

1.0 Introduction

These terms and conditions form part of the contract with customers ("Customers") whose applications for new gas connections are approved by Vector and who accept Vector's offer of gas connections as set out in Vector's Residential Gas Connection Application form ("Application"). These terms and conditions do not relate to the supply of gas by energy retailers. Vector means Vector Gas Limited and Vector Limited, both gas distributors under the Gas Act 1992.

2.0 Connection Charges

The cost to connect to natural gas varies depending on your circumstances, for example:

- The distance between your property boundary and Vector's gas main
- The distance between your property boundary and your gas meter position
- The type of road the property is situated on
- Construction method e.g. you provide an open trench or Vector drills, thrusts or open cuts to lay the service
- Soil conditions – specifically whether rock is present. Rock may be struck anywhere but if the property is in a known rock area this will be reflected in the quotation
- Whether Vector's gas network needs to be extended to provide the new service
- Costs imposed by councils for traffic management and road opening charges.

Any costs payable to Vector need to be made upfront prior to work commencing. In the event of a Customer arranging payment through their energy retailer, they must abide by that energy retailers terms and conditions.

3.0 Variation in Connection Charges

Vector reserves the right to cease construction in the event that additional charges are incurred. These costs will be on-charged to the Customer. For example any additional costs incurred by Vector due to:

- Incorrect information being received by Vector;
- Any extra contractor site visits to undertake the gas connection installation due to the site not being ready for connection on the specified connection date;
- Open trenching for the laying of gas piping has not been undertaken by the Customer or does not meet Vector's requirements set out in section 7; or
- Significant site obstacles are not specified (or incorrectly specified) that increase the cost of installation.

This is not an exhaustive list, any unforeseen obstacles that are not identifiable to Vector and for which Vector incurs additional costs, will be on-charged to the Customer. Any additional connection charges required to complete construction must be paid on receipt of invoice. Construction will recommence upon receipt of payment.

4.0 Right of Ways

Vector will require a consent form if any part of a gas service pipe crosses or enters a jointly held right of way or shared access way. This consent form will need to be signed by each property owner (or associated party) serviced by the right of way or shared access way, giving Vector permission to lay a gas pipe within that area. This consent is required prior to construction commencing. Consent forms are obtainable from Vector.

5.0 Easement

For connections requiring part of a gas service pipe to cross any third party property boundary, Vector will require a copy of the Easement, and associated site plans, granting the right to convey gas through any Easement area. All costs associated with granting an Easement are the Customer's responsibility. This information is required by Vector prior to construction commencing.

6.0 Arborist Report & Resource Consent

Where trees are present inside or outside the property boundary, an Arborist Report may be required which could result in a Resource Consent application having to be submitted to the local body councils or territorial local authorities – in these circumstances, the Customer is to organise and provide a copy of the Arborist Report (and Resource Consent - if applicable) to Vector prior to construction commencing.

7.0 Provision of Open Trench

Where the Customer is required to provide trenching prior to installation, the following specifications must be adhered:

- A trench must be at least 600mm deep from finished ground level and have a 150mm minimum clearance radius from all other services; or
- As otherwise notified by Vector.

8.0 Trench in Established Residential Areas

In some circumstances Vector's contractor may need to open an additional small trench on your property for installation of your service. They will make all reasonable endeavours to minimise any inconvenience and reinstate the land to its existing conditions. Vector will lay the gas connection to your house in the most direct and cost efficient route to the meter location.

9.0 Cancellations

In the event of a Customer requesting the cancellation of a connection, a cancellation fee will be charged at Vector's current rate. If additional costs have been incurred by Vector, these will also be on-charged to the Customer.

10.0 Gas Meter Location

Your gas meter can only be located in certain positions. Vector requires your meter to be located no more than 3 metres from the front side of your house, along the front of the house or on the property boundary. Vector may vary this to maintain the following clearances:

- 1m from any opening vent, window or door; and
- 0.5m from any permanently connected electrical appliance, switchboard or metering board and/or from any permanent gas appliance or flue.

You can nominate the preferred location for your gas meter. Vector will endeavour to locate the meter in your nominated position, however, where we are unable to meet these clearances, Vector reserves the right to install the meter as it shall decide.

11.0 Appliances and Safety

As with any form of energy, gas must be treated with respect to prevent accidents. It is your responsibility as a gas consumer to ensure that your appliances are approved for use with natural gas and are installed or converted by a registered Craftsman Gasfitter, certified and kept in a safe condition. We suggest that you discuss the appliances you intend to install with your Craftsman Gasfitter and/or Gas Appliance retailer before making a purchase. We require you to include on the Application form the number and type of appliances you intend to install. These details will be confirmed on your gas certificate of compliance.

12.0 Ownership

Vector will own all equipment associated with your service up to the inlet of your meter. The meter is owned by a meter service provider. You must take all reasonable care that the on-property network pipe (connection) and meter are not damaged. You must not interfere with the service and gas meter and must not permit others to interfere with it. Any damage by any party to the connection or gas piping and metering will be at the risk and for the account of the Customer. Vector is not liable for any indirect, consequential or economic loss or damage to any party. Vector retains the right, on reasonable notice, to enter the property for the purpose of maintenance and checking of connection and gas piping.

13.0 Privacy

Personal Information supplied by you will be used to carry out our responsibilities and to enforce our rights under this Agreement. The information may also be used for credit purposes and informing you of other products and services offered by Vector. Other than as described above, the information will be held and made available to the Customer in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993.

14.0 General

- 14.1 In the event of default on any of your obligations under these Terms and Conditions, you shall pay all costs incurred by Vector (including costs on a solicitor/ client basis and debt collectors' costs) in the recovery of outstanding moneys and the enforcement of these Terms and Conditions.
- 14.2 These Terms and Conditions constitute the entire agreement of the parties in respect of all matters covered by it and supersedes all previous agreements in respect of those matters.
- 14.3 No amendments to these Terms and Conditions are effective unless it is in writing and signed by all parties.
- 14.4 Vector may subcontract the performance of any obligations under these Terms and Conditions.
- 14.5 Vector reserves the right (at its sole discretion) to terminate this Agreement before installation occurs. In the event of any such termination, Vector shall refund all moneys paid to it by the Customer for any work not executed.
- 14.6 The Customer must advise Vector of any material changes to the property as soon as possible.