

within this subtitle and with terminology used in the Public Utility Companies Article.

In subsection (d)(1) and (2) of this section, the former references to electric current or electricity being "measured" are deleted as included in the references to their being "registered".

The only other changes are in style.

The Criminal Law Article Review Committee notes, for the consideration of the General Assembly, that subsection (b)(2) of this section exempts "supervision ... of an electric company ... by the municipal corporation" where the company does business. The provision does not address similar supervisory activities by other forms of government, such as charter counties, that may not have existed in 1898 when this provision was first enacted. The General Assembly may wish to consider adding other forms of local government to the exemption in this provision.

Defined term: "Person" § 1-101

6-304. SAME — GAS EQUIPMENT.

(A) "GAS COMPANY" DEFINED.

IN THIS SECTION, "GAS COMPANY" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-101 OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES ARTICLE.

(B) PROHIBITED.

(1) A PERSON MAY NOT WRONGFULLY AND MALICIOUSLY DAMAGE, CONNECT, DISCONNECT, TAP, OR INTERFERE OR TAMPER WITH MATERIAL, EQUIPMENT, OR FACILITIES OF A GAS COMPANY.

(2) A PERSON MAY NOT INTENTIONALLY DAMAGE OR DEFRAUD A GAS COMPANY BY:

(I) BYPASSING A METER PROVIDED FOR REGISTERING THE GAS CONSUMED;

(II) WILLFULLY TAMPERING WITH, DAMAGING, OR PREVENTING THE ACTION OF A METER TO REGISTER GAS; OR

(III) CAUSING OR PROCURING A METER TO BE DAMAGED OR ALTERED.

(C) PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF VIOLATION.

PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION BY THE PERSON WHO WOULD DIRECTLY BENEFIT FROM THE USE OF THE GAS PASSING THROUGH THE METER INCLUDES:

(1) A DEVICE THAT ALLOWS THE USE OF GAS SUPPLIED BY A GAS COMPANY WITHOUT THE GAS BEING REGISTERED ON A METER PROVIDED BY THE GAS COMPANY; AND