



## ELECTRIC SERVICE REGULATION NO. 14

### XIV - DIVERSION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY

#### 1. Power Diversion Defined

- a. The taking of electric energy without the approval and knowledge of MLEA shall be classified into two categories:
  - i. Category I
    1. Member has illegally reconnected service after it was disconnected for delinquency or other violations of the Electric Regulations. Included in this category is the unexplained breaking of meter seals. The power used is metered.
  - ii. Category II
    1. Member obtains power by placing energy consuming devices ahead of the meter or by tampering or interfering with wires, devices or equipment connected to MLEA's distribution system. Also included are damage to, alteration, or obstruction of any MLEA meter. The power used is only partially metered or not metered at all.

#### 2. Responsibility for Diversion

- a. The use of power under either Category I or Category II shall constitute evidence of diversion of electric energy by the member in whose name service is being rendered or by the person benefiting from the use of such diverted energy.

#### 3. Penalty for Diversion

- a. After an effort has been made to contact the beneficiary of the power diversion either by telephone or in person, the service shall be disconnected. Service shall not be reconnected for that member or to any other person for the member's use at the same location or any location until the following conditions have been met:
  - i. Category I
    1. Paid all electric bills due including payment for the kWh registered after the unauthorized usage began.
    2. Paid all reasonable expenses and costs incurred on account of the violation including the costs of investigation, disconnection, reconnection service calls, employee time and equipment use.
    3. Paid a security deposit in the amount determined by MLEA.
    4. Paid for any damaged equipment owned by MLEA.
  - ii. 2. Category II
    1. Paid all electric bills due including an estimate for the unregistered power, service calls, employee time and equipment use.
    2. Paid all reasonable expenses and costs incurred on account of the violation including the costs of investigation, disconnection, reconnection,
    3. Paid a security deposit in the amount determined by MLEA.
    4. Paid for any damaged equipment owned by MLEA.
  - iii. MLEA shall prosecute any case at its discretion but will prosecute on the third offense by any member.

4. A member suspected of power diversion shall receive a written warning of possible consequences of power theft.