

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY BYLAW NO. 2015, 2015

A bylaw to provide for the regulation and control of the Electrical Utility of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks and impose rates, terms and conditions for supply of electricity service.

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks considers it desirable and expedient to maintain an Electrical Department for the Grand Forks community and to make regulations for the supply of this service;

NOW THEREFORE, in open meeting assembled, be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks **ENACTS** as follows:

1. TITLE

- 1.1 This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the **“City of Grand Forks Electrical Utility Regulatory Bylaw No. 2015, 2015.”**

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 In this Bylaw, unless the content otherwise requires, the following definitions will apply:

“Bi-Monthly” means every two-month period;

“City” means the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks;

“Chief Financial Officer” means the Chief Financial Officer appointed by the City or his/her authorized deputy;

“Customer” means any person, company, or corporation who has opened a service account with the City for the purpose of being supplied with electrical energy by the City;

“Council” means the elected Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks;

“Electrical Department” is as defined in Section 3.3 of this bylaw;

“Electrical Utility” means the City’s electrical distribution system and includes all the structures, switchgear, transformers, poles, wires, cables, meters and related apparatus and facilities used in the receiving, distribution and measuring of electrical power and energy and which comprise the electrical distribution

system. It also includes all land, easements, rights-of-way, buildings, vehicles, tools, or other things, which, by their necessity and usage, form an essential part of the electrical distribution system;

“Manager of Operations” means the person appointed from time to time by the City to supervise the operations of the Electrical Utility or his authorized deputy or assistant;

“Occupier” means the same as in the Community Charter, as amended from time to time;

“Owner” means the same as in the Community Charter, as amended from time to time;

“Point of Delivery” means the first point of connection between the City’s electrical distribution and the Customers’ electrical facilities. This will be at the service mast on overhead services (not including the attachment point for the overhead wire) and at property line on underground secondary services;

“Power Factor” means the percentage determined by dividing the Customer’s demand measured in kilowatts by the same demand measured in kilovolt-amperes;

“Premises” means the land occupied by the Customer together with any buildings, works, or improvements, which have been erected or constructed thereon;

“Rate or Rates” includes every toll, rate, security deposit, and interest on arrears or any other lawfully collectible charges applicable under this Bylaw for the provision and delivery of electricity in any form or services which are in any way related to the delivery of electricity;

“Service” means the supply of electricity from the City to any premises, and where the context requires, the electrical utility necessary to and actually used for the purposes of the supply;

“Service Area” means the area within the boundaries of the City currently serviced by the City’s Electrical Utility, as outlined in “Schedule A”;

“Service Connection” means that portion of the distribution system facilities extending from the City’s circuits on a public highway to the point of delivery. They include but are not necessarily limited to the following types:

- a) **“Overhead Service”** - That portion of an overhead service connection extending not more than 30 meters onto the Customer’s property and not beyond the first intermediate support on such property.

- b) **“Dip Service”** - A service connection provided from the City’s overhead circuits that is underground where it crosses the Customer’s property line.
- c) **“Underground Service”** - A service connection provided from the City’s underground circuits;

“Service Entrance” is the point on the Customer’s premises at which the point of delivery is between the City’s system and the Customer’s system;

“Temporary Service” means a service provided to meet a temporary need (no longer than 270 days connected) not to exceed 30 meters in length from the City’s distribution and does not include the supply of a periodical or seasonal service requirement that may occur at the same location.

3. ADMINISTRATION

- 3.1 The Electrical Utility shall be administered jointly by the Financial Administration Department and the Electrical Department, and the management of such departments shall be directly responsible to the Chief Administrative Officer.
- 3.2 The Financial Administration Department, under the control of the Chief Financial Officer, shall be totally responsible for the business management of the Electrical Utility. The department will be responsible for the control and management of all financial matters pertaining to the operation of the Utility and preparation of budgets, financial statements pertaining to the Electrical Utility operation, and for the preparation of all bills and accounts, and the collection of same, all in accordance with the rates and charges outlined in “Schedule C”, and the billing and collection regulations outlined in “Schedule D”, attached to this bylaw.
- 3.3 The Electrical Department, under the control of the Manager of Operations shall be responsible for the construction, maintenance and operation of all the properties and physical plant owned or controlled by the City, which are necessary for and pertinent to the proper operation of the Electrical Utility.

The Manager of Operations shall also be responsible for:

- a) all matters directly related to the supply of service to Customers of the Electrical Utility and the maintenance of good quality service to such Customers;
- b) determining that all works constructed by or for the Electrical Utility are in accordance with applicable requirements for electric utilities in the Province of British Columbia;

- c) ensuring, to the best of his/her ability, the safety of all employees of the Electrical Department and of the City who may be performing works related to the operation of the Electrical Utility;
- d) the enforcement of the "Electrical Service Regulations", as outlined in "Schedule B" of this bylaw. He/She shall also ensure that all policies, procedures and the works installed, constructed, altered, repaired or maintained for the Electrical Utility are done in such a manner as will cause minimal damage or danger to life or property of the employee or public at large. He/she shall be responsible at all times to the Chief Administrative Officer.

4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.1 The City's Responsibilities:

- a) The City will endeavour to provide a regular and uninterrupted supply of electricity but it does not guarantee a constant supply of electricity or the maintenance of unvaried frequency or voltage and shall not be responsible or liable for any loss, injury, damage or expense caused by or resulting from any interruption, termination, disconnect, failure or defect in the supply of electricity, whether caused by the negligence of the City, its servants or agents, or otherwise unless the loss, injury, damage or expense is directly resulting from the willful misconduct of the City, its servants or agents, provided, however, that the City, its servants and agents are not responsible for any loss of profit, loss of revenues or other economic loss even if the loss is directly resulting from the willful misconduct of the City, its servants or agents.

4.2 The Customer's Responsibilities:

- a) Every Customer shall comply with the terms and conditions set out in "Schedule B".
- b) Every Customer shall pay for the service in accordance with the rates and charges outlined in "Schedule C" of this bylaw.
- c) The Customer also agrees to pay for the service based on the Electrical Billing and Collection Regulations, outlined in "Schedule D" of this bylaw.
- d) If a Customer does not pay the fees and charges, outlined in all portions of this bylaw, on or before December 31st in the year that the rates or charges were due and payable, then those rates and charges will be added to and form part of the taxes payable on the property as taxes in arrears.

- e) The Customer is responsible for supplying all the information necessary to properly determine the service requirements.
- f) The Customer shall be responsible for the installation of the service entrance and the meter location, which shall be located at a point satisfactory to the City.

5. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

- 5.1 Any person guilty of any violation or infraction of any of the provisions of this Bylaw (whether expressly declared or not), shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of not more than Two Thousand (\$2000.00) Dollars and costs of prosecution. The penalties imposed under this sub-Section supplement and are not a substitute for any other remedy to an infraction of this bylaw.

6. APPLICATION

- 6.1 This bylaw applies to all lands within the Service Area.

7. SEVERABILITY

- 7.1 If any Section, sub-Section, clause, sub-clause or phrase of this bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

8. REPEAL

- 8.1 The City of Grand Forks “**Electrical Utility Regulatory Bylaw No. 1975**”, “**Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 2009, 2015**” and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

9. ENACTMENT

- 9.1 This bylaw is to take effect upon adoption by the Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks.

INTRODUCED this 4th day of May, 2015

Read a **FIRST** time this 25th day of May, 2015.

Read a **SECOND** time this 25th day of May, 2015.

Read a **THIRD** time this 25th day of May, 2015.

FINALLY ADOPTED this 15th day of June, 2015.



Mayor Frank Konrad

Corporate Officer – Diane Heinrich

CERTIFIED CORRECT

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 2015, 2015, as passed by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks on the 15th day of June, 2015.

Corporate Officer of the Municipal Council of the
City of Grand Forks

SCHEDULE A

CITY OF GRAND FORKS ELECTRICAL SERVICE AREA



SCHEDULE B

CITY OF GRAND FORKS **ELECTRICAL SERVICE REGULATIONS**

1. Terms and Conditions of Use and Supply of Electrical Energy:

- 1.1 Every Customer shall, in respect of any real property of that Customer to which electrical energy is supplied by the City:
- (a) pay to the City, in accordance with the rates and charges set out in "Schedule C" and in accordance with "Schedule D", for the electrical energy supplied by the City to that real property;
 - (b) ensure that electrical energy supplied by the City to that real property is not used for any purpose other than the purpose identified in the application for service relating to that real property;
 - (c) not damage, and shall ensure that occupiers of or invitees to that real property do not damage, any electrical equipment or facilities installed by the City on that real property. This is to include any seal or sign attached to that equipment;
 - (d) ensure that nothing is done on that real property, including without limitation an alteration of wiring, that will or may appreciably change the amount or nature of the load imposed on the Electrical Utility, without the prior consent of the Manager of Operations;
 - (e) ensure that officers, employees and agents of the City have safe and unobstructed access on that real property at all reasonable times for the purpose of ensuring that this Bylaw is being complied with, testing the Owner's electrical energy system, or carrying out any other activity that is necessary for the proper operation of the Electrical Utility;
 - (f) where an officer, employee or agent of the City returns to the Owner's real property to complete work that he or she was unable to complete on a previous attendance by reason of the Owner's failure to comply with Section 1.1(e) of this Schedule, pay to the City the charge set out in Section 4.1 of Schedule "C" as a return visit charge;
 - (g) ensure that the power factor applicable to the delivery of electrical energy to that real property is not lower than 95%;

- (h) ensure that single phase motors rated larger than two (2) horsepower are not used on 120 volt circuits without the prior written consent of the Manager of Operations;
 - (i) ensure that motors of 20 horsepower or larger are equipped with reduced voltage starters or other devices approved in writing by the Manager of Operations, unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Manager of Operations;
 - (j) ensure that 120 volt circuits are connected so as to balance as nearly as possible the currents drawn from the circuits at the point of delivery;
 - (k) ensure that space heating units having a rating of 3 kw or larger are individually thermostatically controlled and that no single in-line thermostat is used to control more than 6 kw of rated capacity;
 - (l) ensure that the phase heating units controlled by one switch or thermostat have no more than 25 kw of rated capacity; and
 - (m) ensure that no facilities capable of generating electricity, except as otherwise permitted in this bylaw, are installed, unless those facilities are at all times electrically isolated from the Electrical Utility.
- 1.2 The City shall retain full title to all electrical equipment and facilities up to the point of delivery, including without limitation all electrical metering devices, installed by the City for the purpose of supplying and measuring electrical energy under this Bylaw.
- 1.3 The City may, from time to time, conduct tests of any Customer's power factor, and where that power factor is found by the City to be lower than 95%, the Customer shall, within 30 days of a written request to do so from the City, install, at his or her expense, power factor corrective equipment acceptable to the Manager of Operations.
- 1.4 Every Customer is liable for, and shall pay to the City forthwith after receiving an invoice setting out those costs, any costs incurred by the City in repairing any damage caused to the Electrical Utility or to any equipment or facilities installed by the City on that Customer's real property, where the damage occurs as a result of the failure of the Customer to comply with any provision of this Bylaw.
- 1.5 The City may discontinue the supply of electrical energy for any or all of the following reasons to any property where the owner or any other person on that property using the electrical energy:
- (a) failure to comply with the rules established under this Bylaw for the use of the service;

- (b) in the opinion of the Manager of Operations, the continued supply of electrical energy to that real property would or might be harmful to the Electrical Utility, create an unreasonable demand on that system, or create an abnormal or unacceptable fluctuation of the line voltages of that system;
 - (c) discontinuance is necessary to enable the City to repair or maintain the Electrical Utility;
 - (d) by reason of a shortage of supply or otherwise, the City considers that it cannot practically continue to supply electrical energy to that real property;
 - (e) a previously metered service has been disconnected for more than 1 year.
 - (f) failure to pay when due any user fees, charges, or taxes imposed under this or any other bylaw of the City in relation to the service.
- 1.6 The supply of electrical energy may be limited or interrupted by the City to accommodate routine maintenance or the construction of improvements to the municipal Electrical Utility.
- 1.7 Except in the case of an emergency, the City will endeavor to provide reasonable notice to affected parties of any service interruption or limitation of service.
- 1.8 Before discontinuing service due to non-compliance with any of the provisions of this bylaw, the City will:
 - (a) provide the owner and all occupiers of that property with at least thirty (30) days notice in writing of discontinuation of the service
 - (b) give the person affected the opportunity to make representations to Council in respect of such non-compliance at a regularly scheduled Council meeting that is scheduled to take place within thirty (30) days following delivery of the notice of discontinuation, provided that the owner or occupier wishing to make the representations notifies the City's Corporate Officer of their intention to do so at least 24 hours before that Council meeting.
- 1.9 Notice under Section 1.8(a) may be given by one or more of the following:
 - (a) posting notice on the property;
 - (b) providing notice on an Owner's and Occupier's electrical utility bill;

- (c) mailing notice to the address(es) supplied by the Owner and Occupier or the address of the property;
 - (d) telephoning the Owner and Occupier, which may include speaking directly to the Owner or leaving a message at the telephone numbers supplied.
 - (e) Electronic mail (E-Mail) the Owner and Occupier at the email address(es) supplied.
- 1.10 The City is not responsible for any notice failing to reach an Owner or Occupier prior to the shut off of electrical energy.

2. New Service Connections

- 2.1 No person may request to connect any electrical energy lines or works to the Electrical Utility unless:
- (a) the Owner of the real property to be supplied with electrical energy as a result of that connection has first:
 - i) submitted to the City a complete New Electrical Service Application in a form provided by the City;
 - ii) paid the New Electrical Service Application fee that is identified in "Schedule C" of this Bylaw as the fee applicable to the type of connection identified in the New Electrical Service Application; and
 - iii) provided evidence satisfactory to the Manager of Operations that he or she has obtained every permit and approval, including the approval of a provincial electrical inspector, that he or she is required under any enactment to obtain before requesting the connection,
 - (b) the person requesting the connection is the Owner of the real property to be supplied with electrical energy as a result of that connection or a person authorized in writing by that Owner to request the connection.
- 2.2 All Meters shall be installed by the City, in a location approved by the Manager of Operations. Meter location specifications shall be as follows:
- (a) The meter socket shall be surface mounted, located on an outside wall and be within one Meter of the corner nearest to the point of supply, except in the case of Metering over 300 volts, the Meter shall be installed on the supply side of the Customer disconnect and Meter locations shall be approved by the Utility Department;
 - (b) All meter sockets shall be installed between 1.5 meters and 2 meters above final ground level to the centre of the meter and located not more than 30 meters into the lot;

- (c) Meters shall not be installed in carports, breezeways or on decks or other similar areas;
- (d) Meters shall be installed in locations that permit safe and unfettered access by employees or agents of the City;
- (e) The Manager of Operations, at his/her sole discretion, may make exceptions to the general specifications for meter installations, where a standard location will cause design and installation difficulties, subject to the meter remaining accessible to the City at all times;
- (f) The Manager of Operations may require, at the Customer's expense, that the Customer relocate any meter that is located in an area that cannot be conveniently accessed by the City at all times, or is considered by the Manager of Operations to be unsafe;
- (g) For all electrical Services in excess of 200 amperes, the Customer shall supply and install an enclosure for current and potential transformers and the design of the enclosure shall first be approved by the Manager of Operations;
- (h) Primary voltage metering connections shall have metering installations paid for by the Customer;
- (i) The Manager of Operations may refuse connection of any electrical Service built in a location not approved by the Manager of Operations, or not built to accepted standards;
- (j) The City will not supply transformation from one secondary voltage to another secondary voltage;
- (k) The City reserves the right to determine the supply voltage of all electrical Service connections;

2.3 Nominal Secondary Supply Voltages are:

- (a) From pole mounted transformers:
 - i. Single Phase – 120/240 volts, 3 wire, maximum 400 amperes.
 - ii. Three Phase - 120/208 volts, 4 wire, maximum 400 amperes transformation capacity.
 - iii. Three Phase - 347/600 volts, 4 wire, maximum 400 amperes transformation capacity.
- (b) From pad mounted transformers:

- i. Single Phase – 120/240 volts, 3 wire, maximum 800 amperes.
 - ii. Three Phase – 120/208 volts, 4 wire, maximum 500 kVA transformation capacity.
 - iii. Three Phase – 347/600 volts, 4 wire, maximum 2,500 kVA transformation capacity.
 - (c) Delta services are prohibited.
 - (d) For loads or supply voltages different from those listed in this Section (e.g. 277-480 volts), the Manager of Operations may require that a Customer supply their own transformation facilities and take service at the available primary voltage; or supply their own secondary voltage conversion transformation.
 - (e) All facilities and equipment to be connected to the City's facilities must be in a condition that is approved by the Manager of Operations. Installation must be carried out in a manner to ensure proper balancing of phases and circuits, and to ensure that the City's equipment is not endangered or that no abnormal voltage fluctuations are anticipated. All three-phase, four-wire facilities must be designed to prevent the load on the phase with the highest load exceeding that on the phase with the lowest load by more than ten (10%) percent.
- 2.4 Customer owned electrical facilities must not be extended across, under or over a street, lane, alley or other public or private space not owned by the Customer for the purpose of servicing more than one Premise through one meter.
- 2.5 It is the Customer's sole responsibility to obtain any easements or statutory rights of way required by the City or others, to permit the installation of an electrical Service.

3.0 Electrical Utility Extension

- 3.1 The Manager of Operations is not required to approve any New Electrical Service Application in respect of any real property, where the connection cannot be made without an extension of the City's electrical service line, unless:
- (a) the City has first approved (and it is under no obligation to do so) the extension of that service line;
 - (b) the Owner has first paid to the City the cost estimated by the City to extend that service line, which cost shall include, without limitation, the cost of installing any poles or other works or appurtenances related to that service line extension; and

- (c) the Owner has first granted to the City, or ensured that others have granted to the City, statutory rights-of-way, satisfactory to the City over any property on which the service line is to be located that is not under the possession and control of the City.
- 3.2 Where the cost incurred by the City in extending a Service line to any real property exceeds the amount paid by the Owner of that real property under Section 3.1(b) of this Schedule, the Owner shall forthwith upon receiving a bill from the City pay to the City the amount of that excess, and where the amount paid by the Owner to the City under Section 3.1(b) of this Schedule exceeds the cost incurred by the City in extending the service line, the City shall pay the amount of the excess to the Owner.
- 3.3 Subject to Section 3.5 of this Schedule, where a property Owner pays for the extension of a service line under Section 3.1(b) of this Schedule and the extension has the capacity to serve land other than land owned by that property Owner, each property Owner whose property is subsequently connected to that extension shall pay to the City for each electrical service connection made within that extension, in addition to any other charges applicable under this Bylaw, the following amount, and the original property Owner who paid for the service line extension will be reimbursed the following amount:

		<u>1</u>
<i>Cost of service line extension paid by the original property owner</i>	X	<i>Sum of the possible service connections which could be made within the service line extension based on the City's bylaws regulating the subdivision of land, plus one (for original service)</i>

- 3.4 For the purpose of Section 3.3 of this Schedule, the number of possible service connections referred to in the calculation described in that Section is the number estimated by the Manager of Operations at the time the original property Owner applies for the service line extension.
- 3.5 Section 3.3 of this Schedule ceases to apply to a service line extension on the earlier of:
- (a) the day on which the property Owner who paid the cost of the service line extension has been reimbursed that cost less the amount obtained as a result of the calculation referred to in Section 3.3 of this Schedule, or
 - (b) the day which is five (5) years after the day on which the service line extension is completed.

4. Electrical Energy Accounts

- 4.1 No person shall use electrical energy supplied by the City unless an Owner of real property to which that electrical energy has an Electrical Utility account in his or her name.

5. New Accounts

- 5.1 An Owner of real property to which electrical energy is being, or is capable of being supplied, may apply to the City to have an Electrical Utility account opened in his or her name by submitting to the City a completed Existing Electrical Account Application in a form provided by the City and by paying to the City, the existing service connection charge set out in Section 4.1 of "Schedule C".

6. Turning Off or On Existing Service

- 6.1 An Owner of real property may apply to have an existing electrical service turned off or on or a disconnected meter reconnected by submitting to the City a completed Existing Electrical Account Application in a form provided by the City and by paying to the City the existing service connection charge set out in Section 4.1 of "Schedule C".

7. Meter Reading

- 7.1 An Owner of real property or a person designated by the Owner as the agent, may apply to have an electrical meter read by submitting to the City a written request in the form provided by the City and by paying to the City the existing service connection charge set out in Section 4.1 of "Schedule C".

8. Refusal to Connect or Serve

- 8.1 The City may refuse to provide service to any customer who has an unpaid account at any premises within the Service Area or who has otherwise failed to comply with any provision of this Bylaw.

9. Point of Delivery and Metering

- 9.1 For overhead secondary service connections, the point of delivery shall be where the Customer's circuit connects to the City's overhead system at the service mast (not including the attachment point or structure). For an underground secondary service the point of delivery shall be where the underground circuit enters the property owned or occupied by the Customer.

- 9.2 The metering of the Customer's load demand and energy consumption shall be done by facilities owned and provided by the City. The Customer shall, where required, make all necessary provisions for the installation of the City's facilities, including any necessary wiring and fittings and boxes, to the satisfaction of the City and in accordance with all the applicable electrical inspection rules and safety requirements.
- 9.3 The Customer shall take all reasonable care to protect all meters and related apparatus belonging to the City on the Customer's premises and shall reimburse the City for any loss or damage occurrence to same except to the extent that the Customer is able to show that loss or damage was due to defects in such facilities or to omission or negligence on the part of the City's employees.
- 9.4 Where separate points of delivery exist for the supply of electricity to a single Customer or more than one meter is required to properly measure the load demands, consumption and power factors of the Customer's loads as supplied under the applicable rates Schedules, the readings of such meters will be billed separately unless their combination is specifically authorized by the City.

10. Removal of Hazardous Trees from Private Property

- 10.1 The City may without notice to, or the consent of the property Owner, as the case may be, enter at any reasonable time upon all lands and premises for the purpose of inspecting any trees, shrubs and other growths or any other obstacles which may in the City's sole discretion constitute a danger or a hazard to the electrical distribution system.
- 10.2 The City may give notice ("the Notice") to a property Owner, which would require the property Owner to remove, cut, top, prune, move, or otherwise deal with any trees, shrubs and other growths or any other obstacles on a one time or periodic basis that, in the City's sole discretion, may endanger or present a hazard, or become dangerous or hazardous to the electrical distribution system.
- 10.3 Unless the Notice expressly excludes the requirement to obtain approval in advance, a person will not undertake any works relating to any tree, shrub, or growth that is subject of the Notice, without the prior approval of the City, by filing a work plan, which is satisfactory to the City.
- 10.4 If the property Owner fails to comply with the requirements in the Notice within 20 days of the date of the Notice, or such other later date that may be specified in the Notice, to the satisfaction of the City, then the City may enter at any reasonable time upon the premises for the purpose of removing, cutting, topping, pruning, moving or otherwise dealing with any trees, shrubs and other growths or any other obstacles on a one time or periodic basis or otherwise as required by the Notice.

- 10.5 Notwithstanding the issuance of the Notice, the City may exercise its rights, powers and obligations under this Section to remove the trees, shrubs and other growths or other obstacles that are the subject of the Notice, and the property Owner will compensate and be liable to the City for all costs and expenses incurred by the City in performing the works undertaken by the City.
- 10.6 The City may without notice to, or the consent of the property Owner, as the case may be, enter at any reasonable time upon all lands and premises for the purpose of cutting down any trees, shrubs and other growths or remove any other obstacles that, in the City's sole discretion present an immediate danger or hazard to the electrical distribution system.
- 10.7 The property Owner will be liable to the City for all costs and expenses incurred by the City in performing the works undertaken by the City pursuant to this Section.
- 10.8 If the property Owner, fails to comply with any Notice issued under this Section, or obstructs, resists, interferes or otherwise fails to cooperate with the City when the City is exercising its rights, under this bylaw, then the property Owner will be responsible, liable or otherwise held accountable for any and all costs, expenses, damages or injuries which are suffered or incurred by the City, its employees, agents, contractors, either directly or indirectly, or which result in damage to the electrical distribution system.
- 10.9 When exercising its rights under this bylaw, the City is not responsible, liable or otherwise accountable, either directly or indirectly, for any costs, expenses, damages or injuries that are suffered or incurred by any property Owner or person which are a result of:
 - (a) its entry upon, occupation of or exit from any premises;
 - (b) its trespass on any premises or property;
 - (c) a nuisance created by it;
 - (d) an invasion of privacy committed by it; or
 - (e) its negligent actions or inactions .
- 10.10 Nothing in this Section or Bylaw shall be construed as imposing any additional duty, obligation or requirement on the City to remove, cut, top, prune, move, or otherwise maintain any trees, shrubs, growths or other obstacles that would not otherwise be imposed on the City and at all times, with or without notice, it is the customers responsibility to keep all the trees, shrubs and other growths or other obstacles clear of power lines or electrical infrastructure on the Customers private property.

11. Photo-Voltaic Services

- 11.1 Available for residential usage with solar (PV) installations of not more than 10 kVA ($kVA = \frac{kWAC}{\text{Power Factor}}$).

Commercial photo-voltaic services may be allowed at the discretion of the City.

- 11.2 Each residential photo-voltaic service requires a bi-directional meter which will be installed by the Grand Forks Manager of Operations at the owners cost. Energy in excess of the residence consumption will be purchased by the Electrical Utility at the residential sales rate subject to:
- (a) Energy surplus will be accumulated in each billing cycle and applied first to subsequent consumption.
 - (b) The first 4,000 kWh of annual excess energy will be purchased at the residential rate in effect at the year end. Any energy in excess of 4,000 kWh will be purchased at the prevailing avoided cost of energy purchase.
 - (c) Any surplus over \$50 at year end will be paid to the customer.
 - (d) Any surplus of \$50 or less will be applied as an energy credit to the account.
 - (e) Grid interconnection must be made in accordance with the City's "Interconnection Requirements for Residential Photo-Voltaic Power Producers Guidelines" document, provided by the City and amended from time to time.
- 11.3 Independent Power Producer (IPP) projects or commercial projects not covered in Section 11.1 require special considerations. Approval for the interconnection of power purchase rates will be at the sole discretion of the Grand Forks Electric Utility and structured to prevent negative operating and financial impacts to the electric utility and its rate payers.

SCHEDULE C

CITY OF GRAND FORKS **ELECTRICAL UTILITY RATES AND CONNECTION CHARGES**

1. Residential Service

Available for residential usage in general including lighting, water heating, spaces heating and cooking.

- (a) Basic minimum service charge: \$16.97/month, plus
- (b) Electrical rate based on the actual consumption: \$0.10667 per KWH

2. Commercial/Industrial/Institutional Service

Available to all ordinary business, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers, including schools and hospitals, where electricity is consumed for lighting, cooking, space heating and single and three-phase motors. Customers requiring primary or secondary service beyond the normal single phase, 200 amp connection may be required to provide the necessary equipment and transformers, which may be situated on their property, at their own cost.

- (a) Basic minimum service charge: \$18.37/month, plus
- (b) Electrical rate per consumption for the first 200,000 KWH or less in a two-month billing period: \$0.11415 per KWH
- (c) Electrical rate per consumption for all usage above 200,000 KWH in a two-month billing period: \$0.08471 per KWH

3. Seasonal Loads (minimum period of service is three months)

Available for irrigation and drainage pumping and other repetitive seasonal loads taking service specifically agreed to by the City. The Customer will be required to provide all necessary service drop improvements including any step-down transformers at their direct cost unless otherwise specifically agreed to in writing by the City.

- (a) Basic minimum service charge: \$17.57/month, plus
- (b) Electrical rate based on the actual consumption: \$0.11415 per KWH

4. Service Charges

4.1 Existing Service Connection and Reconnection Charges:

A fee of **\$50.00** (plus applicable taxes) shall apply to all applications involving the following:

- (a) the owner of real property wishes to establish a new electrical utility account in their name;
- (b) the owner of real property wishes to have the electrical meter read;
- (c) the owner of real property wishes to have the existing electrical service turned off and/or turned on;
- (d) the owner of real property wishes a reconnection of a meter after disconnection for violation of the Terms and Conditions contained in this bylaw; and
- (e) where an officer, employee or agent of the City returns to the Owner's real property to complete work that he or she was unable to complete on a previous attendance by reason of the Owner's failure to comply with Section 1.1(e) of "Schedule B."

This fee is designed to defray the costs involved with service calls, meter readings, account set-up and adjustments and billing preparation in addition to the normal cycle. The Customer will therefore be charged for all activity to amend existing accounts including when the Customer is required to pay the charges applicable for a New Electrical Service or Upgraded Service. If an existing service has been disconnected or salvaged due to inactivity (9 months or more) it will be treated as a new installation.

4.2 New Service Installations or Upgrading of Existing Service:

- (a) Basic Single Phase Overhead Connection
 - i) 200 amp service \$ 700.00
 - ii) 400 amp service \$1,700.00

The City will provide up to 30 meters of appropriate sized wire, do the connection on the customers service entrance, do the connection to the Cities distribution and install and supply the appropriate meter. All other required material and labour will be completed by the Customer.

- (b) Basic Single Phase Underground Connection (includes dip service)
 - i) 200 amp service \$ 1,230.00
 - ii) 400 amp service \$ 2,230.00

The City will provide up to 30 meters of appropriate sized wire, do the connection to the Cities distribution and install and supply the appropriate meter. All other required material and labour will be completed by the Customer.

- (c) All other services greater than 400 amp At Cost
- (d) Three Phase - Overhead/Underground At Cost

New development, whether residential or commercial, single phase or three phase services, requiring transformers and related equipment, shall be at the sole cost of the developer. All new service installations or upgrading of existing service costs are payable in advance of the installation and are subject to applicable taxes.

4.3 Temporary Construction Service

- (a) Temporary service - 100 amp or less \$250.00.

The City will make the connection to the City's distribution and install the appropriate meter. The Customer will supply and install all other required equipment

4.4 Meter Checking

All meters shall remain the property of the City and are subject to testing at regular intervals by the Electricity Meters Inspection Branch of the Canada Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, or a certified meter inspection facility, responsible for affixing government seals on meters. No seal shall be broken and if found so the account holder will be charged for any costs incurred by the City to rectify the issue.

If a customer doubts the accuracy of the meter serving his/her premises, he/she may request that it be tested. Such requests must be accompanied by a payment of the applicable charge as follows:

- (a) Meter removal charge and "in-house" inspection \$ 50.00.
- (b) Canada Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs or a certified meter inspection facility, should it become necessary, shall be paid as determined by that Agency along with a \$50.00 administration charge.

If the meter fails to comply with the Electricity Meters Inspection Branch requirements and only if the meter is deemed to be overcharging, the City will refund the appropriate amount.

4.5 Estimation of Readings

The City may estimate energy consumption and maximum power demand from the best evidence available where a meter has not been installed or is found to be not registering or when the meter reader is unable to read the meter on his/her regular meter reading trip.

Applicable to Residential Customers

An optional service will be offered to those customers who prefer not to have a radio read meter at their service entrance. A digital non-radio read meter will be installed as an alternate to the standard digital radio read meter.

The customer will be required to pay a onetime 'Setup Charge". For each billing cycle thereafter the customer will be required to pay a 'Manual Read Charge" along with the regular residential service rates applicable under this bylaw.

This service may be discontinued if it is not compatible with the Technology, Practices, Procedures or Capacity of the Electrical Utility. In the event of program cancellation a refund of the setup fee will be made to any customer who subscribed to the service less than two years prior.

Rate: Setup Charge: \$162.95

Manual Read Charge: \$14.98

SCHEDULE D

CITY OF GRAND FORKS **ELECTRICAL BILLING AND COLLECTION REGULATIONS**

1. Billings and Payment of Accounts

- 1.1 Bills will be rendered on a basis of actual consumption, in accordance with the rates set out in "Schedule C".
- 1.2 Bills will be rendered on a bi-monthly basis and will be issued as early as practical in the billing period following that for which the Customer's bill has been determined.
- 1.3 Bills are due and payable upon presentation. Accounts not paid by the "Due Date" imprinted on the statement shall be deemed to be in arrears.
- 1.4 Except as otherwise provided in this Bylaw, or in any amendments thereto, no money received by the City in payment of rates or charges chargeable under this Bylaw or under any amendments thereto, shall be applied to the payment of the rates or charges for the then current month, until all rates and charges which became due in previous months have been fully paid.
- 1.5 Any rates or charges that have come into arrears by the thirty-first (31st) day of December in the year imposed are deemed to be taxes in arrears and bear interest from said date at the rate specified in Section 245 of the Community Charter, as amended from time to time.
- 1.6 Equal Payment Plan

Upon application, the City will permit qualifying Customers to make equal monthly payments. The payments will be calculated to yield during the period ending in December, the total estimated amount that would be payable by the Customer calculated by applying the applicable rate, to the Customer's estimated consumption during the period. Customers may make application at any time of the year. All accounts will be reconciled in December.

A Customer will qualify for the plan provided the account is not in arrears and the Customer expects to be on the plan for at least one year.

The equal payment plan may be terminated by the Customer or the City if the Customer has not maintained satisfactory credit. The City deems credit to be unsatisfactory if for any reason two payments fail to be honoured.

On the reconciliation date, the amount payable to the City for electricity will be determined by subtracting the sum of equal payments from the actual

consumption charges during the equal payment period. Any resulting amount owing by the Customer will be paid to the City. Any excess of payments over charges will be carried forward and included in the calculation of the equal payments for the next period. On termination of account and after the final bill has been calculated, any credit balance will be refunded to the Customer.

1.7 Penalty

A penalty, as set out in the City's Fees & Charges Bylaw, will be added to outstanding balances of all accounts after the due date. This provision does not apply to equal payment plan Customers.

1.8 Back-Billing

For the purposes of this Bylaw, back billing shall mean the billing or re-billing for services to a Customer because original billings are discovered to be either too high (over-billed) or too low (under-billed). The discovery may be made by either the Customer or the City.

Where metering or billing errors occur, the consumption shall be based upon the records of the City for the Customer, the Customer's own records to the extent they are available and accurate, or reasonable and fair estimates made by the City. Such estimates shall be on a consistent basis within each rate class or according to a contract with the Customer, if applicable.

If there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Customer has tampered with or otherwise used the service in an unauthorized way, or evidence of fraud, theft or other criminal act exists, then the extent of back-billing shall be for the duration of unauthorized use as determined solely by the Manager of Operations, subject to the applicable limitation period provided by law.

In addition, the Customer shall be liable for the direct administrative costs incurred by the City in the investigation of any incident of tampering, including the direct costs of repair, or replacement of equipment.

In a case of over-billing, the City may refund to the Customer all money incorrectly collected for the duration of the error, subject to the applicable limitation period provided by law.

In cases of under billing, the City may offer the Customer reasonable terms of repayment. If requested by the Customer, the repayment term may be equivalent in length to the back-billing period. The repayment may be interest free and in equal installments corresponding to the Customer's normal billing cycle. However, delinquency in payment of such installments shall be subject to the usual late payment charge.

Subject to the rest of Section 1 of this Schedule, all bills will be sent to the Owner of real property to which electrical energy is supplied by the City.

An Owner of real property to which electrical energy is or may be supplied under this Bylaw may deliver to the City a request in writing, signed by that Owner, requesting that the City send electrical energy Bills relating to that real property to an occupier of that real property and where that occupier consents in writing to receive those electrical energy bills, the City may send the electrical energy bills to that occupier until:

- (a) the City becomes aware that the occupier has ceased to occupy that real property;
- (b) electrical energy service to that real property is discontinued; or
- (c) the Owner of that real property requests in writing that bills relating to that real property be sent to that Owner. Where electrical energy bills are sent to an occupier of real property under Section 1 of this Schedule, the Owner of that real property remains the Customer for the purposes of this Bylaw

2. Term of Service

Unless otherwise specifically provided for in these terms and conditions, the terms of service shall:

- (a) commence on the day that the City's supply is connected to the Customer's service installation and is capable of supplying their electricity needs; and
- (b) continue thereafter until cancelled by written notice given in advance by at least two business days by either party. The amount of the account outstanding upon cancellation shall be deemed due and payable immediately.

3. Application of Rates

All electrical Energy supplied by the Electric Utility to its appropriate Customer classifications shall be billed in accordance with the applicable rates as set out in "Schedule C" of this Bylaw or by other superseding amendment schedules which Council may from time to time decide to make effective.

In addition to payments for electricity, the Customer shall pay to the City the amount of any sales taxes, goods and services taxes, or any other tax or assessment levied by any competent taxing authority on any electricity delivered to the Customer.