



Gas Industry Standards Board

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REQUEST:

Can an invoice Statement "Beginning Transaction Date" and "Ending Transaction Date" be defaulted in each transaction to the first day of the month without accurately reflecting the correct dates associated with the beginning and ending of a transaction?

GISB Standard Number: 3.4.1: The Invoice Statement standard states that the "Beginning Transaction Date" is a mandatory data element defined as "Where the transaction began during the invoice period, the Month, Day, and Year. Where the transaction began during a prior invoice period, the beginning of the subject invoice period. The "Ending Transaction Date" is a mandatory data element defined as "Where the transaction ended during the invoice period, the Month, Day, Year. Where the transaction is continuing as of the end of the invoice period, the end of the subject invoice

Possible interpretations or clarifications, if known:

No. The standard states clearly that the Month, Day, and Year should be reflected for the beginning and ending of a transaction. Many transactions occur for portions of a month and should be reflected as such on the Invoice Statement. This enables the two parties to reconcile any differences efficiently. When a transaction spans from one month to the next, the ending transaction date for the period ending should be the last day of the month and the beginning transaction date should be the first day of the subsequent month.

INTERPRETATION TEXT:

"No, in GISB Standard 3.4.1 (the invoice data dictionary) the definition of the data element "Beginning Transaction Date" states "Where the transaction began during the invoice period, the Month, Day, Year. Where the transaction began during a prior invoice period, the beginning of the subject invoice period." This means that the party sending the invoice can default the invoice's Beginning Transaction Date to the beginning date of an invoicing period only when the underlying transaction began before the beginning date of the invoice period. When the transaction's Beginning Transaction Date occurs within the date range set by the invoice period's beginning and ending date, then the date (at least gas day if no time detail is sent) during which the transaction began should be present in the invoice's Beginning Transaction Date field.

"Likewise, elsewhere in GISB Standard 3.4.1 (the invoice data dictionary) the definition of the data element "Ending Transaction Date" states "Where the transaction ended during the invoice period, the Month, Day, Year. Where the transaction is continuing as of the end of the invoice period, the end of the subject invoice period." This means that the party sending the invoice can default the invoice's Ending Transaction Date to the ending date of an invoicing period only when the underlying transaction was continuing as of the passage of the ending date of the subject invoice period. When the transaction's Ending Transaction Date occurs within the date range set by the invoice period's beginning and ending date, then the date (at least gas day if no time detail is sent) during which the transaction ended should be present in the invoice's Ending Transaction Date field."

(Excerpted from Interpretations Subcommittee Meeting Minutes -- May 1, 1998)
