

**Rule 7**

**Deposits**

**A. Amount of Deposit.**

The amount of deposit required to establish or re-establish credit is twice the estimated average monthly bill as estimated by BVES, but in no case may the amount of deposit be less than \$15.00.

(N)(I)

The amount of deposit required to establish or re-establish credit for a Small Business Customer, as defined in Rule 1, is twice the estimated maximum monthly bill as estimated by BVES, but in no case may the amount of deposit be less than \$25.00.

(N)  
(I)

**B. Return of Deposit.**

1. When an application for electric service has been canceled prior to the establishment of electric service, the deposit will be applied to any charges applicable in accordance with the tariff schedules and the excess portion of the deposit will be returned, and the applicant will be advised.
2. When the customer's credit may be otherwise established in accordance with Rule No. 6, BVES may refund the deposit either upon the customer's request for return of the deposit or upon review by BVES.
3. Upon discontinuance of electric service, BVES will refund the customer's deposit or the balance in excess of unpaid bills for service.
4. After the customer has paid bills for electric service without becoming past due, as prescribed in Rule No. 11, for twelve months, BVES will refund the deposit by applying it to the customer's account or by draft, provided that the customer's credit would, thereafter, be otherwise established under Rule No. 6.
5. Deposits cannot be used to offset past due bills to avoid or delay discontinuance of service.

(N)

**C. Interest on Deposits.**

1. Interest on deposits will be paid by BVES at the rate of 1/12 of the interest rate on Commercial Paper (prime, 3 months), published the prior month in the Federal Reserve Statistical Release, G.13. Should publication of the interest rate on Commercial Paper (prime, 3 months) be discontinued, interest will so accrue at the rate of 1/12 of the interest rate on Commercial Paper, which most closely approximates the discontinued rate, and which is published the prior month in the Federal Reserve Statistical Release, G.13, or its successor publication. Applicable interest commences on the date the deposit is received and earned interest will be paid at the time the deposit is applied to the customer's account or refunded.
2. No interest will be paid for periods covered by bills paid after becoming past due. No interest will be paid if service is temporarily or permanently discontinued for nonpayment of bills. No interest will be paid if a deposit is held less than full month increments.

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