

# Legislative

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**GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Continued)**

Section No. 6  
~~1st~~<sup>2nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 14  
~~Cancelling Original Sheet No. 14~~

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**3.3 MONTHLY BILLING**

Bills will normally be rendered monthly and may be paid by mail, or at the office of the Company, or to its duly authorized agents during regular business hours. A "month", as used for billing purposes, does not mean a calendar month, but means the interval between two consecutive periodic meter reading dates which are, as nearly as practicable, at 30 day intervals. The Company may read certain meters less frequently than once each billing month for customers under the Company's self-meter reading procedure, or when the Company and customers otherwise mutually agree, except that a Company representative will read the meter at least once each 12 months. If the billing period is longer or shorter than the normal billing period by more than five days, the bill shall be prorated on a daily basis except for the November, December, ~~and January and~~ January, and February billing periods when the bill shall be prorated on a daily basis whenever the billing period is less than 25 days or more than 40 days.

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**3.4 BUDGET HELPER PLAN**

Qualified customers may, at their request, be billed under the Company's budget helper plan. Such plan shall provide for 11 equal monthly payments based on the customer's previous use. The billing for the twelfth month will reflect the actual billing for that month adjusted for the credit or debit balance carried forward from the previous month. The Company will review the account during the budget year to ascertain the reasonableness of the budget amount under current rates or conditions of use of service, and the monthly payment will be adjusted accordingly.

**3.5 LATE PAYMENT CHARGE**

A late payment charge of 1.0% of the unpaid balance will be added to the unpaid balance two working days after the date due. Customers under the budget helper plan or a payment arrangement will be assessed a late payment charge on the lesser of the outstanding scheduled payments or the outstanding account balance. All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding total account balance before application of the late payment charge. The late payment charge will be waived in instances where a company error is involved or where complications arise with financial institutions in processing automatic electronic payments.

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(Continued on Sheet No. 6-15)

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Date Filed: ~~06-30-09~~<sup>12-22-</sup>  
22 By: ~~David M. Sparby~~<sup>Christopher B. Clark</sup> Effective Date: ~~01-18-10~~  
President, ~~and CEO~~ of Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation  
Docket No. ~~EL09-009~~<sup>22-</sup> Order Date: ~~01-12-10~~