199—19.6(476) Metering.

19.6(1) *Inspection and testing program.* Each utility shall adopt a written program for the inspection and testing of its meters to determine the necessity for adjustment, replacement or repair. The frequency of inspection and methods of testing shall be based on the utility's experience, manufacturer's recommendations, and accepted good practice. The commission considers the publications listed in subrule 19.6(3) to be representative of accepted good practice. Each utility shall maintain inspection and testing records for each meter and associated device until three years after its retirement.

19.6(2) *Program content.* The written program shall, at minimum, address the following subject areas:

a. Classification of meters by capacity, type, and any other factor considered pertinent.

b. Checking of new meters for acceptable accuracy before being placed in service.

c. Testing of in-service meters, including any associated instruments or corrective devices, for accuracy, adjustments, or repairs, and including meters removed from service for any reason.

d. Periodic calibration or testing of devices or instruments used by the utility to test meters.

e. Leak testing of meters before return to service.

f. The limits of meter accuracy considered acceptable by the utility.

g. The nature of meter and meter test records maintained by the utility.

19.6(3) *Accepted good practice.* The following publications are considered to be representative of accepted good practice in matters of metering and meter testing:

a. American National Standard for Gas Displacement Meters (500 Cubic Feet Per Hour Capacity and Under), ANSI B109.1, published April 15, 2019, reaffirmed April 16, 2024.

b. American National Standard for Diaphragm Type Gas Displacement Meters (Over 500 Cubic Feet Per Hour Capacity), ANSI B109.2, published March 16, 2020, reaffirmed July 3, 2025.

c. American National Standard for Rotary Type Gas Displacement Meters, ANSI B109.3, published February 5, 2019, reaffirmed April 16, 2024.

d. Measurement of Gas Flow by Turbine Meters, ANSI/ASME MFC-4M-1986, reaffirmed 2025.

e. Orifice Metering of Natural Gas and Other Related Hydrocarbon Fluids, API MPMS Chapter 14.3, Part 1 (R2017), Part 2 (R2024), Part 3 (R2021), and Part 4 (R2026).

19.6(4) *Meter adjustment.* All meters and associated metering devices, when tested, will be adjusted as closely as practicable to the condition of zero error.

19.6(5) *Request tests.* Upon request by a customer, a utility shall test the meter for that customer but need not test more frequently than once in 18 months.

A written report of the test results shall be mailed to the customer within ten days of the completed test, and a record of each test shall be kept on file at the utility's office. The utility shall give the customer or a representative of the customer the opportunity to be present while the test is conducted.

If the test finds the meter is accurate within the limits accepted by the utility in its meter inspection and testing program, the utility may charge the customer $25 or the cost of conducting the test, whichever is less. The customer shall be advised of any potential charge before the meter is removed for testing.

19.6(6) *Referee tests.* A customer or utility may request a referee test. The commission will conduct a referee test if no such test of the customer's meter has occurred in the 18 months prior to the request and the customer has submitted a $30 deposit to the utility. A customer's request to the commission will indicate whether the deposit has been paid.

Within five days of receipt of the written request and confirmation of payment, the commission shall forward the deposit to the utility and notify the utility of the requirement for a test. The utility shall, within 30 days after notification of the request, schedule the date, time, and place of the test with the commission and customer. The meter shall not be removed or adjusted before the test. The utility shall furnish all testing equipment and facilities for the test. If the tested meter is found to be more than 2 percent fast or 2 percent slow, the deposit will be returned to the party requesting the test and billing adjustments made pursuant to subrule 19.4(13). The commission will issue its report within 15 days after the test is conducted, with a copy to the customer and the utility.

19.6(7) *Condition of meter.* No meter that is known to be mechanically defective, has an incorrect correction factor, or has not been tested and adjusted, if necessary, in accordance with paragraphs

19.6(2)*"b," "c,"* and *"e,"* shall be installed or continued in service. The capacity of the meter and the index mechanism shall be consistent with the gas requirements of the customer.
[**ARC 0741D**, IAB 11/11/26, effective 12/16/26]