

ORIGINAL

DOCKET NO. 010105-GU

CERTIFICATION OF
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

FILED WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2001 JUN 25 PM 4:09
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
FILED

I do hereby certify:

(1) That all statutory rulemaking requirements of Chapter 120, F.S., have been complied with; and

(2) There is no administrative determination under subsection 120.56(2), F.S., pending on any rule covered by this certification; and

(3) All rules covered by this certification are filed within the prescribed time limitations of paragraph 120.54(3)(e), F.S. They are filed not less than 28 days after the notice required by paragraph 120.54(3)(a), F.S., and;

(a) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice; or

(b) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice not including days an administrative determination was pending; or

(c) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but not less than 21 days nor more than 45 days from the date of publication of the notice of change; or

(d) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but

- APP _____
- CAF _____
- OMP _____
- COM _____
- CTR _____
- ECR _____
- LEG _____
- OPC _____
- PAI _____
- RCO _____
- SEC
- SER _____
- OTH _____

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

07917 JUN 26 01

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

not less than 14 nor more than 45 days after the adjournment of the final public hearing on the rule; or

 / (e) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after the date of receipt of all material authorized to be submitted at the hearing; or

 / (f) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after the date the transcript was received by this agency; or

 / (g) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice, not including days the adoption of the rule was postponed following notification from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee that an objection to the rule was being considered; or

 / (h) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after a good faith written proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative to a proposed rule is submitted which substantially accomplishes the objectives of the law being implemented; or

 / (i) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after a regulatory alternative is offered by the small business ombudsman.

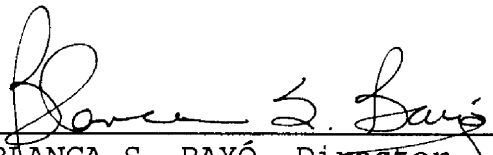
Attached are the original and two copies of each rule covered by this certification. The rules are hereby adopted by the undersigned agency by and upon their filing with the Department of State.

Rule No.

25-7.063

Under the provision of subparagraph 120.54(3)(e)6., F.S.,
the rules take effect 20 days from the date filed with the
Department of State or a later date as set out below:

Effective: _____
(month) (day) (year)



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

Number of Pages Certified

(S E A L)

CTM

1 25-7.063 Meter Accuracy at Installation.

2 (1) A new gas meter shall be within plus or minus 1 ~~not more~~
3 ~~than one percent of accuracy~~ to be ~~(1%) fast and not more than two~~
4 ~~percent (2%) slow when~~ installed for customer use. Manufacturers'
5 test data may be used if there is no indication of damage to the
6 meters resulting from the shipping process. If damage is apparent,
7 in order for the manufacturers' test data to be used, a ~~random~~
8 representative sample of not less than ~~a minimum of ten~~ 10 percent
9 ~~(10%)~~ of the ~~new~~ meters in the damaged shipping unit, such as a
10 pallet or container, shall be ~~have been~~ tested and found to be
11 ~~insure they are~~ within accuracy limits. If any meter of the
12 sample is found not to be within accuracy limits, the entire
13 shipping unit must be tested, and where necessary, the meters
14 adjusted to within the plus or minus 1 percent accuracy limits.

15 (2) Every meter removed from service when opened for repairs
16 shall be adjusted to be not more than ~~one~~ 1 percent ~~(1%)~~ fast and
17 ~~not more than two~~ or 1 percent ~~(2%)~~ slow before being reset. ~~and~~
18 ~~if~~ If not opened for repairs, the meter may be reset without
19 adjustment if found to be not more than 1 ~~two~~ percent ~~(2%)~~ in error
20 fast or not more than 1 percent slow provided the meter is
21 otherwise in good condition.

22 (3) ~~(2)~~ No meter may ~~shall~~ be installed unless it has been
23 tested within the previous 12 months and found to be within the
24 accuracy limits ~~prescribed in (1) of~~ established by this rule,
25 ~~within a period no longer than twelve (12) months previous to the~~

CODING: Words underlined are additions; words in ~~struck through~~
type are deletions from existing law.

1 | ~~date of installation.~~

2 | Specific Authority: 366.05(1), F.S.

3 | Law Implemented: 366.05(1), F.S.

4 | History: Repromulgated 1/8/75, 5/4/75, Amended 2/13/84, formerly
5 | 25-7.63, 07/16/01.

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CODING: Words underlined are additions; words in ~~struck through~~
type are deletions from existing law.

SUMMARY OF RULE

This rule change prohibits the installation of a meter that has been tested and found to be more than one percent slow rather than the previous two percent slow and further removes the requirement for investor-owned gas utilities to perform a random test of 10 percent of all new meters. The proposed rule requires that if damage is apparent on any shipment of new meters, a 10 percent sampling of the damaged shipping unit, such as a pallet or container, must be performed to assure the damage has not detrimentally changed the meter accuracy of the shipment as a whole.

SUMMARY OF HEARINGS ON THE RULE

No hearing was requested and none was held.

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFYING THE RULE

The deregulation of the natural gas industry has resulted in the distribution operator becoming a transporter of natural gas. This new transportation role has developed a demand for greater measurement accuracy. This rule amendment, in part, is an attempt to meet this need by requiring improved meter accuracy at the time the meter is installed at a customer's premise.

The second reason for the amendment of this rule was due to the realization that the requirement to random sample test 10

percent of all new meters purchased by a utility is not cost effective. This random test requirement originated in February 1984 when Rule Chapter 25-7.063 was first amended. At that time, the Commission staff had evidence that the shipment and handling of new meters for the Florida investor-owned utilities did not meet national standards. Since the promulgation of the rule, utility operators have initiated improved procedures for the shipment and handling of new meters.

Meter test data provided by the operators indicate that for those new meters tested in the past six years, only one-tenth of one percent of the meters tested were found not to be within allowable accuracy limits. The amendment of Rule Chapter 25-7.063 reduces the requirement for random sample testing of new meters. As proposed, the utility operator would only be required to perform the 10 percent random test if the meter shipping unit has apparent damage.