

**TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

**Alternating Current** – An electric current that reverses its direction many times a second at regular intervals.

**Ampere** - The unit used to measure an electric current or the rate of flow of electricity in the circuit.

**Auxiliary Meter** - A meter used with other metering equipment to measure the service used by a customer.

**Average Power Factor** - The ratio of real energy in kilowatt-hours to apparent energy in kilovolt-ampere-hours, over a given time period.

**British Thermal Unit (Btu)** - The quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.

**Circuit Breaker** - A device designed to open, under abnormal conditions, a current-carrying circuit without injury to itself.

**Code** - A compilation of definitions, rules and requirements concerning the installation, operation and maintenance of all types of electrical wiring, equipment and devices. The "National Electrical Code" is the standard of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for Electric Wiring and Apparatus as recommended by the National Fire Association and approved by the American Standards Association. In addition, local codes have been adopted by various counties and municipalities.

**Cycle** - A period of alternating electric current.

**Deposit** - A sum of money or guarantee to secure the payment of bills when service is terminated.

**EST** – Eastern Standard Time

**Kilovolt-Ampere (kVa)** - The unit of apparent electric power equal to 1,000 volt-amperes. The product of volts and amperes gives volt-amperes.

**Kilovolt-Ampere-Hour (kVahr)** - The product of apparent power in kva and time measured in hours.

**Kilowatt (kW)** - The unit of real or active electric power equal to 1,000 watts (the term "horsepower" is equivalent to 746 watts). Power is the rate of doing work. The product of amperes and volts gives watts in an alternating current circuit having unity power factor.

**Kilowatt-Hour (kWh)** - The unit of real or active electric energy equal to that done by one kilowatt acting for one hour; the unit of electric energy; the product of power measured in kilowatts and time measured in hours.

**Load Factor** - The ratio of the average load to the maximum load occurring in a given period; the actual use of electrical equipment as a percentage of the maximum possible use of the equipment over time.

**TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Continued)**

**Lumen** – A unit of measure of the total quantity of visible light emitted by a source. The intensity of light delivered by one standard candle at a distance of one foot is approximately one (1) lumen.

**Metering Equipment** - Meters and other supplementary and associated devices necessary to measure the electric service used by the Customer.

**Month** - An interval between successive regular meter reading dates, which interval may be 30 days, more or less.

**Ohm** - The unit of electrical resistance; the resistance of a circuit in which a potential difference of one volt produces a current of one ampere.

**Point of Delivery** – The geographical and physical location at which the Company's wires or apparatus are connected to deliver service to the Customer. The point where the Customer assumes responsibility for further delivery and use of the energy.

**Power Factor** - The ratio of active or real power in kilowatts to apparent power in kilovolt-amperes; or, kW/kVa. Power factor is often expressed in percent; e.g. unity power factor is 100% power factor.

**Reactive Kilovolt-Ampere (kVar)** - This is the inactive component of apparent electric power; the portion that is not available to do work, but required to furnish charging current to magnetic or electrostatic equipment connected to a system. The kilowatt is the real or active component. The reactive kilovolt-ampere is also termed kilovar.

**Service** - Power and energy required by the Customer and, in addition, the readiness and ability on the part of the Company to furnish power and energy to the Customer.

**Single Phase** - Pertaining to a circuit energized by a single, alternating electromotive force.

**Submeter** - A meter installed beyond the regular meter to measure a part of the Customer's load. Submeters for the purpose of selling or otherwise disposing of electric service to lessees, tenants, or others are not permitted.

**Temporary Service** - Service required for a short period of time.

**Three-Phase** - Pertaining to a combination of three circuits energized by alternating electromotive forces that differ in phase by 120°.

**Volt** - The unit of electric force or pressure; the electromotive force which will produce a current of one ampere when applied to a conductor whose resistance is one ohm. Voltage is the force or pressure necessary to drive electricity through a circuit.

**Watt** - The unit of real or active electric power; the rate of work represented by a current of one ampere under a pressure of one volt in a circuit having unity power factor.

**Watt-Hour** - The unit of real or active power electric energy; the work done in one hour at the steady rate of one watt.