can inspect, remove or replace these as we deem necessary or in accordance with applicable rules, regulations, ordinances or codes.

Non-contiguous customer premises shall be metered and billed separately. Premises are considered non-contiguous when they:

- Are not on the same tract of land
- Are complete and not integrated with or part of other premises
- Are integrated with or part of other premises

Tracts of land separated by public streets, roads, lanes or alleys shall be considered non-contiguous lands.

Residential, Commercial, Industrial meters will be located near a building, taking into consideration the following:

- Safety
- Distribution facilities
- Customer equipment
- Noise
- Structural design
- Landscaping
- Accessibility for meter reading and servicing

Inside locations require the approval of the District Manager or designate.

Anyone who is not an authorized agent of the Company shall not be permitted to connect or disconnect our meters, regulators or gauges, or in any way alter or interfere with our meters, regulators or gauges.

Customers are responsible for protecting all metering and regulating equipment necessary for the supply of gas and for keeping it accessible at all times. Customers will be held liable for any such loss or damage beyond ordinary wear and tear, and if required, shall pay us the cost of necessary repairs or replacements.

We are not responsible for damages caused by the freezing of water pipes, water heaters and hot water systems in your premises unless the damage can be traced to our negligence.



## **2.7 Delivery and Use of Gas**

Our gas delivery and the customer's use of gas constitute a contract subject to these provisions, even if a contract has not been signed.

The place of delivery of all gas purchased under sales service, or redelivery in the case of direct purchase, shall be at the outlet of our meter located at or near the point or points of connection with the customer's facilities. At that point all gas delivered shall become the customer's property.

All gas passing through the meter, whether it is used or lost through leaks in pipes, apparatus, or otherwise is the customer's responsibility and the customer shall pay for that gas.

Gas sold to non-contract customers at excess pressure shall be sold by the cubic metre corrected to a base temperature and pressure.

## **2.8 Inspection of New Installations**

All inspections shall conform to the Technical Standards and Safety Act and regulations made under the Act.

An inspection will be made of new installations of supply piping and gas appliances and installations in accordance with Company practice as follows:

- Where premises are connected to a supply of gas for the first time.
- In accordance with the requirements of the Technical Standards and Safety Act and the regulations made under the Act.

If the inspection reveals that repairs or major adjustments are required, the customer will be advised.

## 3. Maintenance of Service

### 3.1 Customer Service Policy Statement

Union Gas provides customers with specific and specialized service. The following services are provided free of charge:

- Emergency response
- Inspections mandated by applicable legislation
- Minor adjustment service to natural gas equipment (i.e. work that can be completed within 30 minutes and does not require any appliance parts, special tools or special equipment). Customers requiring additional appliance service will be advised to contact a third party service provider.

### 3.2 Access to Premises

Our authorized representatives shall have access to a customer's premises at all reasonable times and upon reasonable notice to inspect, read, test, repair, or replace the meter or meters, appliances and equipment used in connection with gas service.

### 3.3 Testing Meters

We will remove and test meters when necessary, or:

- Upon a customer's request
- When required to ensure accordance with legislative requirements.

If there is an unresolved dispute between two parties over meter accuracy, the test process must be initiated through Measurement Canada. This maintains the independence of the dispute process and requires the disputing party, normally the customer, to contact Measurement Canada directly.

Measurement Canada sets out Federal Regulations Union Gas must follow with regard to Gas Measurement. Union Gas is a fully accredited Gas Utility with authorization from the Federal Government to test and seal meters.

If a customer requests a meter accuracy check, and it meets the regulated accuracy requirements during the inspection, we may charge any additional cost for the meter removal and test. This is in addition to the Government inspection fee.

### 3.4 Resale Prohibited

Gas shall not be resold or redistributed (pursuant to the definitions of those terms in the OEB Act) directly or indirectly by the customer, except:

- Gas purchased under the Company's Rate Schedule M1, M2, Rate 01 and Rate 10 for resale as motor vehicle fuel gas (as that term is defined in Ontario Regulation 805/82), or
- Gas purchased under the Company's Rate Schedules M9 and M10 and Rate 77 by a customer, that is itself a distributor of natural gas.

## 4. Customer Care

Section 4 applies to any customer that has not entered into a Gas Sales Contract with Union Gas. For customers that have entered into a Gas Sales Contract with Union Gas, the terms and conditions set out in that contract will supersede the information contained within this section.

### 4.1 Establishing an Account

Whether a new customer or moving from an existing Union Gas account, customers should notify Union Gas before taking possession of a new home. Account requests can be submitted [online](#) or by phone at 1-888-774-3111. Accounts are subject to an account opening charge. Customers with Union Gas may be required to provide a security deposit. See section 4.11 for details.

Once delivery of gas to a premise has been established, a contract between the customer and Union Gas is in effect until delivery of gas is discontinued. The customer agrees to pay for services provided, and is liable for all gas supplied to the premises and for the safe custody of Union Gas property.

Customers who have unpaid balances owing on previous Union Gas accounts may be required to pay the outstanding balance before Union Gas will approve an application for gas service at another address. Unpaid balances on previous gas accounts may be listed with a collection agency after a period of approximately 60 days.

### 4.2 Meter Reading

Union Gas makes every effort to read all meters on a monthly schedule. Sometimes we estimate bills if inaccessibility, weather or unsafe conditions prevent us from reading the meter within a few days of the normal date.

Customers may elect to supply their own meter reading either [online](#) or by telephone at 1-888-774-3111. When submitted on a timely basis, these readings will be used in the monthly bill calculation.

If usage is estimated, any necessary adjustments will be included in the next actual meter reading.

On rare occasions, we may have to estimate a bill if the metering equipment malfunctions or has been damaged.

Commercial / industrial non-contract excess pressure customers' meters may be read daily or weekly.

### 4.3 Billings for Accounts

Consolidated Billing

Customers may combine several meters on to one gas bill if the meters are located on contiguous tracts of land not divided by a public right-of-way.

## Master Summary Billing

Master Summary Billing summarizes the invoices associated with multiple accounts on one Master Account. Customers choosing this option receive no more than four Master bills per month, depending on the number and location of meters included in their various individual accounts.

## Billing History

Through the online account management system, MyAccount, customers can view and download up to 24 months of billing and payment history. Please note that Union Gas does not retain copies of bills beyond 24 months. Customers may also request a printed copy of this billing history or duplicate bills for a fee of \$15.

## 4.4 Bill issuance and Payment

Bills are issued on a monthly basis. Invoices are due when rendered and customers are provided a period of 20 days for payment before a Late Payment Charge is applied to their account. Both the invoice issue date and the Late Payment applicable date are printed on all invoices. Whether the customer is issued a paper or electronic invoice, the dates and timelines are the same.

Gas Charges are calculated using rates approved by the Ontario Energy Board.

Each monthly gas invoice will include a set 'monthly charge' that is a set amount charged to every customer regardless of the amount of gas used. It partially covers the cost of maintaining a safe gas distribution system 24 hours a day, every day. The monthly charge will be prorated on initial, final and seasonal invoices when the period covered by the bill is less than 25 days. The amount of the monthly charge is part of the approved Ontario Energy Board rate structure.

Invoices are due when rendered. Union Gas' billing and payment options include:

- **Automatic payment plan:**  
Automatically withdraw payment from your bank account.
- **Paperless billing:**  
Use Union Gas' free paperless billing option to receive your bill online.
- **Equal Billing Plan:**  
Enjoy the benefits of predictable monthly billings all year.
- **Combine Billing and Payment Options:**  
Bundle Paperless Billing, Equal Billing Plan and the Automatic Payment Plan to make monthly payments even more convenient.

Join our billing and payment options [online](#) or by telephoning 1-888-774-3111.

More payment options:

- Online banking through your financial institution
- Telephone banking
- Automatic Teller machine
- In person at most banks and financial institutions
- Pay your bill using your credit card [online](#) or through our automated telephone service at 1-888-774-3111. Please note that this credit card service is powered by Paymentus Corporation and is subject to a service fee equal to 1.75% of the payment amount will be charged by Paymentus Corporation for each payment.
- Mail your payment directly to Union Gas.

The monthly late payment charge equal to 1.5% per month or 18% per annum (for an approximate effective rate of 19.56% per annum) multiplied by the total of all unpaid charges will be added to the bill if full payment is not received by the late payment effective date, which is 20 days after the bill has been issued.

The Late Payment fee is not applied to unpaid security deposit amounts.

Payments are posted to customer accounts based on the day the payment is received. The date of receipt of mailed payment will be the postmark date on the envelope.

#### **4.5 Allocation of Payments between gas and non-gas charges**

Payments are applied to charges based on date (oldest paid first), then based on the priority for additional charges incurred at the same time.

For any charges in arrears, payment will be applied to the oldest charge first and Late Payment fees will be applied to the outstanding balance.

Union Gas does not provide joint billing services for rentals or third party services.

#### **4.6 Correction of Billing Errors**

If a billing error occurs, customers should contact our Customer Contact Centre at 1-888-774-3111 to request a billing investigation.

With the exception of tampering or theft of gas:

- If the error resulted in over-billing, it will be corrected for a period of up to two years. The customer may request a refund or opt to leave the credit amount on their account to cover future bills.
- If the error resulted in under-billing, it will be corrected for a period of up to one year. If required, Union Gas will work with the customer to determine a mutually agreeable repayment schedule.
- If the time period cannot be reasonably determined, the error will be corrected for a period of up to three months.

#### **4.7 Equal Billing Plan**

The Equal Billing Plan offers residential customers the convenience of equal payments throughout the year. Using your total natural gas usage for the previous year and current gas rates, we calculate your total expected gas bills and divide it into equal monthly instalments. In August of each year your EBP is "trued up" and your account is credited or billed for any difference between the EBP instalments that you have paid and the gas you've used.

Your account is reviewed periodically and your monthly EBP instalment may be adjusted up or down. Factors that can impact your EBP instalment include significant changes in the weather, gas rates or the amount of gas used.

If you cancel the Equal Billing Plan before the August true up, or if you move from your residence, the plan will be automatically true'd up at that point and your account will be billed or credited for the difference between the EBP instalments paid and the cost of the gas you have used.

Each August, your gas usage for the previous year is reviewed to determine your new instalment amount for the coming plan year. You will be automatically re-enrolled in the plan in September for the next 12 months at your new monthly instalment amount.

#### **4.8 Discontinuance of Gas Delivery – Customer Initiated**

Customers who require a temporary disconnection of their gas service should contact Union Gas at 1-888-774-3111. During the temporary disconnection, customers must either continue to pay the monthly fixed charge or pay a disconnection and reconnection fee.

#### **4.9 Disconnection for Non-payment**

If any charges remain unpaid after the date shown on the invoice, Union Gas has the right to discontinue delivery of gas service.

**Residential Accounts** - If the customer does not initiate action to manage their arrears, delivery may be discontinued after giving 10 days written notification through a Disconnection Notice to the customer. The Disconnection Notice will indicate the earliest and latest date on which the disconnection will occur, provides payment options to avoid the disconnection of service and indicates that the disconnection can take place without further notification to the customer. In determining whether to issue a disconnection notice or to pursue additional payment arrangements with the customer, Union Gas will take into account any paid security deposit that is being held on the customer's account.

**Non Residential Accounts** - If the customer does not initiate action to manage their arrears, delivery may be discontinued after giving prior notification through a message on the bill or through other written notification to the customer. In addition to a bill message or written notification, Union Gas attempts to reach the customer by telephone prior to issuing a disconnect order.

At any time prior to service disconnection, a customer can make a payment at a financial institution, through Internet or telephone banking or by credit card, to cancel the disconnection order.

If during the disconnection notice period, a third party, who has been designated by the customer, or a registered charity, government agency or social service agency, advises Union Gas that they are attempting to arrange assistance to help the customer pay their outstanding arrears, Union Gas will cancel the disconnection order and will delay further action for 21 days. If mutually agreeable payment arrangements are created during this process, but are subsequently missed, the account may be disconnected without further notice.

Once the account is paid in full, including any reconnection charges or security deposit required, Union Gas reconnects gas service for the account within two business days.

#### **4.10 Discontinuance of Gas Delivery for other than Non-payment**

If we need to temporarily discontinue delivery of gas for meter maintenance, a meter change or line maintenance, Union Gas will make arrangements with the customer in advance as we will need

access to the premises to relight and inspect the gas appliances. For safety reasons, gas service cannot be reinstated until this inspection is completed by one of our qualified technicians.

**Note:** *The above inspections are free, however, if the inspection is carried out at the request of a third party (i.e., lawyer, real estate broker, etc.) then the customer will be charged for the inspection.*

We may **discontinue service at any time for emergency or safety reasons** including:

- A gas leak or potential safety issue in your neighbourhood
- Fraudulent use of gas
- Any condition affecting appliances or piping which we believe is dangerous to life or property
- The use of gas for any purpose other than that described in the service application, gas sales contract, rate schedule or these rules and regulations
- If we are refused access for any lawful purpose to the premises to which gas is supplied
- When a customer tampers with, damages or destroys our property on their premises

#### **4.11 Security deposits**

If you are a new customer to Union Gas or if future payment cannot be assured, you are required to provide a security deposit.

**Residential Customers** - The deposit will be equal to two of the average month's gas usage based on the last 12 months usage history. Customers are provided the option to pay the security deposit over a maximum of six monthly instalments without interest.

In the majority of cases, Union Gas will waive the security deposit if the customer enters into both the [Equal Billing Plan](#) and the [Automatic Payment Plan](#) or provides a letter of reference with a good rating from a Canadian natural gas or hydro utility dated within the past 60 days.

Deposits are automatically refunded with interest to the customers' account once the deposit has been paid in full and the customer has exhibited twelve months of good payment history. When the deposit is applied, the customer has the option of leaving the credit amount on their account for future bills or requesting a refund.

**Non-Residential Customers** - The deposit amount will be a maximum of the three highest consecutive months' usage history or \$500.00 if there is insufficient historical usage information for the premises. The deposit is refunded with interest after five years of exhibiting financial stability through a good payment history.

The security deposit may be waived if the customer meets certain criteria.

Acceptable types of security deposits are as follows:

- Money orders or certified cheques
- Letter of Guarantee such as a guarantee of customer payment by a financial institution.

If you do not provide the requested security deposit, delivery of gas will be discontinued. Once the account is paid in full, including the outstanding security deposit, the reconnection charge and any arrears, Union Gas will reconnect the gas service within two business days.

All monetary deposits earn simple interest based on the current bank savings rate. The interest is calculated monthly.

When the customer moves or discontinues gas service, the security deposit is applied to the customer's account.

#### **4.12 Arrears Management Programs**

Union Gas has arrears management programs available to customers who are unable to pay their gas charges. Union Gas works with customers to find mutually agreeable payment plans that could extend up to several months depending on the individual circumstances. Customers requiring payment assistance can contact a Union Gas representative at our contact centre by telephoning 1-888-774-3111.

Union Gas will contact the customer, to remind them of required payments under an agreed upon payment arrangement 10 days prior to cancellation of the arrangement and further collection action. Customers are advised at the time of the arrangement the importance of keeping the payments up to date to avoid further collection action.

#### **4.13 Low-Income Customer Services Policies Program**

For eligible low-income customers, Union Gas also offers a Low-Income Customer Services Policies Program. This program offers additional assistance to help low-income customers manage their natural gas account including:

- Enrolment in the Equal Billing Plan, if not already enrolled;
- Ability to waive security deposit requirements, as long as the natural gas service is not disconnected for non-payment and the eligible low-income customer has enrolled in the Equal Billing Plan;
- If payment arrangements are required, waiving of late payment charges for the duration of the arrangement, as long as the terms of the arrangement are kept.

Emergency financial assistance may also be available. The Union Gas Energy Assistance Program (UGEAP) is designed for eligible low-income families and individuals who have exhausted all other sources of financial support. Approved households may receive one grant (up to \$500 maximum) each year.

You can choose to apply for either of these programs through various community and social agencies. Customers who are working with a social assistance agency will be given 21 days to secure emergency financial assistance before additional collection action will be taken for non-payment. Disconnection of gas service is always a last resort.

“Eligible low-income customer” means a residential customer who:

- Has an after-tax household income at or below Statistics Canada's Low-Income Measure (LIM), taking into account family and community size, as qualified by a Social Service Agency or Government Agency; or
- Has been qualified for Emergency Financial Assistance.



#### **4.14 Management of Customer Accounts**

Union Gas will verify the identity of a customer prior to discussing account specific information. In accordance with applicable privacy laws, any personal information related to the account will only be shared with the party named as the customer on the account, unless written or verbal consent is provided by the party named as the primary customer on the account.

Union Gas will accept notification to transfer service to a third party name from vendors, purchasers, builders, power of attorney or property owner/manager or housing administrator. We no longer accept information from either the vendor's or purchaser's solicitors or their representatives.

Landlord instructions are maintained with direction from the owner on the management of gas service during a property vacancy and this direction is followed in the absence of a tenant contract. We do not accept new tenant information from vacating tenants.

#### **4.15 Customer Complaint Policy**

##### **Step 1: Call Union Gas**

Call the Union Gas Customer Contact Centre at 1-888-774-3111, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. All Union Gas representatives are trained to help answer your questions.

You may also send us an email at [uniongas.com/residential/contactus](mailto:uniongas.com/residential/contactus)

##### **Step 2: Escalating your Concern**

If you have a problem or concern that has not been satisfactorily resolved by our representatives, you may ask to further escalate your concern. Please be advised that you will be required to leave your name and a phone number where you can be contacted. A Union Gas representative will return your call within 2 business days.

##### **Step 3: Submit your Complaint in Writing**

Union Gas will respond to all written customer complaints in writing (unless otherwise agreed to by the customer) within 10 calendar days.

Written complaints can be mailed to:

Union Gas Limited  
P.O. Box 2001  
50 Keil Drive North  
Chatham, Ontario  
N7M 5M1

For further information on our written complaints policy, please visit [Customer Complaint Policy](#).

If your problem has not been resolved to your satisfaction, you can contact the [OEB](#).