

National Petroleum Corporation

**NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION
(SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS) REGULATIONS, 2004**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

REGULATION

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Form of application.
4. Deposit.
5. Testing of installations.
6. Meters.
7. Meter testing.
8. Liability.
9. Alteration to installation.
10. Entry on customer's premises.
11. Bills.
12. Discontinuance of supply.
13. Contract.
14. Disconnection and interruption.
15. Rates.
16. Fees.

CAP. 280 *National Petroleum Corporation* L.R.O. 2007 A2
(Supply of Natural Gas) Regulations, 2004

REGULATION

17. Offences.

FIRST SCHEDULE

SECOND SCHEDULE

National Petroleum Corporation Cap. 280.

NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION 2004/140.
(SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS) REGULATIONS, 2004

Authority: These Regulations were made on 2nd November, 2004 by the Minister under section 21 of the *National Petroleum Corporation Act*.

Commencement: 15th November, 2004.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the *National Petroleum Corporation (Supply of Natural Gas) Regulations, 2004*. Short title.

2. In these Regulations, Interpretation.

"customer" means a residential, commercial, industrial or resale customer who applies to the Corporation for the supply of natural gas and who is so supplied by the Corporation;

"device" means any apparatus used by the Corporation in order to control the supply of natural gas to a customer;

"premises" means any dwelling-house, office or any other building;

"shut-off point" means the point at which the flow of natural gas supplied by the Corporation to any pipe or line used, owned or installed by the Corporation can be shut off before the natural gas reaches a customer's appliance;

"shut-off valve" means any device or apparatus used by the Corporation for the interruption of the supply of natural gas to a customer's premises.

3. An application for the supply of natural gas shall be made in accordance with Form I as set out in the *First Schedule*. Form of application. First Schedule.

Deposit. **4.** (1) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), an application for the supply of natural gas must be accompanied by the refundable deposit fee specified in paragraph 1(a) of the *Second Schedule*.
Second Schedule.

(2) Where

(a) the consumption of natural gas by a customer is likely to exceed 150 cubic metres per month; or

(b) the natural gas supplied is used for more than one residence at the premises,

the amount of the deposit to be paid by a customer on application shall be determined by the Corporation.

(3) A deposit made in accordance with these Regulations shall be held by the Corporation as security against the indebtedness of a customer of the Corporation.

(4) Where a contract for the supply of natural gas is terminated, the Corporation shall deduct any sums due to the Corporation from the said deposit and shall refund the remainder to the customer.

Testing of installations. **5.** (1) The Corporation shall, before supplying natural gas to any premises,

(a) install the necessary pipes and gas lines for carrying natural gas to the premises;

(b) install a shut-off valve at a suitable point along the gas line;

(c) install a shut-off point to interrupt the supply of gas to the premises;

(d) test the installation, whether located within or on any part of the premises;

(e) test all pipes, gas lines and connections to appliances at the premises; and

- (f) supply the customer with a certificate of completion, which shall include
- (i) the name and address of the customer, the job order number and the date of installation and testing;
 - (ii) a test report on the service line;
 - (iii) comments on the test report;
 - (iv) the signature of the fitter and date of signature; and
 - (v) the name of the superintendent supervising the installation.

(2) The Corporation shall not by virtue of making any inspection or test of any installation or connections in accordance with these Regulations, whether during the progress of the work of installation at the premises of the customer or after the completion, be deemed responsible for

- (a) the efficiency or safety of the installation or connections so tested or inspected;
- (b) the proper execution of the work of installation; or
- (c) any damage or loss arising out of the use or misuse of the installation or connections by the customer or any other person other than an employee of the Corporation.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(f)(iv) "fitter" means a trained technician who lays gas mains and installs service pipes.

6. (1) In making connections for the supply of natural gas, the Corporation shall install meters on the premises of the customer for the purpose of measuring the amount of natural gas supplied to the premises by the Corporation. ^{Meters.}

- (2) The meters installed by the Corporation
 - (a) are the property of the Corporation; and
 - (b) shall be accurate and shall be kept in good working order by the Corporation.
- (3) A customer shall be liable for any damage to a meter or any loss of a meter where the damage or loss is not due to any fault, omission or neglect on the part of the Corporation.

Meter testing. First Schedule. Second Schedule.

7. (1) An application for the testing of a meter shall be made in accordance with Form II as set out in the *First Schedule*, and shall be accompanied by the fee specified in paragraph 1(b) of the *Second Schedule*.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), where a meter is tested by the Corporation and as a result of the testing it is determined that the meter is inaccurate,

- (a) the fee referred to in paragraph (1) shall be refunded; and
- (b) the percentage of error shall be added to or deducted from the consumption for a period not exceeding 3 months immediately prior to the testing.

(3) Where a meter is found to be not more than 3 per cent fast or slow, that meter shall be deemed to be in accurate working order.

Liability.

8. (1) The liability of the Corporation to supply natural gas to a customer after inspection and the issue of a certificate of completion shall not extend beyond the point along the supply line to which the meter is installed.

(2) Any risk or liability incurred or any damage or loss suffered on the premises of a customer beyond the point at which the meter is installed shall be assumed or borne by the customer unless it is proven that the damage or loss resulted from any negligence on the part of the Corporation.

9. No customer may, without the approval of the Corporation, make any alteration to an installation made by the Corporation for the supply of natural gas. Alteration to installation.

10. (1) The Corporation may, at all reasonable times, enter on a consumer's premises for any of the following purposes: Entry on customer's premises.

- (a) reading the meter;
- (b) changing any charts applicable to the supply of natural gas;
- (c) turning on or off the supply of natural gas;
- (d) stopping leaks;
- (e) examining pipes, connections or fittings;
- (f) ascertaining the use that is being made of natural gas by a customer;
- (g) testing, repairing, removing or changing a meter or any other installation.

(2) Where the Corporation is unable to enter the premises of a customer for the purpose of reading the meter, the Corporation may

- (a) estimate the consumption of natural gas by the customer and render a bill based on that estimate; or
- (b) disconnect the supply when the failure to gain access to the premises continues for 2 consecutive months.

11. (1) The Corporation shall render bills to customers that are based on the consumption of natural gas Bills.

- (a) recorded by the meter; or
- (b) estimated in accordance with regulation 10(2)(a).

(2) Bills may be rendered by the Corporation on a monthly basis or as the Corporation determines, and must be paid within 15 days after the date of posting or delivery thereof.

- (e) on the insolvency of a customer;
- (f) on the use or prospective use by a customer of pipes, appliances or connections in a manner that in the opinion of the Corporation is, or is likely to become, dangerous to life or property;
- (g) where fraudulent misrepresentation was made in an application for the supply of natural gas or in relation to the use of natural gas supplied by the Corporation;
- (h) on the discontinuance of the use of natural gas;
- (i) where the customer is convicted of an offence under these Regulations.

15. The rates for the supply of natural gas shall be determined by the Fair Trading Commission. Rates.

16. (1) The Corporation shall charge the installation fee specified in paragraph 2 of the *Second Schedule* to cover all reasonable expenses incurred in Fees.
Second
Schedule.

- (a) effecting the supply of natural gas to a customer; and
- (b) testing all installations, whether within or on any part of the premises, and testing all connections to appliances.

(2) The Corporation shall charge such rates for the rental of meters as are set out in paragraph 4 of the *Second Schedule*. Second
Schedule.

17. (1) A customer who without the consent of the Corporation permits the use of natural gas by way of transfer to other premises is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1 000 or to imprisonment for 12 months or to both. Offences.

(2) A customer or other person who wilfully or recklessly damages or opens any lock, cock, valve, pipe or other apparatus belonging to or under the control of the Corporation is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1 000 or to imprisonment for 12 months or to both.

FIRST SCHEDULE

(Regulation 3)

FORM I

**National Petroleum Corporation Act
Cap. 280**

**National Petroleum Corporation (Supply of Natural Gas)
Regulations, 2004**

APPLICATION FOR SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS

I of
hereby make application for the supply of natural gas to premises situated at
..... to be used for
.....

I hereby declare that I am aware that any contract entered into with the
National Petroleum Corporation is subject to the *National Petroleum Corporation*
(Supply of Natural Gas) Regulations, 2004, and I further declare that all statements
made by me in this application are true and accurate.

The application fee of \$50.00 is enclosed herewith.

Dated the day of , 20 .

Applicant

