

ES Pipelines Ltd
Metering
Charges
Statement
(Relevant Meters Only)

Effective from April 2024

CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Definitions	2
3.	Principal Terms and Conditions	3
4.	Charging Methodology	
4.1	Persons Entitled to Convey Gas	4
4.2	Standards of Service	4
4.3	ESP Network Code	4
4.4	Payment Terms	4
4.5	Modification of Gas Metering Charges	5
4.6	Costs Used to Derive the Gas Metering Charges	5
4.7	Meter Reading	5
4.8	Relative Price Control	5
5.	Gas Meter Charges	
5.1	Transactional Charges	6
5.2	Emergency Service	6
6.	Appendices	
	Appendix A: ESP Planned Service Levels	7-8
	Appendix B: Standard Charges (ECA/UKME)	9
	Appendix C: Standard Charges (EAL)	10
	Appendix D: Standard Charges and Early Replacement Fees (Fulcrum)	11
	Appendix E: Useful Contacts and Addresses	12

1. INTRODUCTION



This publication sets out the gas meter charges that apply to the Relevant Meters secured by ES Pipelines Limited (ESP) under the ESP Network Code and comprises the provisions in the Independent Gas Transporter's Uniform Network Code (IGT UNC) Section D "Supply Meter Installation" for the provision, installation, maintenance and rental of gas metering equipment and ancillary equipment.

It is prepared in accordance with the requirements of ESP's Gas Transporters (GT) Licence, and the Utilities Act 2000. It is important to note that this publication does not override or vary any of the statutory, Licence, ESP Network Code or UNC obligations upon ESP.

For more information on the charges set out below, please contact ESP at the following Address:

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Leatherhead
KT22 7BA

Tel: 01372 587 500

Regulation@espug.com

Billing@espug.com

2. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to all sections of this Metering Charges Statement.

Distribution Network (DN)	A gas distribution network operator licenced to operate the distribution network within a specific geographic location.
ESP	ES Pipelines Limited
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
iDN	A licensed regional independent (gas) distribution network.
iGT	Independent Gas Transporter (all licensed gas transporters except The DN Operators)
IGT UNC	Independent Gas Transporter Uniform Network Code
I&C	Industrial and Commercial
MEM	Meter Equipment Manager
MCoP	Metering Code of Practice
Meter Unit	Meter and associated apparatus (e.g. pressure regulator & couplings).
Ofgem	The Office of Gas Electricity and Markets (OFGEM), the independent authority that regulates the onshore gas and electricity industries in Great Britain.
GT	Gas Transporter
Qmax	The highest flow rate at which the Meter Unit accuracy is within the maximum permitted tolerance. Also known as a Meter Unit's "badged capacity".
Reinforcement	Physical works to build additional capacity into the ESP system
Relevant Meters	Those meters connected to supply points acquired from Fulcrum Pipelines on 9th October 2013 where ESP has been appointed as the meter rental collection agent.

3. PRINCIPAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

The definitions set out in section 2 (Definitions) of this Metering Charges Statement apply to these Principle Terms and Conditions.

Customers on ESP gas networks have a choice of who provides their metering service and so are not restricted to using the metering services secured by ESP to facilitate the provision of metering equipment to measure their gas offtake. Where requested to do so ESP will secure to provide both the pipe and meter, and in doing so will have met the requirements of the IGT UNC Section D. Where ESP is to secure the provision of the metering equipment then the relevant metering charge will be added to the transportation charges billed to the relevant licensed gas Shipper.

For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this document is intended to infer that ESP is the Meter Equipment Manager for the Relevant Meters.

The meter charges relate to the provision, installation, and maintenance of the meter and any associated apparatus (e.g. pressure regulator, valves, and pipe-work), which is defined as the “Meter Equipment”.

The customer will not (and will procure that the customer will not) remove, obscure or delete any mark or label which enables the Meter Equipment to be identified.

4. CHARGING METHODOLOGY

4.1 Persons Entitled to Convey Gas

A person entitled to convey gas will be a suitably licensed gas Shipper that has agreed to ESP's terms and conditions to enable it to convey gas through ESP's gas transportation systems. This will include being a signatory to the ESP Network Code.

For the purpose of this Metering Charges Statement, the relevant licensed gas Shipper will be a Shipper entitled to convey gas that is responsible for a relevant Supply Point to which a Metering Charge applies. For the avoidance of doubt, when a Supply Point transfers to another Shipper, the ESP Metering Service will transfer with the Supply Point and the new Shipper will become the relevant licensed gas Shipper for that Supply Point.

4.2 Standards of Service

The planned levels of service applicable to the provision of metering services are contained in Appendix A.

Metering equipment will generally be installed during normal Business Hours on a Business Day. The choice of equipment provided will at all times be at ESP's discretion, subject to meeting the requirements of MCoP.

ESP will provide the relevant Shipper with the meter information as specified in the Meter Fit Reports within the timescales set out in the IGT UNC Section D and repeated in the Service Levels documented in Appendix A.

4.3 ESP Network Code

The ESP Network Code and the IGT UNC provisions which it incorporates is the legal document that defines the rights and responsibilities of ESP and its customers in relation to the use of the gas transportation and storage systems. There may be a number of areas of the ESP Network Code that impact upon the cost to Shippers of using ESP gas meters in addition to this publication. Reference should be made to the ESP Network Code (as modified from time to time) for details of such charges and liabilities, in particular Section D "Supply Meter Installation".

Please note that since 1st May 2007 this code incorporates the IGT Uniform Network Code. For the most recent version of this code, and further information, go to www.igt-unc.co.uk.

4.4 Payment Terms

A detailed description of ESP's payment terms can be found in the ESP Network Code. For convenience, the following summary is provided.

■ Invoices

Shippers are invoiced on a monthly basis and the invoice will be for the applicable charges for the previous month. The invoices are derived from the Metering Charges shown within this Metering Charges Statement. A Shipper is invoiced for a Supply Point's Meter Unit as soon as the Shipper takes responsibility for that Supply Point. Transactional Charges such as meter removal costs will be invoiced separately to the relevant Shipper as and when required.

■ Units and calculation

In this document charges are expressed as £ or £ per annum where these will be charged for an equivalent daily rental rate basis. These are the definitive charges for billing purposes.

■ VAT

All charges in this document are net of VAT. Where VAT applies, it is added at the appropriate rate according to the tax laws prevailing at the time.

4.5 Modification of Gas Metering Charges

The current methodology is for Metering Charges to track inflation and any increases are applied on 1st April each year. As ESP is deemed to be following its methodology, ESP is not required to give prior notification of inflationary increases to Metering Charges in April.

The Charging Methodology is reviewed and updated on an annual basis, and if required, any proposed material modification to it is made in consultation with relevant Shippers at least 28 days before such modification is made.

There may be occasions when this Charging Methodology will need to be modified before the annual review and on these occasions all reasonable endeavours will be made to notify the relevant Shippers and any other relevant parties before the changes become effective. The following are examples of when such modifications may be required:

- When directed to do so by Ofgem, or a Director; or
- Changes in the regulations, or the law.

4.6 Costs Used to Derive the Gas Metering Charges

The charges are designed to reflect the costs of providing, installing, and maintaining the Meter Equipment installed on ESP gas distribution systems through the application of the IGTUNC Section D. The main elements of these are as follows:

- The meter and any apparatus that forms part of the Meter Equipment, for example pressure regulator, valves, and pipe-work;
- Repair and replacement of the Meter Equipment and any other associated apparatus;
- The maintenance and repair of the Meter Equipment housing (if applicable);
- The administration and general running costs associated with the Meter Equipment; and
- The removal and disposal of the Meter Equipment when scheduled for replacement.

4.7 Meter Reading

There is a requirement to read a meter periodically at an offtake point, the conditions for which are set out in the ESP Network Code. Shippers are required to organise the agent that will read the meters they are responsible for.

Meter reading services are separate from the provision of a meter service and so does not form part of the gas meter charges and the conditions of providing a meter service.

4.8 Relative Price Control

Relative Price Control (RPC) used to calculate transportation charges do not cover metering charges. RPC is not applicable to this publication and the charges shown. The metering rental and transactional charges will normally be fixed for 12 months, normally commencing April through to the following March, at each review they will generally be increased in line with the Retail Price Index during the previous 12 months.

5. Gas Metering Charges

All ESP supply points are on networks covered by transportation methodologies developed for RPC.

The gas meter charges wherever possible are standard, keeping the charges to the similar level for each meter type, regardless of the network that the meters are on. Where a bespoke quotation is required, this is shown in appendices B, C and D and the ESP contact is as listed on Page 1.

The detailed gas meter charges are documented in appendices B, C and D.

The standard metering charges apply to the provision, installation and maintenance of Metering Equipment on behalf of the Customer at Consumer Premises. Any additional works required on the Metering Equipment provided will be charged additionally to the customer as a transactional charge.

5.1 Transactional Charges

■ Installation, Exchange and Meter Removal

If ESP is requested to install exchange or remove the Meter Equipment, ESP will seek to recover those costs incurred. To do this, the following methodology will be applied in order to:

- Ensure all costs are recovered consistently.
- Provide clarity as to the costs being recovered.

These charges are detailed in appendices B, C and D.

■ Meter Removals by Third Parties

Metering Charges are calculated on the basis of projected Meter Unit revenue over the life of the asset. Where a Meter Unit is removed by a third party before the expiry of the relevant life of the asset, ESP is entitled to recover from the relevant gas Shipper:

- The costs reasonably incurred as a result of the removal of the relevant Meter Unit.
- Investment in the relevant Meter Unit that has not been recovered as a result of the Meter Unit's removal (this does not include projected return on investment).

Meter Unit removal costs will be invoiced to the relevant gas Shipper within a reasonable time after ESP becomes aware of the removal of a Meter Unit.

Meter removal charges for Fulcrum meters are detailed in Appendix D.

5.2 Emergency Service

ESP has in place with its Emergency Service Providers (ESP), the Distribution Networks the provision of a Post Emergency Metering Service (PEMS) on all the networks that ESP own and operates.

These PEMS Contracts specify that where the ESP is in attendance they will remove the faulty meter equipment where it is found to be causing the "gas escape" and where it is able to do so, exchange the faulty meter, and provide ESP with the relevant information.

6. APPENDICES

Appendix A: ESP Planned Service Levels

Maintenance

The Metering Equipment will be maintained in accordance with the MEM's obligations as defined in the MCOP and manufacturers recommendations, and these obligations will cease in respect of each such Equipment when the Rental Period ceases.

■ Planned maintenance

Table 1

Diaphragm Credit Meters	Fault/Failure or Programmed Visit	Standard Notification
Exchange Meter due to Policy Defined by MEM	Policy Meter Exchange	D+15 Working Days notification

Table 2

Rotary / Turbine Meters	Programmed Visit	Standard Notification
Exchange Meter due to Policy Defined by MEM	Policy Meter Exchange	D+15 Working Days notification
Rotary / Turbine programmed maintenance visit	Programmed Maintenance, includes topping up or changing oil where required	D+15 Working Days notification
Meter Pulse Output Port	Maintain Meter pulse	D+15 Working Days notification

Table 3

Low Pressure Ancillary Equipment	Programmed Visit	Standard Notification
Capacity not exceeding 160m3 per hour	Exchange part or all Ancillary Equipment according to policy defined by the MEM	D+15 Working Days notification
Capacity exceeding 160m3 per hour	Exchange part or all Ancillary Equipment according to policy defined by the MEM	D+15 Working Days notification
Capacity exceeding 160m3 per hour	Programmed Maintenance visit to examine Ancillary Equipment and perform routine maintenance	D+15 Working Days notification

Table 4

Medium and Intermediate Pressure Ancillary Equipment	Programmed Visit	Standard Notification
Medium Pressure and Intermediate Pressure Ancillary Equipment	Programmed Maintenance visit to examine and perform routine maintenance	D+15 Working Days notification

■ Unplanned Maintenance

Table 5

Diaphragm Credit Meters	Fault/Failure or Programmed Visit	Standard to Attend Site following request
Credit Meter – Gas ON	Noisy Meter	D+5 Working Days notification
Credit Meter – Gas ON	Meter not registering	D+5 Working Days notification
Credit meter – Gas OFF	Meter jammed, not Registering	D+8 Hours
Meter Pulse Utilisation – Gas ON	Meter pulse faulty or failed	D+5 Working Days notification

Table 6

Rotary/Turbine Meter Unplanned Maintenance	Fault/Failure	Standard to Attend Site following request
Rotary/Turbine Meter Fault – Gas On	Meter not registering, faulty index etc.	D+5 Working Days notification
Rotary/Turbine Meter – Gas Off	Meter jammed	D+5 Working Days notification
Meter Pulse Output Port	Meter pulse failed	D+5 Working Days notification

Table 7

Low Pressure Ancillary Equipment	Fault/Failure	Standard to Attend Site following request
Low Pressure Ancillary Equipment	Ancillary Equipment failure repair or replace	5 Working Days notification

Information

The Metering information will be provided to the relevant Shipper using the specified Meter Fit Reports in the following timescales.

■ Provision of Information

Table 8

Meters	Information	Standard Notification
New or Exchanged Meter	Meter Fit Report	D+5 Working Days notification

Appendix B: Standard Charges (ECA/UKME)

Meter Type	Capacity >=	Capacity <	2024 £pa	2024 ppd
Domestic	0	11	£25.40	6.9585
Diaphragm	11	21	£68.02	18.6349
Diaphragm	21	29	£113.12	30.9919
Diaphragm	29	51	£166.47	45.6087
Diaphragm	51	79	£315.71	86.4947
Diaphragm	79	121	£493.60	135.2328
Diaphragm	121	73200	£571.85	156.6710
Rotary	0	28	£605.65	165.9310
Rotary	28	57	£698.50	191.3694
Rotary	57	113	£925.84	253.6551
Rotary	113	170	£1,081.57	296.3207
Rotary	170	226	£1,243.74	340.7515
Rotary	226	396	£1,636.96	448.4835
Rotary	396	509	£1,996.96	547.1110
Rotary	509	792	£2,163.02	592.6077
Rotary	792	1358	£2,520.76	690.6201
Rotary	1358	1810	£4,289.90	1175.3148
Rotary	1810	73200	£5,382.68	1474.7068
Turbine	0	283	£2,401.40	657.9184
Turbine	283	509	£2,717.89	744.6272
Turbine	509	792	£3,053.11	836.4675
Turbine	792	1216	£3,562.43	976.0080
Turbine	1216	1952	£3,906.04	1070.1486
Turbine	1952	3027	£5,545.62	1519.3483
Turbine	3027	4894	£7,072.27	1937.6073
Turbine	4894	8119	£7,093.43	1943.4045
Turbine	8119	73200	£7,659.28	2098.4321

Appendix C: Standard Charges (EAL)

Meter Type	Capacity >=	Capacity <	2024 £pa	2024 ppd
Domestic	0	11	£24.60	6.7409
Diaphragm	11	21	£62.33	17.0755
Diaphragm	21	29	£108.86	29.8242
Diaphragm	29	51	£153.04	41.9283
Diaphragm	51	79	£331.33	90.7744
Diaphragm	79	121	£481.21	131.8390
Diaphragm	121	73200	£560.10	153.4519
Rotary	0	28	£476.29	130.4908
Rotary	28	57	£562.01	153.9744
Rotary	57	113	£714.41	195.7299
Rotary	113	170	£914.46	250.5375
Rotary	170	396	£1,428.86	391.4682
Rotary	396	509	£1,581.27	433.2238
Rotary	509	792	£1,987.96	544.6463
Rotary	792	1358	£2,317.62	634.9657
Rotary	1358	1810	£3,791.22	1038.6897

Appendix D: Standard Charges and Early Replacement Fees (Fulcrum)

Meter Type	Capacity >=	Capacity <	2024 £pa	2024 ppd
Domestic	0	11	£25.45	6.9729
Domestic (Smart)	0	11	£47.43	12.9932
Diaphragm	11	21	£68.18	18.6806
Diaphragm	21	29	£113.40	31.0682
Diaphragm	29	51	£166.87	45.7188
Diaphragm	51	79	£316.48	86.7064
Diaphragm	79	121	£494.79	135.5593
Diaphragm	121	73200	£573.24	157.0517
Rotary	0	28	£607.12	166.3336
Rotary	28	57	£700.20	191.8348
Rotary	57	113	£928.11	254.2759
Rotary	113	170	£1,084.21	297.0448
Rotary	170	226	£1,246.77	341.5808
Rotary	226	396	£1,640.96	449.5777
Rotary	396	509	£2,001.82	548.4451
Rotary	509	792	£2,168.30	594.0541
Rotary	792	1358	£2,526.91	692.3053
Rotary	1358	1810	£4,300.36	1,178.1818
Rotary	1810	-	£5,395.82	1,478.3076

Transactional charges will be levied for removal of Fulcrum's meters as per section 5.1. The charges are based on the annual rental of that relevant meter type and a reasonable period of use expected for the asset. This period is 10 years for classic meters and 15 years for smart meters.

Credit Meters		Smart Meters	
Year of Meter Removal	Early Replacement Fee	Year of Meter Removal	Early Replacement Fee
1	£235.76	1	£670.43
2	£216.21	2	£639.79
3	£195.54	3	£607.21
4	£173.58	4	£572.59
5	£150.66	5	£535.88
6	£126.35	6	£496.96
7	£100.73	7	£455.77
8	£73.74	8	£412.19
9	£45.36	9	£366.17
10	£15.50	10	£317.59
		11	£266.34
		12	£212.33
		13	£95.60
		14	£95.60
		15	£32.66

Appendix E: Useful Contacts and Addresses

Ofgem
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

Tel: (0207) 901 7000
Fax: (0207) 901 7066

Website: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/>

Health and Safety Executive
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS

Tel: (0845) 345 0055

Website: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/>

Ombudsman Services
PO Box 966
Warrington
WA4 9DF

Telephone: 0330 440 1624
Textphone: 0330 440 1600

E-mail: osenquiries@os-energy.org

Website: www.ombudsman-services.org/energy



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