# **Customer Bill of Rights**



# Welcome to SíEnergy, your premier natural gas partner.

SíEnergy, L.P. 3 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 110 Lakeway, TX 78734 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday Phone: 281-778-6250, 888-468-7007 Fax: 832-201-7286 www.SíEnergy.com

# 24-Hour Emergency: 281-778-6250, option 1 888-468-7007, option 1

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# **Rules of Service and Rates**

SíEnergy's rates, quality of service and safety measures are regulated by the Texas Railroad Commission, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and municipal safety guidelines to ensure high quality of service and rates that are reasonable and necessary to the delivery of natural gas. Our service rules and applicable tariffs are available at no charge upon request. Contact the SíEnergy customer care center at 281-778-6250 or (888) 468-7007 to request a copy.

## Your Gas Bill

Itemized bills are mailed approximately every 30 days. Statements are due and payable when rendered and should be paid on or before the due date which is a minimum of 16 days from mailing. The date is clearly indicated on the bill. Any payment received after the due date is considered late and a disconnection notice will be issued. The unpaid balance is due within 5 business days from the date the disconnection notice is prepared and sent. Failure to receive a bill does not exempt a customer from the responsibility to make payment. Please contact Customer Service if you fail to receive a statement within 30 days of initiating gas service, or subsequently, if you ever have difficulty receiving statements.

# The Gas Meter

A gas meter measures and records the amount of gas used per every hundred standard cubic feet of gas (Ccf). Your meter is read on approximately the same day each month. Meter readings for the previous month and the present month both appear on each bill to allow you to monitor your monthly consumption of gas.

# **Reading Your Gas Meter**

SíEnergy will be happy to provide you with written instructions on how to read your gas meter. Contact us at 281-778-6250 or (888) 468-7007.

# **Customer Request for Meter Test**

If you have a question regarding your meter accuracy, a meter test will be made at your request. SíEnergy will inform you of the time and place of the test so that you or your representative may be present. The meter test will be performed free of charge if no such test has been performed in the last four years for you at the same location. If a test has already been performed in the last four years, a charge will be billed to you as set out in our rates. If the meter test indicates that the meter is more than nominally defective (i.e. a deviation of more than 2.0% from accurate registration), the fee will be refunded. An adjustment may be made to your account reflecting a charge or credit, depending on whether the meter was over- or under-registered.

# Service Termination

Customers have an obligation to pay for the gas used. If payment becomes past due, a written disconnection notice will be mailed at least 5 business days prior to the date of disconnection.

#### Service may be terminated after notice for these reasons:

- Failure to pay a bill or make payment arrangements prior to the date of disconnection
- Failure to comply with the terms of a payment agreement
- Failure to comply with the terms of an installment plan on a delinquent account
- Violation of the rules on using service in a manner that interferes with the service of others, if reasonable attempt has been made to notify the customer and the customer has reasonable opportunity to remedy the situation
- Violation of the rules on using service by the operation of non-standard equipment, if reasonable attempt has been made to notify the customer and the customer has reasonable opportunity to remedy the situation
- Failure to comply with deposit or guaranty requirements
- Failure to make proper application for service in the true name of the customer
- Failure to comply with permit or restriction requirements set forth by the applicable governmental authority
- Using gas in violation of any law, ordinance, or regulation
- In the event our representatives are refused access to the premises to read meters or service or repair lines or other equipment.
- In the event you vacate the premises

# Service may be terminated without notice for these reasons:

- Tampering with, damaging or bypassing the company's meter or equipment or other instances of diversion or theft of service. This is illegal, extremely dangerous and you could face possible prosecution by the District Attorney's Office.
- Existence of a known dangerous condition. Service will not be re-connected so long as the condition exists.
- Fraudulent misrepresentation regarding the consumption of gas or any other fraud practiced with regard to matters referred to in our service rules or in a contract with us

# Service may be refused for these reasons:

- The existence of facilities that are hazardous, interfere with the service of others or are otherwise inadequate
- The use of prohibited equipment or attachments
- Change of customer identity to avoid or evade payment of a utility bill (i.e. intent to deceive)
- Existing indebtedness to SíEnergy
- Refusal to comply with deposit and guarantee requirements.

#### Service Reconnection

To reconnect gas service, the balance paid in full, security deposit and a reconnect fee will be required. An appointment must be scheduled for service reconnection. If payment is received prior to 11:30 a.m., an appointment can be scheduled for the morning of the next business day. If payment is received between 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., an appointment can be scheduled for the afternoon of the next business day. Tampering, bypassing or connection of service by an unauthorized person will result in additional charges.

#### **Steps to Prevent Termination of Service**

To avoid termination of service, the customer must pay all balances due. If unable to pay the full amount of the bill(s), the customer must sign a deferred payment agreement to pay the outstanding balance in installments. The customer must continue to pay subsequent bills on time. If service is to be terminated for any reason other than past due payment, the termination will be reversed when the reason for termination has been corrected. This does not apply in cases involving theft or fraud.

#### Serious Illness/Physical Disabilities

If termination of gas would cause someone at your home to become seriously ill or more seriously ill, the following steps must be taken to avoid termination of service:

- The state-licensed physician or doctor's office must call our Customer Service Manager within 16 days of the date the bill was issued.
- The physician or doctor's office must send written documentation\* of the medical necessity to our Customer Service Manager within 26 days of the issuance of the bill.
- After the first two steps have been fulfilled, the customer must sign a deferred payment agreement.

\* New documentation must be provided each time a delay is requested. Critical Care

Contact SíEnergy if a resident in your home requires gas service to maintain life. Your account will be coded as "critical," informing our service technicians of the medical need in outage situations. Documentation from your physician will be required.

#### **Billing Disputes**

In the event of a billing dispute, please contact Customer Service at 281-778-6250 or (888) 468-7007. Our representatives will attempt to answer your questions and resolve your issue. If the dispute cannot be resolved by telephone, you must provide SíEnergy with written notice prior to the date the bill becomes due and payable. Please include the reason(s) you question the amount. SíEnergy will investigate the dispute and report the findings. Gas service will not be disconnected while the bill is in dispute or for 60 days after the bill is issued, whichever period is shorter.

Until the dispute is resolved, you may be required to pay an average bill amount in lieu of the disputed portion and to pay subsequent billings. If you are dissatisfied with the review, you may appeal to the municipality in which you live.

#### **Registering a Complaint**

Should you register a compliant with SíEnergy that is not handled to your satisfaction, you may request a review by your local city government. If you live outside of the city limits, contact:

Railroad Commission of Texas Attention: Gas Utilities Division P.O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711-2967

#### **Paying Your Bill**

By Mail: Please send a check or money order (no cash) to: SíEnergy PO Box 660141 Dallas, TX 75266-0141

**In Person:** Customers may pay gas bills in person at many locations in your area. These include select Wal-Mart, HEB and Kroger locations, as well as, numerous independent check cashing facilities and other merchants.

**Online:** SiEnergy accepts MasterCard, Visa, Discover and electronic check payments online at <u>www.SiEnergy.com</u>. Please note: All credit card transactions will be subject to a 2.5% processing fee and all electronic check transactions will be subject to a \$1.00 fee.

#### **Financial Assistance**

Please contact our customer care center for a list of agencies providing financial assistance.

#### **Maintenance and Safety**

**Customer Yard Lines:** SiEnergy maintains the gas piping in your yard up to the point where it reaches your gas meter. If your meter is mounted away from your house, the pipe between your house and the meter is your responsibility.

**Excess Flow Valves:** Excess flow valves are safety devices that shut off the gas flowing through your service line if the line is cut or damaged. Generally, SíEnergy has already installed a valve on the line that serves each customer. In the event there is not a valve installed, SíEnergy will install one upon request, and we will bill you for the cost of labor and material.

# **Reporting Emergencies**

#### What to do if you smell gas:

- Extinguish all open flames and/or sparks in the area.
- If possible, turn off the gas supply to the individual appliance.
- Do not operate electrical switches, telephones or appliances.
- Leave your house and walk to a neighbor's home.
- Do not operate motor vehicles in the area.
- From a neighbor's house, call our 24-hour Emergency Line: (281) 778-6250, option 1 or (888) 468-7007, option 1

#### Be prepared to tell the operator:

- The nature of the possible emergency
- The location of the emergency
- Your name and location

#### **Call Before You Dig**

Before you dig it is important to have all utility lines that run through your yard located to prevent damage and disruption of service and to ensure that safety is maintained. If you are planning to dig more than 16 inches, state law requires that you call Lone Star Notification Center. You can call 811 by phone to request that the utilities in your yard are located at no cost to you. If you fail to call before you dig you may be responsible for the costs to repair damage lines.

#### **Privacy Statement**

All information given to SíEnergy to establish your account is kept completely confidential and is not given or sold for any reason except as required by regulatory authorities or by valid subpoena.



Your premier natural gas partner

For more than 16 years, SíEnergy has been a trusted provider of premium natural gas services to top-rated communities in Texas. Committed to delivering efficient, clean-burning natural gas at reasonable costs, SíEnergy is proud to be your premier natural gas partner.