CUT BANK NATURAL GAS TARIFF

NorthWestern Energy Canceling	<u>Original</u>	Revised Revised	Sheet No. Sheet No.	<u>R-16.1</u>
----------------------------------	-----------------	--------------------	------------------------	---------------

Rule No. 16

TESTING OF METERS-CUSTOMER REQUESTED

- 16.1 The Company shall at any time when requested in writing by a customer, upon reasonable notice, test the accuracy of the meter in use by him; provided the customer will agree to accept the results of the test made by the Company as determining the basis for setting the difference revealed, and provided the customer agrees to pay the cost of said test, if the meter is found to be accurate within the limits prescribed herein.
- 16.2 If a meter is found to be out of tolerance for accuracy the following will occur:
 - A. If, on test of any gas service meter, it is found to be more than two (2) percent fast, the Company shall refund to customer the estimated excess paid by the customer during the period in which the meter was registering incorrectly if such period can be determined with a reasonable degree of accuracy; provided, however, that in no event shall any refund be made for a longer period than the duration of the present customer's occupancy.
 - B. If, on test of any gas service meter, it is found to be more than two (2) percent slow, the customer may be required to pay the estimated amount due for gas used but not paid for, during the period in which the meter was registering incorrectly, if such period can be determined with a reasonable degree of accuracy; provided, however, that this period will not exceed six (6) months or the duration of the present customer's occupancy, whichever is less.
 - C. Where actual recorded data identifying errors of this nature are not available, it may be difficult, if not impossible, to determine the amount of such errors with any great degree of precision. In such instances, both the amount of meter error and the period of time over which the meter was registering incorrectly may be determined by engineering estimate.
- 16.3 Customer may be present when the Company conducts the test on his meter, or if he so desires, may send an expert or other representative appointed by him. The customer may request the test be made under the supervision of a representative of the Public Service Commission. If circumstances justify, the Company may require the customer or his representative to be present to witness the test.
- 16.4 A report giving the name of the customer requesting the test, the date of such request, the location of the premise where the meter has been installed, the type, make, size, and serial number of the meter, the date of removal, date tested, and the result of the test, shall be supplied to such customer within a reasonable time after completion of the test.

Docket No.: 2024.08.088 Final Order No. 7981d; Vote 4-0 Order Served: May 20, 2025 Staff Approved: June 30, 2025 Effective for services rendered on or after July 1, 2025 /s/ Tarin Slayton Paralegal

