

PAUL BUNYAN NATURAL GAS LLC
314 Main St NE, PO Box 721
Mapleton, MN 56065

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FILING
FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024
DOCKET NUMBER: G999/PR-25-15

REQUIREMENT A:

Updated customer counts for all municipal franchises, the number of customers served under each municipal franchise, and the number of customers served outside of each municipality's border that the utility claims are incidental, plus a statement that the utility does not discriminate between in-municipality and out-of-municipality customers, or, if it does discriminate, why:

Rate Board - City of Walker City Council

Franchise Agreement	IN/OUT	CITY/TOWNSHIP	COUNTS
City of Walker	In	Walker, City of	319
Incidentals	Out	Leech Lake Township	35
Incidentals	Out	Shingobee Township	313
			<u>667</u>

Paul Bunyan Natural Gas LLC does not have rate differences for the customers inside or outside of the municipalities border.

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REQUIREMENT B:

Municipality-approved rate changes that occurred in the prior year and when these changes went into effect. All small gas utilities must comply with Minn. Stat. 216B.16, subp. 12 (b), which states "The public utility shall file with the commission and the department all initial and subsequent changes in rates, tariffs, and contracts for service outside the municipality at least 30 days in advance of implementation;"

Municipality Approved Rate Changes For Previous Calendar Year

PAUL BUNYAN NATURAL GAS LLC Rate Board - City of Walker City Council						
Rate Code	Rate Description	PREVIOUS Monthly Charge	Base Rate Per Therm	NEW Monthly Charge	Base Rate Per Therm	Effective Date
6601	PBN Residential	\$ 8.00	\$ 1.1000			***No Change***
6602	PBN Sm Commercial	\$ 15.00	\$ 1.0500			***No Change***
6603	PBN Med Commercial	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.8500			***No Change***
6604	PBN Lg Commercial	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.8000			***No Change***

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REQUIREMENT C:

All changes to its tariff book in redlined and final revised tariff form;

There has been no changes to our tariff books in the past 12 months.

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REQUIREMENT D:

A copy of its cold weather disconnection notice sent to customers, including how and when the notice was communicated, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216B.096, Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule;

The Cold Weather Rule Notice is included with:

1. Each New Customer Packet mailed out within 30 days of account start;
2. Each billing sent in September of each year;
3. Each Notice of Proposed Disconnection mailed during the Cold Weather Protection Period;
4. Posted on our Company Website.



PAUL BUNYAN
Natural Gas

Cold Weather Rule – Notice of Customer Rights and Responsibilities

Read this page carefully to be sure you understand your rights and responsibilities under the Cold Weather Rule. If you have questions or would like more information contact Paul Bunyan Natural Gas at 507-524-4103 or 800-367-6964. If you receive a disconnection notice, you must act immediately.

About the Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

The State of Minnesota set up the Cold Weather Rule to help customers who cannot pay their gas bill in full. It does not completely stop winter disconnections but provides customers extra protection from October 1 through April 30. The rule defines:

- What you can do if you receive a Notice of Proposed Disconnect
- What you can do if you have been disconnected and want reconnection of gas service

If you receive a Notice of Proposed Disconnect, Paul Bunyan Gas also will send you the following materials to help you manage your gas bill:

1. Information about your rights and responsibilities
2. Information about how to reduce energy use
3. A list of agencies that help pay fuel bills and a list of weatherization providers.

What to do if you receive a Notice of Proposed Disconnect or if your service has been disconnected

In order to avoid disconnection or to have service reconnected, you must either pay your bill in full or call Paul Bunyan Natural Gas and enter into a Payment Plan. You must enter into the Payment Plan during the Cold Weather Rule months in order to continue to receive protection from disconnection.

Payment Plan. You have the right to make a Payment Plan during the Cold Weather Rule months. To set up a Payment Plan, call Paul Bunyan Natural Gas at 507-524-4103 or 800-367-6964—no written application is required. If you and Paul Bunyan Natural Gas agree on a Payment Plan, and you continue to make your payments, your natural gas will not be shut off.

The Payment Plan will consider your financial circumstances, and any extenuating circumstances, and must be acceptable to you and Paul Bunyan Natural Gas. It will last for the period of time you owe plus the amount you will be billed during the period of the Payment Plan. Most payment plans under the Cold Weather Rule last until April 30 unless you agree to a longer period. If you and Paul Bunyan Natural Gas are unable to agree on a Payment Plan, you have a right to appeal.

Paul Bunyan Natural Gas also can refer you to agencies that may be able to help you pay your fuel bills.

If you receive Energy Assistance, you are automatically eligible for protection under the Cold Weather Rule.

This will qualify you for special payment terms. Under these terms, Paul Bunyan Natural Gas will not require that you pay more than 10 percent of your monthly household gas bill. If you meet income guidelines set by the state government, but do not receive Energy Assistance, these special payment terms are also available when you provide proof of income.

When you provide proof of income:

If you find you are not able to make the payments as agreed upon, call Paul Bunyan Natural Gas to request a change. If you and Paul Bunyan Natural Gas are unable to agree on a new Payment Plan, you have a right to appeal.

How do I apply for Cold Weather Rule protections and what happens after I apply? Contact Paul Bunyan Natural Gas to set up a Cold Weather Rule payment plan and keep a Cold Weather Rule payment plan, you are protected from disconnection or will be reconnected if already disconnected.

Right to appeal

If you and Paul Bunyan Natural Gas cannot agree on the amount of your Payment Plan, a requested change to your Payment Plan, or your income level, you have the right to appeal. Paul Bunyan Natural Gas will send you a notice of your right to appeal. This will include a form that must be sent to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commissioner 10 working days after it is mailed to you.

The MPUC will review your appeal. During this time Paul Bunyan Natural Gas will not shut off your service or will reconnect your service if you have already been disconnected. The MPUC has 20 working days to make a decision about your Payment Plan after receiving the appeal form.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, CONSERVATION & WEATHERIZATION PROVIDERS

If you have trouble paying your utility bills, the following local agencies may be able to provide payment assistance:

Cass County Bi-County Community Action Program (BICAP).....1-800-332-7161 PO Box 579, Bemidji	Cass County- Leech Lake Tribe Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO).....1-866-864-8668 190 Sailstar Dr, Cass Lake
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Energy Assistance Applications Be Found At: <https://mn.gov/commerce-stat/pdfs/application-english.pdf>

Your Local County Human Services

County Human Services departments offer cash, emergency, food, housing and medical assistance. <http://mn.gov/portallgovernment/local/counties>

The Salvation Army HeatShare

HeatShare provides emergency utility Assistance 1-800-842-7279 <http://salvationarmynorth.org/programs-that-help/basic-needs/heatshare/>

United Way 2-1-1

United Way 2-1-1 is a free and confidential service that can help you find local resources. Dial 2-1-1. <http://www.211.org>

ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS

- Caulk and weather strip cracks around doors and window frames. Block openings at bottom of doors to prevent drafts.
- Lower the setting on your thermostat at night and dress warmly.
- Lower the setting on your water heater to 120 degrees F (normal/medium).
- Open shades during winter days to let the warm sunlight in and close the shades at night.
- Wash clothes with warm water and rinse them in cold water.
- Close all windows tightly and use locks to prevent cold air leaking in. Cover all windows with plastic.
- Broken window should be repaired immediately and close all storm windows.
- Window air conditioning units should be covered or removed at the end of the heating season.
- Furnace filters should be changed regularly.
- Furnaces should be checked and serviced annually for efficient operation at year.
- Close off unused rooms.

THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION

Paul Bunyan Gas offers all customers the opportunity to have a third party notified if their gas service is to be shut off. A third party could be a friend, relative, church or agency. This program helps those who live alone, senior citizens, those who are disabled and customers who do not read English.

How it works. The third party receives copies of all disconnection notices mailed to the customer but is NOT required to pay the bills. By volunteering, the third party is asked to receive and give information about personal circumstances and make a payment plan with Paul Bunyan Gas for the customer. This helps avoid the hardship that would result from service disconnection.

How to request third party notification. If you want to name a third party, please complete, print and mail the **Third Party Notice form** to Paul Bunyan Gas. If you know who could use third party help, please give them this form.

REQUEST FOR THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION

Account Number _____

Customer Name _____

Address _____

THIRD PARTY NAME _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

Third Party Signature _____

Paul Bunyan Gas has my permission to provide information to and accept information from the third party.

Customer Signature _____

Date _____

Paul Bunyan Gas will make every effort to send a copy of the Disconnection Notice to the third party specified. Paul Bunyan Gas assumes no liability for a third party to receive or act upon the notice. For your convenience, complete this form and return it with your bill statement or mail to:

Paul Bunyan Gas
PO Box 721
Mapleton, MN 56065

Phone: (507) 524-4103
Toll Free: 1-800-367-6964
Fax: (507) 524-4104

Other important information _____

If a medical emergency exists in the home, or if an interruption of service affects necessary medical equipment, please contact Paul Bunyan Gas at 507-524-4103 or 8

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REQUIREMENT E:

A copy of any utility disconnection reports served to any municipality as required by Minn. Stat. 216B.0976, Minnesota's Notice to Cities of Utility Disconnection;

For the entire Calendar Year of 2024, we received no requests from any City we serve.

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