

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**  
**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** Financial Services  
**AGENDA DATE:** July 14, 2009  
**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** Liza Ramirez-Tobias, 915-541-4074  
**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All

**SUBJECT:**

Texas Gas Service has requested that Rule 13.8 of its Rules of Service be revised to permit third party companies to collect payments for a reasonable fee established by the third party companies.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Texas Gas Service, a division of OneOk, is the natural gas provider for residential and most commercial and industrial companies in City of El Paso. TGS has requested an amendment of the Rules of Service 13.8, in order to allow the citizens of El Paso the option and convenience to pay their Texas Gas Service bill by utilizing credit cards and other third party payment alternatives.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**LEGAL:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)  
*Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager*

**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



## TEXAS GAS SERVICE

A DIVISION OF ONEOK

**Janet L. Reinarz**  
*Managing Attorney*

July 27, 2009

To the Honorable Mayor and Members  
Of the City Council  
City of El Paso  
2 Civic Center Plaza  
El Paso, Texas 79901

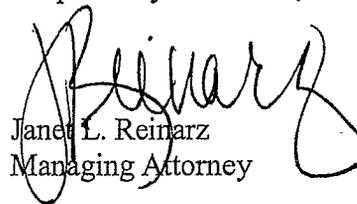
RE: Request to Place Proposed Texas Gas Service Company Rule Change on  
August 4, 2009 City Council Agenda

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

Texas Gas Service Company (the "Company") proposes to amend its Rules of Service to authorize the practice of offering to its customers an option to pay bills using credit cards or other alternative payment arrangements. Specifically, the Company proposes to amend Rule of Service 13.8 in the manner shown in the attached redlined document. The Company asks that you post this request for consideration at the August 4, 2009 El Paso City Council meeting.

Should you have any questions, please contact Pete Parraz (915) 680-7204 or the undersigned at (512) 370-8273.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Janet L. Reinarz  
Managing Attorney

Enclosure

cc: Bertha Ontiveros  
Norman Gordon

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Texas Gas Service Company, a division of ONEOK, distributes natural gas within the City Limits of the City of El Paso pursuant to a franchise granted to Southern Union Company dated as of February 22, 2000, and assigned to ONEOK, Inc. and is a gas utility;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, Texas Utilities Code Section 103.001, the City of El Paso has exclusive original jurisdiction over the rates, operations, and services of the Texas Gas Service Company within the City of El Paso;

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Paso approved the Texas Gas Service Company Rules of Service at the time the City approved the Interim Rate Adjustment on February 5, 2008;

**WHEREAS**, Texas Gas Service has requested that Rule 13.8 of its Rules of Service be revised to permit third party companies to collect payments for a reasonable fee established by the third party companies, as set forth in attached Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Paso has determined that it is in the best interest of its citizens and ratepayers to allow customers to pay their gas utility bill using credit cards or other alternative payment options.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

That a revision to the Texas Gas Service Company's Rules of Service, Rule 13.8 to permit third party companies to collect payments for a reasonable fee and allow customers to pay their utility bill using credit cards or other alternative payment options, as set forth in attached Exhibit A, is hereby approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

**CITY OF EL PASO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Cook, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richarda Duffy Momsen,  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Bertha A. Ontiveros  
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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William F. Studer, Jr., Deputy City Manager  
Financial Services

## EXHIBIT A

### Rules of Service

#### 13.8 ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT OPTIONS

The Company may, at its option and discretion, contract with non-affiliated third party companies to provide various payment options to customers for paying their bills for gas service and to collect such payments. These alternative options may be performed electronically, telephonically, and/or in person and may include payment by automatic bank draft, credit card, check and cash. The third party company may charge a reasonable fee to the customer for the use of such alternative payment options consistent with applicable law and regulations. The Company shall not receive or retain any revenue from fees charged for these alternative payment options.