

Wheat Belt Public Power District Board of Directors Policy



Policy: **C-14**

Title: **Damage to District Property**

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Original Issue: **02-24-1997**

Last Review: **08-23-2024**

Last Revised: **08-23-2024**

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Customer Engagement

ACCOUNTABLE: Finance & Administrative Services Manager

District property refers to all meters, transformers, poles, wires and all other equipment and materials installed and owned by the District.

Landowners may be held responsible for damage to, or loss of property belonging to the District located on the landowner's property, except when that damage or loss is due to reasons beyond the customer's control, inclement weather, or due to negligence or acts of omission on the part of the District. Per land parcel, a one-time grace per rolling calendar year will be allowed for repair labor of less than \$2,500. If damage occurs more than once in a rolling calendar year, the landowner assumes responsibility for the labor costs to make the necessary repairs.

All parties that cause damage on or over public right-of-way will assume responsibility for all costs to make the necessary repairs to District property.

Only authorized District personnel may connect or disconnect any meter, connect to a meter, or in any way disturb any wiring between the meter and the service wires from the District's distribution system. If the meter is removed, the District must be notified immediately.

In the case of tampering with a meter installation or interfering with the proper working thereof, or any theft of service by any person, the customer shall be subject to discontinuance of service. The District shall be entitled to collect from the customer a penalty of \$750, and the customer will be billed the appropriate rate for all energy not recorded on the meter by such tampering, interfering, or theft (the amount of which may be estimated by the District from the best available data) and also for all expenses incurred by the District as a result of such unauthorized act or acts. This shall involve, but not be limited to, breaking or removing the meter seal, removal of meter locking ring, removal of meter, or any modification of District installed metering, wiring and/or other equipment. Failure to pay said bill will be grounds for extended disconnection. The bill shall be paid within a reasonable time as established by the General Manager.

Note: Wheat Belt PPD is not responsible for damage to other property caused by the incident.

President

Date