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Item # 120883 Late Fees and Utility Terminations Proposed changes to GRU Billing City Commission February 20th, 2014



Residential Billing Cycle

- Bill is due 21 days after being generated
- 1 day after due date, late fee is assessed and late notice is sent
- 7 days after due date, delinquent disconnection issued for primary service (61 days of service)
- 14 days after due date, delinquent disconnection issued for other services (68 days of service)



Non-Residential Billing Cycle

- Bill is due 21 days after being generated
- 1 day after due date, late fee assessed
- 28 days past due date, late notice sent
- 35 days past due date, delinquent disconnect issued and door tag
- 36 days past due date, primary service disconnected (up to 95 days of service)
- 42 days past due date, other services disconnected (up to 102 days of service)





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Recommendations



Bill Due Dates

Current

- Due date is 20 days from mailing date (21 counting mailing date)
- Bills may be due on a Sunday
- Causes customer complaints about bills due when we are closed

Proposed

- Change to 21 days (22 counting mailing date.
- Bills not due on Sunday, may be due on Monday holiday
- Less complaints and reduced email/phone calls



Bill Calculation Date

Current

- Bills calculated on Friday
 night, mailed Monday
- Payments made over weekend not reflected on bill. Disconnect letters may be issued
- Inconsistent with bills generated Monday – Thursday

Proposed

- Calculate bills on Sunday
 and mail on Monday
- Capture weekend payments, before disconnect letters generated
- All portions have similar cycle



Residential Disconnect

Current

 Upon disconnection if customer has 90 CW points or more must contact us prior to reconnect

Proposed

 Reconnection upon payment regardless of CW points



Non-Residential Late Notice

Current

- Letter @ 28 days late & \$250 balance
- Only 1 letter

Proposed

- Letter @ 14 days late & \$50 balance
- Add additional letters, based on CW points



Non-Residential Disconnect

Current

 Issue disconnection at 35 days late & ≥ 30 CW points

Proposed

 Issue disconnection at 21 days late & ≥ 30 CW points





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Summary of Ordinance Changes



Where changes needed if approved

- 27.14 Combined Statements
 - Change due dates to proposed dates
 - Change delinquent dates to proposed dates
 - Remove requirement for deposit review before disconnect reconnect, if 90+ CW points



Recommendations

- Adopt the proposed changes
- Direct the City Attorney to Draft and the Clerk to Advertise an ordinance to address the changes

