



Rule No. 5

SERVICE CONDITIONS

5-4 Kind of Service Available

- A. The voltage, phase, frequency, and capacity of the Utility's facilities may vary in different areas. As protection against the installation of unsuitable lamps, appliances, motors, motor starters, and other equipment, Customers are advised to ascertain from the Utility the type of service available at their point of delivery. The type of service available under different rates and schedules varies, so the Customer should consult the Utility prior to purchasing and installing equipment to ascertain the type of service available under rates or schedules which will result in the lowest probable operating cost to Customer.
- B. Residential service shall be single-phase in character. If a residential Customer requires three-phase service and if existing utility facilities are such that it can be supplied, the service application shall so state and such service shall be provided as prescribed under the applicable rate schedule.
- C. The Utility may serve X-ray equipment through a commercial or industrial Customer's regularly installed meter and service where these are of adequate capacity and where existing distribution facilities are adequate. When a Customer requires a separate transformer, or separate service and meter, or any special facilities to serve Customer's X-ray equipment, a special service agreement or contract may be required.

5-5 Use of Service

- A. Service shall be used by the Customer only for the purposes specified in the service agreement, contract, applicable rates, or schedules; and the Customer shall not remeter, sell, or permit others to use such service, except when expressly authorized to do so by the rates, schedules, or contract under which the service is supplied.
- B. In no case may a Customer extend its electric facilities across or under a street, alley, lane, court, avenue, or other public or private space under different ownership in order to obtain a rate advantage by taking service for two or more premises through one meter.

5-6 Seasonal, Construction, Short-Term, or Temporary Service and Service to Individual Mobile Homes and Trailers (See Rule No. 5-11)

- A. The Utility may require the Customer to pay in advance the estimated cost of connecting and disconnecting and installing and removing, less salvage credits, the facilities required for rendering such service. Individual mobile homes and trailers shall not be entitled to a free line extension under the terms of Rule No. 6 until they have been classified as permanent in accordance with one of the following two paragraphs.

(continued)

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*Rhonda Simmons*

Secretary

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- B. Should an individual mobile home or trailer remain in one location for 12 consecutive months, it shall be considered a permanent Customer and the deposit for estimated connection and disconnection charges, exclusive of line extension contribution required under Rule No. 6, shall be refunded upon request by the Customer. (For service to trailer courts see Rule No. 7-10.)
- C. A mobile home affixed to a permanent foundation and with modern all-weather provision for water and sewer facilities will be considered permanent. The provision for water and sewer requires either connection to city or town provided utilities, or to a State of Montana approved water well and septic tank system.
- D. Contractors, builders, or owners are required to execute a contract for the use of electricity for building and other purposes in construction work at a location not served by the Utility with electricity. Another Customer shall not allow a contractor, builder, or owner to use that Customer's service unless the contractor, builder, or owner obtains the Utility's permission specifying the other premises where the electric service is to be used. Permanent service will not be turned on at any new premises until payment has been made for all construction service.
- E. Service to seasonal cabins, summer homes, etc., will be supplied only if Customer agrees to pay for service 12 months of the year.

5-7 Other Loads of Uncertain Duration, Including Mining and Lumbering (See Rule No. 5-11)

- A. The Utility may require a Customer to advance the entire cost of installing facilities used in rendering such service and shall credit the account of the Customer, the Customer's successor, or assignee with an amount equal to 20 percent of the Customer's annual electric utility bill until the cost of the free line extension allowance provided under the terms of Rule No. 6 has been refunded; provided, however, that the refund period for the Customer, the Customer's successor, or assignee at this location shall not extend more than five (5) years from date of initial service regardless of the amount of the unrecovered advance. The customer credits will be calculated on an annual basis, and such credits will be applied to the Customer's, the Customer's successor's, or assignee's account on an annual basis only, or after discontinuance of service.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

*Rhonda Simmons*

Secretary

Rule No. 5

SERVICE CONDITIONS

- B. Service to carnivals and circuses - The Utility shall collect from the Customer, in advance, the estimated cost of connecting and disconnecting service and the cost of installing and removing, less salvage credits, the facilities required for rendering such service, in addition to the deposit required for electric service. Energy charges shall be prorated for that portion of the month that service is rendered, but no proration will be applied to the demand charge.
- C. Any amount collected from a Customer which is in excess of the actual cost of installing and removing the facilities required for rendering such service will be refunded to the Customer within 30 days after service is disconnected and facilities have been removed.
- 5-8 Free Service - The Utility shall not supply free electric service to any Customer.
- 5-9 Refusal and Termination of Service by Utility
- A. The Utility may refuse service to any delinquent Customer owing the Utility for service at a present or previous location in the Utility's service area until such past balance has been paid or a satisfactory arrangement has been made for paying it.
- B. The Utility may refuse service to an applicant for service on the basis of the delinquency of another Customer only under the following circumstances:
1. In the case of a residential Customer:
    - a. If the applicant was a spouse of the delinquent Customer at the time the delinquency occurred; or
    - b. If the applicant was a parent of the delinquent Customer and the delinquent Customer was a minor at the same time the delinquency occurred.
  2. In the case of nonresidential Customer, the Utility may refuse service to an applicant on the basis of such past delinquency only if the applicant has a legal obligation to pay the delinquency.
- C. The Utility may refuse service if the party refuses to establish credit as required under Rule No. 4.
- 5-10 Renting of Rooms - Where four or less rooms, not intended to constitute a separate family suite, within a residence are rented to the public for domestic purposes only by one owning or occupying the residence and where a single meter is installed, a single application of the rate shall apply to the entire service.

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*Rhonda Simmons*  
Secretary

ELECTRIC TARIFF

NorthWestern<sup>™</sup>  
Energy

	<u>1<sup>st</sup></u>	Revised	Sheet No.	<u>R-5.5</u>
Canceling	<u>Original</u>	Revised	Sheet No.	<u>R-5.5</u>

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- 5-11 Surcharge on Advances or Contributions: Whenever, under the provisions of this Rule, an advance or contribution is required, the current surcharge as required by Utility operations shall be applied to such advance or contribution. This is to offset the effect caused by the Utility's delayed tax depreciation reimbursement of the current year tax on this advance or contribution. This surcharge is not applicable where such advances or contributions are the result of highway relocations or any government directed relocations that benefit the public and the government is not receiving utility service.

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*Aleisha Salem* Secretary