

TRI-COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

POLICY BULLETIN NO 3-2

SUBJECT: BROKEN METER SEALS/THEFT OF SERVICE

I. POLICY:

In order to meter and bill each account fairly and properly, the cooperative will maintain meter seals on all meters, recover costs for damaged metering equipment and take appropriate legal action in cases involving theft of service.

II. PROCEDURE:

The cooperative will follow the procedures listed below for cases involving broken meter seals, damage to metering equipment and/or theft of service.

A. Broken Meter Seals:

All meters owned and installed by the cooperative shall be sealed with meter seals and such meter seals shall not be broken without first obtaining permission from the cooperative. Upon finding a meter seal broken, the service will be investigated for damage and/or theft of service. Appropriate action will be taken. The cooperative may bill the member for a Meter Tampering fee (See Schedule of Fees).

B. Unauthorized Meter:

Upon finding an unauthorized meter, appropriate action will be taken including that the cooperative shall bill the member for an Unauthorized Meter fee (See Schedule of Fees) and potentially commence an investigation for theft of service.

C. Theft of Service/Damage to Metering Equipment:

If the cooperative finds reasonable evidence that a member has obtained part or all of his electricity by any method that interferes with the proper metering of his account, or that a member's metering equipment has been damaged, the cooperative will investigate for possible theft of service and take appropriate action. In addition, the cooperative will bill the member for:

- a) all costs associated with the repair of the metering equipment, and/or
- b) an estimated bill for unmetered or incorrectly metered service used from a known date or twelve (12) months, if the date is unknown, and/or
- c) including but not limited to reporting and cooperating with a criminal investigation.

III. RESPONSIBILITY:

President & CEO or Designee

Approved: 10/24/72.

Revised: 12/7/82, 2/18/86, 4/19/88, 11/17/98, 10/24/06, 10/27/15, 12/22/15.

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