

1023 - Installation of Customer Metering

Effective 07/22/2020

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1. SCOPE

1. The following prescribes requirements for the installation of metering facilities on a customer's premises. Metering facilities include all aboveground components of a customer's meter set. These guidelines are applicable to all Dominion Energy South Carolina (DESC) customers.

2. LOCATION

1. GENERAL

1. Metering facilities shall be installed in readily accessible locations and be protected from corrosion and other damage. Likewise, metering facilities should not be installed in locations where access to utility meters or other electrical/mechanical equipment may be prohibited or encumbered.
2. Where practical, a three (3) foot separation should be maintained between the metering facility and any source of ignition, forced air intakes, or vents from direct vented gas appliances. For the purposes of this standard, electric utility meters are not considered to be a source of ignition.
3. Measures should be taken to avoid installation of a metering facility directly beneath or in front of a window or other building opening that may be used as a means of egress during an emergency.

2. OUTDOOR LOCATIONS

1. Metering facilities should not be located in areas where the potential for damage by outside forces such as vehicles, lawn equipment, etc. may be anticipated. In the event such an area cannot be avoided, additional protection should be provided in the form of a protective barrier.
2. Regulator vents should be three (3) foot from the following:
 1. Ignition sources (this excludes electric utility meters)
 2. Forced air intakes

3. This three (3) foot measurement is measured from the regulator vent left, right, and out (circle), and continues upward and downward (a vertical column. Reference Construction Detail drawings [4.03.100 Residential Meter Set, Typical Installation](#) and [4.03.110 Typical "NG Connection", Meter Set and Water Heater](#). However, a metering facility may be installed with less separation if the regulator vent is piped to meet the three (3) foot requirement, or if a slam- shut type regulator is installed. Reference Detail drawings [4.03.105 Residential Meter Set, Typical Horizontal Vent](#), [4.03.106 Residential Meter Set, Typical Vertical Vent](#), and [4.03.115 Regulator Vent, For Underground Enclosure](#).
4. If possible, consideration should be given to the metering facility's proximity to building openings such as operable window, crawl space vents, etc. . .

3. INDOOR LOCATIONS

1. Locating a meter facility indoors is generally discouraged. However, it is recognized that circumstances may arise that will not facilitate an outdoor installation. In such cases, approval must be received from the Divisional Engineering Manager prior to installation.
 1. Service regulators should be located as close as practical to the point where the service line enters the building.
 2. Service regulators that may vent gas in their operation should be vented to an outdoor location. Plastic piping/materials should not be used for vent piping.
 3. Meter facilities should be installed in a well-ventilated location having a minimum three (3) foot separation from any source of ignition or heat that could cause damage.

3. PROTECTION FROM DAMAGE

1. METER CONTAMINATION

1. Dust caps should remain on the meter until it is ready for installation to prevent dirt and other atmospheric contaminants from entering the meter. This is applicable for meters that are removed from service as well.

2. VACUUM OR BACK PRESSURE

1. Metering facilities must be protected from customer equipment that may potentially develop a vacuum or back pressure. Check valves or other suitable devices should be installed prevent any potential damage.

3. SERVICE REGULATOR / RELIEF VALVE VENTS

1. Vent terminations must be insect and rain resistant.
2. Vents must terminate in a location where gas can vent freely into the atmosphere and away from any building opening
3. Vents installed in a flood area should be extended or relocated to a point where the vent termination is above the expected high- water elevation.

4. PITS & VAULTS

1. Each pit or vault that houses a customer meter or regulator must be designed and installed in a manner that will support any anticipated vehicular traffic.

4. INSTALLATION

1. Meter facilities shall be installed in a manner that will minimize any anticipated stresses upon the connecting piping and the meter.
2. The use of close nipples in the fabrication of meter facilities is discouraged; however, they may be used if deemed necessary. When used, the wall thickness remaining after the threads are cut must meet the minimum wall thickness requirements of the code.
3. The meter should be installed as near level as possible to assure its accuracy.
4. Prevent installation of a meter facility where the meter may come into direct contact with soil or other potentially corrosive materials. Meters should maintain a six (6) inch clearance from finish grade.
5. Hand-tighten the meter inlet and outlet swivels. Using a pipe wrench, alternate between swivels and tighten approximately three flats. Take care to not over-tighten.

(UNCONTROLLED IF PRINTED)