

(N) THIRD-PARTY USE OF HOPE LINES TO FACILITATE THIRD-PARTY FREE-GAS OBLIGATIONS  
(NON-PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICE)

- A. Applicability. This section applies to situations involving the use of Hope-owned pipelines of whatever type or classification that are used to facilitate the receipt and re-delivery of natural gas to a free-gas user on behalf of a producer or other third party ("Free-Gas Obligor") who has the obligation to deliver free-gas to that free-gas user, pursuant to the terms of a contract or other document between the Free-Gas Obligor and the free-gas user, or their predecessors in interest ("Free-Gas Obligation").
- B. Fee for Use of Hope Pipelines. Hope shall invoice each Free-Gas Obligor on a monthly basis the Eastern Gas, South Basis Index (formerly known as Dominion South Point Index) per dekatherm for each dekatherm of gas delivered by Hope to such Free-Gas Obligor's free-gas users subject to the description in above Section A ("Fee"). For the avoidance of doubt, the foregoing Fee, while based on a gas price index, is not consideration paid to Hope for the purchase of gas from Hope or to compensate Hope for gas delivered to a free-gas user. The obligation to provide gas supply to Hope for re-delivery to a free-gas user remains with the Free-Gas Obligor as set forth in below Section D.
- C. Measurement of Gas Deliveries to Free-Gas Users. Hope's invoice to each Free-Gas Obligor shall be based on the actual measurement of gas to each Free-Gas Obligor's free-gas users based on measurement equipment for each free-gas user. If the actual measurement is not known by the date of invoicing to the Free-Gas Obligor, invoicing may be prepared based on Hope's estimate of quantities delivered to a free-gas user(s). If the Free-Gas Obligor does not provide measurement information for monthly deliveries to its free-gas user(s), Hope will base the estimate on the free-gas user(s) highest usage for the month. In the absence of measurement equipment, Hope may estimate the quantities of gas delivered to a free-gas user(s). Hope shall not be required to rely upon unreliable measurement equipment or processes for the measurement of gas deliveries to a free-gas user(s).
- D. Source of Gas and Limitations. Hope shall not be obligated or required to provide a source of gas to serve a free-gas user(s) and Free-Gas Obligor's obligations to a free-gas user(s) shall not be expanded as a result of this tariff provision. Hope's re-delivery of Free-Gas Obligor's gas to its free-gas user(s) is subject to the "Additional Rules for Customers on High Pressure Main or Field Lines" section as set forth on Tariff Sheet Nos. 11 and 12. Each Free-Gas Obligor shall indemnify and hold Hope harmless with respect to such Free-Gas Obligor's obligations to its free-gas user(s).
- E. Servicing Free-Gas Users. As of 30 days after February 25, 2026, Hope shall have no responsibility or obligation to provide any services or compliance-related obligations to a free-gas user(s) other than use of the Hope-owned pipelines as contemplated by the entirety of this tariff provision; except to the extent Hope and Free-Gas Obligor mutually agree to the other arrangements for the provision of such services.
- F. Non-Jurisdiction and Reservations. The Commission has routinely held that it does not have jurisdiction over Free-Gas Obligations and gas delivered to a Free-Gas Obligor's free-gas users is not the provision of Commission-regulated public utility service by Hope or the Free-Gas Obligor. The scenario described in this section does not create a public service obligation on Hope or a Free-Gas Obligor to provide gas service to free-gas users. This section only specifies the appropriate charges for the use of Hope's pipelines described herein to compensate Hope and its other gas utility customers by the Free-Gas Obligor(s) for the use of Hope's pipeline as described herein. The use of pipelines to facilitate Free-Gas Obligations alone shall not require Hope to continue to own and operate any pipeline or prohibit Hope from abandoning, disposing of, selling, conveying, or transferring such pipelines. At any time, a Free-Gas Obligor may make other arrangements for the delivery of gas to its free-gas user(s) that do not involve the use of Hope-owned pipelines, in which case the Free-Gas Obligor shall also notify Hope as to the new arrangement such that the subject free-gas user(s) can be disconnected from the Hope owned-pipeline; provided, any change in a Free-Gas Obligor's provision of gas to a free-gas user(s) shall not involve Hope and shall be a matter solely between that Free-Gas Obligor and its free-gas user(s).

(N) Indicates new rates or regulations