

## PART IV

### OPERATION

#### *Connection for the Supply of Gas to Consumer*

#### **65. Requirements to be complied with before connection.**

No gas shall be taken from the gas main pipeline until---

- (a) an agreement or a special agreement for the supply of gas has been entered into between the parties;
- (b) the gas installation connected to the gas main pipe has been inspected, tested and found to be safe by a competent person registered with the Director General; and
- (c) all expenses payable under the Act or these Regulations in respect of the supply of gas installation have been paid.

#### **66. Security.**

(1) The Gas Utility Licensee may require a consumer to deposit a reasonable amount of security within seven days from the date of notice of demand issued by the Gas Utility Licensee, which sum shall be sufficient to cover the estimated charges for not more than two months' supply of gas and two months' rental of gas pipeline of gas installation, if any, and the amount of security may be altered with the approval of the Director General.

(2) The security shall not constitute a payment in advance and shall not relieve the consumer from any liability under regulation 69.

(3) Where the supply of gas to the consumer's gas installation has been disconnected due to the consumer's failure to make payment of the amount due as stated in the gas bill, the Gas Utility Licensee may deduct from the security the amount of the bill together with the charges for gas supplied and rental of gas pipeline or gas installation, if any, from the date of such bill to the date of disconnection of the consumer's gas installation.

#### **67. Refund of security.**

(1) The Gas Utility Licensee shall refund to the consumer the full amount of security which has been deposited by the consumer in compliance with regulation 66 provided that-

- (a) the consumer has vacated the premises and shall all the accrued charges have been paid in accordance with regulation 71; or
- (b) the supply of gas to the consumer has been stopped or disconnected and all accrued charges have been paid.

(2) The refund shall be made to the consumer within a period of two month after the date of the vacation of the premises or the date the supply of gas has been stopped or disconnected.

**68. Recovery of charges.**

The Gas Utility Licensee may recover from a consumer the charges due to him in respect or the supply of gas or in respect of the supply and fixing of a gas meter, gas pipeline or gas equipment.

**69. Gas supply and reconnection fees.**

(1) A fee for the supply of gas by the Gas Utility Licensee shall be charged to the consumer and a bill shall be sent to the consumer monthly and shall be paid within twenty-one working days from the date of the invoice.

(2) In default of the payment of the amount charged under subregulation (1) the Gas Utility Licensee may disconnect the supply of gas without further notice.

(3) The Gas Utility Licensee shall be entitled to impose a reconnection fee as approved by the Director General, which shall be paid in advance, for the reconnection of the gas installation to the Gas Utility Licensee's gas pipeline.

(4) The bill referred to in subregulation (1) shall contain the amount charged and the requirements under subregulations 71(1) and (2).

**70. Restoration of gas supply.**

The Gas Utility Licensee shall restore the supply of gas which has been disconnected under subregulation 69(2) within two working days from the date the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) the consumer has made good the default under subregulation 69(2);
- (b) the consumer has paid the reconnection fee under subregulation 69(2); and
- (c) the consumer has given the security stipulated in subsection 17(1) of the Act and subregulation 66(1).

**71. Notice to vacate premises and payment of accrued charges.**

(1) The consumer shall send a notice to vacate his premises in not less than three working days before the vacation to the Gas Utility Licensee in the form as may be determined by the Gas Utility Licensee.

(2) If consumer vacates his premises which are supplied with gas by a Gas Utility Licensee without giving the notice under subregulation (1) he shall be liable to pay the Gas utility Licensee all the charges in respect of the supply of gas to the premises accruing up to-

- (a) the day on which the register of the meter is ascertained; or
- (b) the day from which a subsequent occupier of the premises requires the Gas Utility Licensee to supply to the premises,

as the case may be.

(3) If a consumer vacates his premises without paying the amount due by way of charges in respect of the supply of gas, the Gas Utility Licensee may refuse to supply gas to the consumer at any other premises until full payment is made.

(4) The Gas Utility Licensee shall not be entitled to recover payment of the amount referred to under subregulation (3) from the subsequent occupier of the premises.

(5) If a consumer vacates his premises without paying the money due in respect of the supply of gas by the Gas Utility Licensee or in respect of the supply and fixing of a meter, gas pipeline or gas equipment within a period of ten working days from the date of the demand in writing the Gas Utility Licensee for the payment of the money, the Gas Utility Licensee may-

- (a) cease the supply of gas to the premises, or to any other premises occupied by the consumer, by the appropriate means as he thinks fit; and
- (b) recover any expenses incurred under paragraph (a) from the consumer.

**72. Power of authorized officer to disconnect the supply of gas and refusal to connect.**

(1) The authorized officer shall immediately disconnect the supply of gas upon knowing or upon being informed that a gas installation is unsafe for use.

(2) The authorized officer may refuse to connect a gas installation or any of it to the gas main pipe if, in his opinion, the installation or any part of it is unsafe for use or does not comply with these Regulations.

**73. Power of Gas Utility License to disconnect.**

Where a gas installation is connected to the Gas Utility Licensee's gas main pipe, or the replacement of, addition or alteration to a gas installation is made, in contravention of the Act or these Regulations, the Gas Utility Licensee may, upon giving not less than twenty-four hours notice to the consumer, disconnect the supply of gas from the gas installation.