

**DOCKET NO. UG-011073**  
**Pipeline Safety Rulemaking**

**Draft Master Meter Rules**  
**November 7, 2003**

**Definition**

**WAC 480-93-005 Definitions**

**"Master Meter System"** means

(a) An underground pipeline system for distributing gas within, but not limited to, a definable area, such as a mobile home park, housing project, or apartment complex, where the operator purchases metered gas from an outside source for resale through a gas distribution pipeline system, and the gas distribution pipeline system supplies the ultimate consumer who either purchases the gas directly through a meter or by other means, such as rents; or

(b) An underground pipeline system for distributing gas to more than one building not intended for resale or distribution to non-public entities but not limited to a definable area, such as a private housing project, private schools, churches, private hospitals. For purposes of this subsection, municipal systems are included.

**Master Meter Rules**

**WAC 480-93-WWW Service to New Master Meter Installation**

Gas companies must receive approval from the commission to connect service to a newly identified master meter system or private gas distribution system. Before the commission approves service to the master meter or private gas distribution system, the commission will inspect the system to determine if the requirements of this chapter have been complied with.

### **WAC 480-93-XXX Master Meter Notification**

Gas companies must record all identified master meter systems on the annual report filed with the commission. The report must contain the name, address, and telephone number of the owner and operator of the master meter system. Gas companies must also provide to the master meter operator a copy of this chapter, which master meter operators must follow to ensure that all pipeline safety rules are followed when owning and operating a master meter system.

### **WAC 480-93-YYY Termination of Service**

In the event of a hazardous condition or potentially hazardous condition in the pipeline system, the commission will take either of the following actions: (a) order service to the master meter system or private gas distribution system be interrupted, or (b) order the hazard remedied at owner and operator's expense. If a gas company representative identifies a hazardous or potentially hazardous condition on a master meter or private gas distribution system, the gas companies must interrupt natural gas service to the pipeline system until the system is repaired and the commission deems the system safe.

### **WAC 480-93-ZZZ Reinstatement of service**

If actions are required to interrupt gas service to the master meter system, the master meter operator must demonstrate to the commission that the hazardous or potentially hazardous condition in the pipeline system has been corrected before service can be reinstated. The gas company may reinstate service to a master meter operator only after the master meter operator has demonstrated to the commission that the hazardous or potentially hazardous condition in the master meter system has been corrected.