

RULE NO. 19

WATER METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

I. TESTS

A. PRIOR TO INSTALLATION:

Every meter that is older than 10 years, or rebuilt, or repaired will be tested prior to being installed and no meter will be placed in service if found to register outside the standards as listed in the tables in the American Water Works Association manual.

B. ON CUSTOMER REQUEST:

1. A customer may, on not less than one week's notice, require the District to test the meter serving his premises.
2. No charge will be made for such a test, except where a Customer requests a test within six months after installation of the meter or more often than once a year, in which case he will be required to deposit with the District the following amounts to cover the costs of the test:

<u>SIZE OF METER</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT</u>
One inch or smaller	\$ 15.00
Larger than one inch	\$ 30.00

3. This deposit will be returned if the meter is found to register more than 2% fast. The Customer will be notified not less than five (5) days in advance of the time and place of the test.
4. A Customer shall have the right to require the District to conduct the test in his presence or in the presence of his representative. Where the District has no proper meter testing facilities available locally, with the consent of the Customer the meter may be tested by an outside meter manufacturer or its agency, or by any other reliable organization equipped for water meter testing, in which latter case the Customer may demand a duly notarized statement certifying as to the method used in making the test and as to the accuracy thereof. The actual costs from the outside agency will be paid by the customer.
5. A report showing the results of the test will be furnished to the Customer within fifteen (15) days after completion of the test.

II. ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

A. FAST METERS:

When, upon test, on Customer's request or otherwise, a meter is found to be registering more than 2% fast, the District will refund to the Customer the amount of the overcharge based on corrected meter readings for the period the meter was in use, but not exceeding a time period of six (6) months.

B. SLOW METERS:

1. When, upon test, on Customer's request or otherwise, a meter used for residential service is found to be registering more than 25% slow, the District may bill the Customer for the amount of the undercharge based upon corrected meter readings for the period the meter was in use, but not exceeding a time period of three (3) months.
2. When, upon test, on Customer's request or otherwise, a meter used for commercial or industrial service, where the average monthly water bill in a year's time is in excess of Ten Dollars (\$10.00), is found to be registering more than 5% slow, the District may bill the Customer for the amount of the undercharge based upon corrected meter readings for the period the meter was in use, but not exceeding a time period of three (3) months.

C. NONREGISTERING METERS:

The District may bill the Customer for water consumed while the Customer's meter was not registering at all, but for a period not exceeding three (3) months, billing for such use either at the minimum monthly meter rate, or upon an estimate of the consumption based upon the Customer's prior use during the same season of the year if conditions were unchanged, or upon an estimate based upon a reasonable comparison with the use of other Customers during the same period receiving the same class of service under similar circumstances and conditions.

When it is found that the error in a meter is due to some cause, the date of which cause can be established, the overcharge or the undercharge will be computed back to but not beyond such date at the discretion of the General Manager.