

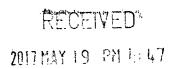
Control Number: 42919



Item Number: 60

Addendum StartPage: 0

PUC DOCKET NO. 42919 SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-15-0372.WS



APPLICATION OF DOUBLE	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION COMMISSION
DIAMOND UTILITIES CO. FOR A	§	•
WATER AND SEWER RATE/TARIFF	§	OF TEXAS
CHANGE (37752-R AND 37753-R)	§	,

#### ORDER

This Order addresses the application of Double Diamond Utilities Co. (Double Diamond) for a water and sewer rate/tariff change. A stipulation and settlement agreement (agreement) was executed that resolves all issues between the parties in this proceeding. Consistent with the agreement, Double Diamond's application is approved.

The Commission adopts the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

# I. Findings of Fact

# Procedural History

- 1. On October 13, 2013, Double Diamond filed applications to increase water and sewer rates and change water and sewer tariffs for service provided at The Retreat Water Supply (The Retreat).
- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) accepted the applications for filing on December 3, 2013, and designated them application Nos. 37752-R and 37753-R.
- 3. Double Diamond proposed a three-year phase in with increases effective January 1, 2014, 2015, and 2016 for an overall revenue increase of \$84,926 for water and \$90,410 for sewer. Double Diamond proposed the following rate structure for The Retreat:

#### **Water Rates**

Current	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	1/1/2014	1/1/2015	1/1/2016
s in minimum bill)			
\$ 39.00	\$ 43.98	\$ 49.60	\$ 55.94
97.50	109.96	124.01	139.86
195.00	219.92	248.02	279.72
312.00	351.87	396.83	447.55
585.00	659.76	744.06	839.15
	\$ in minimum bill) \$ 39.00 97.50 195.00 312.00	1/1/2014 s in minimum bill) \$ 39.00 \$ 43.98 97.50 109.96 195.00 219.92 312.00 351.87	1/1/2014 1/1/2015 s in minimum bill) \$ 39.00 \$ 43.98 \$ 49.60 97.50 109.96 124.01 195.00 219.92 248.02 312.00 351.87 396.83



Gallonage Charges (per	1,000 gallons):			
0-3,000	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.54	\$ 2.87
3,001-10,000	2.75	3.10	3.50	3.94
10,001-15,000	3.80	4.29	4.83	5.45
15,001-20,000	5.25	5.92	6.68	7.53
20,001+	7.25	8.18	9.22	10.40

#### **Sewer Rates**

Effective Date	Current	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	<del> </del>	1/1/2014	1/1/2015	1/1/2016
Meter Charge (3,000 ga	llons included in mi	nimum bill)		
5/8" or 3/4"	\$ 48.00	\$ 58.93	\$ 72.34	\$ 88.80
1"	120.00	147.31	180.84	222.00
11/2"	240.00	294.63	361.88	444.00
2"	384.00	471.40	578.69	710.41
3"	720.00	883.88	1,085.05	1,332.01
Gallonage Charges (per	1,000 gallons):			
3,000+	\$ 8.00	\$ 9.82	\$· 12.06	\$ 14.80

The only miscellaneous fee increase is the returned check charge on the sewer tariff which changed from \$20 to \$30.

- 4. The applications were assigned TCEQ Docket No. 2014-0619-UCR. The deadline for customer protests was April 1, 2014.
- 5. Out of Double Diamond's 86 customers, more than 10% timely filed protests to the application. Because at least 10% of affected ratepayers protested the proposed rates in accordance with 16 Texas Administrative Code § 24.27(c) (TAC), TCEQ staff referred this case to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) on May 22, 2014. A prehearing conference was never held in accordance with TCEQ's referral.
- 6. On September 1, 2014, the Commission began the economic regulation of water and sewer utilities and the applications were transferred to the Commission.
- 7. Upon transfer to the Commission, the applications were assigned control numbers 42919 and 42920. In Order No. 2, issued on September 23, 2014, the two cases were consolidated into Docket No. 42919 to allow for more efficient processing.

- 8. On September 24, 2014, the Commission issued an order of referral to SOAH requesting the assignment of an administrative law judge to conduct a hearing and requested that the parties submit a list of issues.
- 9. On September 26, 2014, Double Diamond filed a notice of settlement and petition for withdrawal of protests and motion for remand. Double Diamond's motion revealed that in June 2014, all but five of the customers who initially protested Double Diamond's rates withdrew their protests and settled with the utility. Therefore, Double Diamond's proposed rates were no longer protested by 10% or more of affected ratepayers.
- 10. On October 2, 2014, Commission Staff filed a list of issues.
- 11. On October 2, 2014, Double Diamond filed a joint motion to abate and remand with a settlement agreement and withdrawal letters attached. Commission Staff was not a party to the settlement agreement or the motion to remand.
- 12. On October 6, 2014, SOAH issued Order No. 2, remanding the case to the Commission and dismissing the SOAH docket.
- 13. On October 6, 2014, Commission Staff filed a motion to reconsider SOAH Order No. 2, requesting that the case be abated and not remanded to the Commission in order to allow Commission Staff time to review the settlement agreement before SOAH relinquished its jurisdiction. Commission Staff's motion was granted by SOAH Order No. 3 on October 9, 2014.
- 14. On October 9, 2014, the Commission notified the parties that it would not consider a preliminary order regarding this matter at the October 17, 2014 open meeting, but would consider a preliminary order in the future if one was needed. Subsequent to SOAH Order No. 3, Commission Staff communicated with Double Diamond to determine development of a proposed final order.
- 15. On April 2, 2015, Double Diamond requested additional time to allow resolution of this docket with Commission Staff. Commission Staff communicated with Double Diamond and encouraged identification and location of the few protestants who had not withdrawn and determine whether they were interested in pursuing this case.

- 16. On May 15, 2015, Commission Staff filed a request for a hearing to determine whether any of the protestants who had not yet withdrawn were still interested in contesting this matter.
- 17. On May 15, 2017, SOAH issued Order No. 5, scheduling a prehearing conference.
- 18. On May 29, 2015, Double Diamond filed notice of resolution of all protests, comprising all of the protest letters filed in application Nos. 37752-R and 37753-R along with the corresponding settlement authorizations for each protestant agreeing to the settlement filed by Double Diamond on September 26, 2014.
- 19. On June 5, 2015, Commission Staff and Double Diamond jointly requested cancellation of the prehearing conference, which was granted by SOAH Order No. 6 on June 8, 2015.
- 20. On April 7, 2017, Double Diamond and Commission Staff jointly filed an agreement that resolves all issues in this docket.
- 21. On April 13, 2017, SOAH issued Order No. 17, admitting evidence, remanding the case to the Commission, and dismissing the SOAH docket.

# Description of the Settlement

22. The signatories agreed that Double Diamond should be allowed to implement the following retail water and sewer utility rates:

Water		Sewer	
Meter	Base Rate	Meter	Base Rate
	0 gal incl.		3,000 gal incl.
3/4" or less	\$ 49.60	3/4" or less	\$ 67.12
1"	\$124.01	1"	\$ 167.80
11/2"	\$248.02	11/2"	\$ 335.59
2"	\$396.84	2"	\$ 536.95
3"	\$744.07	3"	\$1,006.78

Water		Sewer	
Gallons Used	Volumetric Rate	Gallons Used	Volumetric Rate
0-3,000	\$2.54	0-3,000	\$ 0.00
3,001-10,000	\$3.50	3,001-12,000	\$11.19
10,001-15,000	\$4.83	12,001+	\$ 0.00
15,001-20,000	\$6.68		
20,001+	\$9.22		

- 23. The signatories agreed that Double Diamond should be allowed to implement the other tariff provisions included in the agreed tariff provided as Attachment A to this Order.
- 24. The signatories agreed that the agreed tariffs should be the governing water and sewer utility rates, terms, treatments, and conditions for Double Diamond's ratepayers.
- 25. The signatories agreed that Double Diamond shall not recover or collect any rate case expenses incurred in connection with the application or this proceeding.
- 26. Double Diamond agreed not to file a new rate change application to increase water and sewer rates with a requested effective date prior to January 1, 2017, for customers of The Retreat's public water and sewer systems and service areas specified in the tariff.
- 27. The signatories agreed that Double Diamond shall not be required to issue any refunds or credits and shall not collect any surcharges.

# Consistency of the Agreement with the Texas Water Code and Commission Requirements

- 28. Considered in light of Double Diamond's application and information exchanged through confidential privileged settlement negotiations, the agreement is the result of compromise from each party, and these efforts, as well as the overall result of the agreement, support the reasonableness and benefits of the terms of the agreement.
- 29. The rates, terms, and conditions of the tariff resulting from the agreement are just and reasonable when the benefits of avoiding an expensive contested case hearing are considered.

#### II. Conclusions of Law

- 1. Double Diamond is a public utility as defined in Texas Water Code § 13.002(23).
- 2. Prior to September, 1, 2014, the TCEQ had jurisdiction to consider Double Diamond's application under TWC §§ 13.181 and 13.187.
- 3. Effective September 1, 2014, jurisdiction over water and sewer utility ratemaking vests in the Commission under revised TWC, chapter 13.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tex. Water Code Ann. § 13.002(23) (West 2008 and Supp. 2016) (TWC).

- 4. The Commission has jurisdiction to consider Double Diamond's application for a rate increase and conduct both formal and informal ratemaking hearings under TWC §§ 13.041, 13.181, and 13.187 using the procedures set forth in 30 TAC, chapter 291 before September 1, 2014, now adopted by the Commission as 16 TAC, chapter 24.
- This docket was processed in accordance with the requirements of the TWC, Texas Administrative Procedure Act,<sup>2</sup> and Commission rules.
- 6. Proper notice of the application was given by Double Diamond as required by TWC § 13.187, 30 TAC §§ 291.22 and 291.28; and Texas Government Code §§ 2001.051-.052.3
- 7. This docket contains no remaining contested issues of fact or law.
- 8. The agreement, taken as a whole, is a just and reasonable resolution of all of the issues it addresses, results in just and reasonable rates, terms, and conditions, is consistent with the relevant provisions of TWC, chapter 13, and should be approved.
- 9. The rates agreed to in the agreement are just and reasonable, comply with the ratemaking provisions of TWC, chapter 13, and are not unreasonably discriminatory, preferential, or prejudicial.
- 10. The rates resulting from the agreement are just and reasonable, and consistent with TWC, chapter 13.
- 11. The requirements for informal disposition under 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

# III. Ordering Paragraphs

In accordance with these findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Commission issues the following orders:

Consistent with the agreement and the preceding findings of fact and conclusions of law,
 Double Diamond's application is approved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2001.001 - .092 (West 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2001.051-.052 (West 2016).

- 2. Consistent with the agreement, Double Diamond's tariffed rates, terms, and conditions, are approved.
- 3. The water and sewer tariffs included with this Order as Attachment A are approved.
- 4. Double Diamond shall not seek to recover rate case expenses that it has incurred or will incur in relation to the application or this docket.
- 5. Double Diamond is not required to issue any refunds or credits and shall not collect any surcharges for the difference between the rates it has collected and any of the rate schedules contained in Attachment A to this Order.
- 6. Entry of this Order does not indicate the Commission's endorsement or approval of any principle or methodology that may underlie the agreement. Entry of this Order shall not be regarded as binding holding or precedent as to the appropriateness of any principle or methodology underlying the agreement.
- 7. All other motions, requests for entry of specific findings of fact, conclusions of law, and ordering paragraphs, and any other requests for general or specific relief, if not expressly granted are denied.

Signed at Austin, Texas the

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

KËNNETH W. ANDERSON, JR., COMMISSIONER

BRANDY MARTY MARQUEZ, COMMISSIONER

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# WATER UTILITY TARIFF

Docket Number: 42919

<u>Double Diamond Utilities Company, Inc.</u> (Utility Name)

10100 N. Central Expressway, Suite 400 (Business Address)

Dallas, Texas 75231 (City, State, Zip Code)

(214) 706-9801 (Area Code/Telephone)

This tariff is effective for utility operations under the following Certificate of Convenience and Necessity:

# 12087

This tariff is effective in the following counties:

# Hill, Palo Pinto, and Johnson

This tariff is effective in the following cities or unincorporated towns (if any):

#### None

This tariff is effective in the following subdivisions and public water systems:

The Cliffs (PWS #1820061), The Retreat Water Supply (PWS #1260127), and White Bluff (PWS #1090073),

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

The above utility lists the following sections of its tariff (if additional pages are needed for a section, all pages should be numbered consecutively):

SECTION 1.0 RATE SCHEDULE	2
SECTION 2.0 SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES	6
SECTION 3.0 EXTENSION POLICY	13
SECTION 4.0 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN	17

APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT APPENDIX B -- APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE

# Section 1.01 - Rates

Monthly base rate including  $\underline{0}$  gallons

Meter Size: 5/8" or 3/4"  1"  1½"  2"  3"	Monthly Minimum Charge \$36.14 \$90.36 \$180.72 \$289.15 \$542.16	Gallonage Charge (Over Minimum) \$2.60 per 1,000 gallons for 0-3,000 gallons \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons for 3,001-10,000 gallons \$5.07 per 1,000 gallons for 10,001-15,000 gallons \$8.56 per 1,000 gallons for 15,001-20,000 gallons \$14.45 per 1,000 gallons for 20,001 and over
Cash X, Check THE UTILITY PAYMENTS I	X_, Money Order_X_, Cr MAY REQUIRE EXACT CHAN	the following forms of payment: edit Card_X_, Other (specify) GE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY REFUSE TO ACCEPT 00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE
PUC RULES I MONTHLY BI	REQUIRE THE UTILITY TO COLL AND TO REMIT TO THE TO	DLLECT A FEE OF ONE PERCENT OF THE RETAIL EQ.
Section 1.02 - Misc	cellaneous Fees	
TAP FEE CO STANDARD R	VERS THE UTILITY'S COSTS	FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR TO INSTALL A R. AN ADDITIONAL FEE TO COVER UNIQUE COSTS
TAP FEE (Large m TAP FEE IS INSTALLED.	eter)THE UTILITY'S ACTUAL COST	FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR METER SIZE
METER RELOCATION THIS FEE M. RELOCATED	AY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTO	. Actual Relocation Cost, Not to Exceed Tap Fee DMER REQUESTS THAT AN EXISTING METER BE
REQUESTS A	IICH SHOULD REFLECT THE U SECOND METER TEST WITHI	\$25.00 TILITY'S COST MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER N A TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE TEST INDICATES ATELY. THE FEE MAY NOT EXCEED \$25.

The Cliffs

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

#### **RECONNECTION FEE**

THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):

a)	Non payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)	\$ <u>25.00</u>
b)	Customer's request that service be disconnected	\$ <u>25.00</u>

TRANSFER FEE \$25.00

THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT NAME AT THE SAME SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED

COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT......1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL

#### GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE

WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY PUC AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND WATER TESTING PUC Subst. R. §24.21(K)(2).

# LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

REFER TO SECTION 3.0--EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGES WHEN NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.

# The Retreat Water Supply

#### SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE

#### Section 1.01 - Rates

Monthly base rate including <u>0</u> gallons

Meter Size:	Monthly Minimum Charge	Gallonage Charge (Over Minimum)
5/8" or 3/4"	\$ <u>49.60</u>	\$2.54 per 1,000 gallons 0-3,000 gallons
1"	<u>\$124.01</u>	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons 3,001-10,000 gallons
11/2"	<u>\$248.02</u>	\$4.83 per 1,000 gallons 10,001-15,000 gallons
2"	<u>\$396.84</u>	\$6.68 per 1,000 gallons 15,001-20,000 gallons
3"	<u>\$744.07</u>	\$9.22 per 1,000 gallons 20,001 and over gallons

Additional Gallonage Charge- Effective June 1, 2012:

<u>\$0.20</u> / 1,000 gallons for the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (PGCD) Water Production Fee, for The Retreat and White Bluff customers only.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment:

Cash X, Check X, Money Order X, Credit Card X, Other (specify)

THE UTILITY MAY REQUIRE EXACT CHANGE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY REFUSE TO ACCEPT PAYMENTS MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CASH PAYMENTS.

# Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

TAP FEE GOVERS THE LYDVING GOSTS FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR TO METAL

TAP FEE COVERS THE UTILITY'S COSTS FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR TO INSTALL A STANDARD RESIDENTIAL 5/8" or 3/4" METER. AN ADDITIONAL FEE TO COVER UNIQUE COSTS IS PERMITTED IF LISTED ON THIS TARIFF.

METER TEST FEE ......\$25.00
THIS FEE WHICH SHOULD REFLECT THE UTILITY'S COST MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER

REQUESTS A SECOND METER TEST WITHIN A TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE TEST INDICATES THAT THE METER IS RECORDING ACCURATELY. THE FEE MAY NOT EXCEED \$25.

# The Retreat Water Supply

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

#### RECONNECTION FEE

THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):

a) b)	Non payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)  Customer's request that service be disconnected	\$ <u>25.00</u> \$ <u>25.00</u>
THET	FEE RANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT CE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED	

COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT......1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL

#### GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE

WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY PUC AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND WATER TESTING PUC Subst. R. §24.21(K)(2).

#### LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

REFER TO SECTION 3.0-EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGES. WHEN NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.

#### White Bluff

#### SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE

# Section 1.01 - Rates

Monthly base rate including <u>0</u> gallons

Meter Size:	Monthly Minimum Charge	Gallonage Charge (Over Minimum)
5/8" or 3/4"	\$ <u>31.01</u>	\$1.59 per 1,000 gallons for 0-3,000 gallons
, 1 <b>"</b>	<u>\$77.51</u>	\$2.19 per 1,000 gallons for 3,001-10,000 gallons
11/2 "	<u>\$155.03</u>	\$3.02 per 1,000 gallons for 10,001-15,000 gallons
2"	<u>\$248.04</u>	\$4.17 per 1,000 gallons for 15,001-20,000 gallons
3"	<u>\$465.08</u>	\$5.76 per 1,000 gallons for 20,001 and over

Additional Gallonage Charge - Effective June 1, 2012:

\$0.20 / 1,000 gallons for the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (PGCD) Water Production Fee, for The Retreat and White Bluff customers only.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment:

Cash X, Check X, Money Order X, Credit Card X, Other (specify)

THE UTILITY MAY REQUIRE EXACT CHANGE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY REFUSE TO ACCEPT PAYMENTS MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CASH PAYMENTS.

# Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

METER TEST FEE\$25.00 THIS FEE WHICH SHOULD REFLECT THE UTILITY'S COST MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER REQUESTS A SECOND METER TEST WITHIN A TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE TEST INDICATES THAT THE METER IS RECORDING ACCURATELY. THE FEE MAY NOT EXCEED \$25.
RECONNECTION FEE  THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):
a) Non payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)
TRANSFER FEE
LATE CHARGE (EITHER \$5.00 OR 10% OF THE BILL)
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE\$30.00 RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S DOCUMENTABLE COST.
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50)
COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT <u>1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL</u>
GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY PUC AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND WATER TESTING PUC Subst. R. §24.21(K)(2).
LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

# LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

REFER TO SECTION 3.0--EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGES WHEN NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

#### **NOTE:**

# Pursuant to PUC Substantive Rule §24.21(b)(2)(A)(viii)

"Minor Tariff Change to allow the addition of a production fee charged by a groundwater conservation district as a separate item calculated by multiplying the customer's total consumption, including the number of gallons in the base bill, if any, by the actual production fee per thousand gallons".

# SECTION 2.0 -- SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES

The utility will have the most current Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC or Commission) Rules, Chapter 24, available at its office for reference purposes. The Rules and this tariff shall be available for public inspection and reproduction at a reasonable cost. The latest Rules or Commission approved changes to the Rules supersede any rules or requirements in this tariff.

# Section 2.01 - Application for Water Service

All applications for service will be made on the utility's standard application or contract form (attached in the Appendix to this tariff), will be signed by the applicant, any required fees (deposits, reconnect, tap, extension fees, etc. as applicable) will be paid and easements, if required, will be granted before service is provided by the utility. A separate application or contract will be made for each service location.

# Section 2.02 - Refusal of Service

The utility may decline to serve an applicant until the applicant has complied with the regulations of the regulatory agencies (state and municipal regulations) and for the reasons outlined in the PUC Rules. In the event that the utility refuses to serve an applicant, the utility will inform the applicant in writing of the basis of its refusal. The utility is also required to inform the applicant that a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

# Section 2.03 - Fees and Charges & Easements Required Before Service Can Be Connected

#### (A) Customer Deposits

If a residential applicant cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the utility, the applicant may be required to pay a deposit as provided for in Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees of this tariff. The utility will keep records of the deposit and credit interest in accordance with PUC Rules.

Residential applicants 65 years of age or older may not be required to pay deposits unless the applicant has an outstanding account balance with the utility or another water or sewer utility which accrued within the last two years.

Nonresidential applicants who cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the utility may be required to make a deposit that does not exceed an amount equivalent to one-sixth of the estimated annual billings.

Refund of deposit - If service is not connected, or after disconnection of service, the utility will promptly refund the customer's deposit plus accrued interest or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills for service furnished. The utility may refund the deposit at any time prior to termination of utility service but must refund the deposit plus interest for any customer who has paid 18 consecutive billings without being delinquent.

#### (B) Tap or Reconnect Fees

A new customer requesting service at a location where service has not previously been provided must pay a tap fee as provided in Section 1. A customer requesting service where service has previously been provided must pay a reconnect fee as provided in Section 1. Any applicant or existing customer required to pay for any costs not specifically set forth in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be given a written explanation of such costs prior to request for payment and/or commencement of construction. If the applicant or existing customer does not believe that these costs are reasonable or necessary, the applicant or existing customer shall be informed of their right to appeal such costs to the PUC or such other regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the utility's rates in that portion of the utility's service area in which the applicant's or existing customer's property(ies) is located.

Fees in addition to the regular tap fee may be charged if listed specifically in Section 1 to cover unique costs not normally incurred as permitted by §24.86(a)(1)(C). For example, a road bore for customers outside a subdivision or residential area could be considered a unique cost.

# (C) Easement Requirement

Where recorded public utility easements on the service applicant's property do not exist or public road right-of-way easements are not available to access the applicant's property, the Utility may require the applicant to provide it with a permanent recorded public utility easement on and across the applicant's real property sufficient to provide service to that applicant. Such easement(s) shall not be used for the construction of production, storage, transmission or pressure facilities unless they are needed for adequate service to that applicant.

# Section 2.04 - Utility Response to Applications for Service

After the applicant has met all the requirements, conditions and regulations for service, the utility will install tap, meter and utility cut-off valve and/or take all necessary actions to initiate service. The utility will serve each qualified applicant for service within 5 working days unless line extensions or new facilities are required. If construction is required to fill the order and if it cannot be completed within 30 days, the utility will provide the applicant with a written explanation of the construction required and an expected date of service.

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Except for good cause where service has previously been provided, service will be reconnected within one working day after the applicant has met the requirements for reconnection.

# Section 2.05 - Customer Responsibility

The customer will be responsible for furnishing and laying the necessary customer service pipe from the meter location to the place of consumption. Customers will not be allowed to use the utility's cutoff valve on the utility's side of the meter. Existing customers may install cutoff valves on their side of the meter and are encouraged to do so. All new customers may be required to install and maintain a cutoff valve on their side of the meter.

No direct connection between a public water supply system and any potential source of contamination or between a public water supply system and a private water source (ex. private well) will be allowed. A customer shall not connect, or allow any other person or party to connect, onto any water lines on his premises.

# Section 2,06 - Customer Service Inspections

Applicants for new service connections or facilities which have undergone extensive plumbing modifications are required to furnish the utility a completed customer service inspection certificate. The inspection certificate shall certify that the establishment is in compliance with the Texas Commission on Environment Quality (TCEQ) Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems, Section 290.46(j). The Utility is not required to perform these inspections for the applicant/customer, but will assist the applicant/customer in locating and obtaining the services of a certified inspector.

# Section 2.07 - Back Flow Prevention Devices

No water connection shall be allowed to any residence or establishment where an actual or potential contamination hazard exists unless the public water facilities are protected from contamination by either an approved air gap, backflow prevention assembly, or other approved device. The type of device or backflow prevention assembly required shall be determined by the specific potential hazard identified in 290.47(i) Appendix I, Assessment of Hazards and Selection of Assemblies of the TCEQ Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems.

The use of a backflow prevention assembly at the service connection shall be considered as additional backflow protection and shall not negate the use of backflow protection on internal hazards as outlined and enforced by local plumbing codes. When a customer service inspection certificate indicates that an adequate internal cross-connection control program is in effect, backflow protection at the water service entrance or meter is not required.

At any residence or establishment where it has been determined by a customer service inspection, that there is no actual or potential contamination hazard, as referenced in Section 290.47(i) Appendix I, Assessment of Hazards and Selection of Assemblies of the TCEQ Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems, then a backflow prevention assembly or device is not required. Outside hose bibs do require, at a minimum, the installation and maintenance of a working atmospheric vacuum breaker.

All backflow prevention assemblies or devices shall be tested upon installation by a TCEQ certified backflow prevention assembly tester and certified to be operating within specifications. Backflow prevention assemblies which are installed to provide protection against health hazards must also be tested and certified to be operating within specifications at least annually by a certified backflow prevention assembly tester.

If the utility determines that a backflow prevention assembly or device is required, the utility will provide the customer or applicant with a list of TCEQ certified backflow prevention assembly testers. The customer will be responsible for the cost of installation and testing, if any, of backflow prevention assembly or device. The customer should contact several qualified installers to compare prices before installation. The customer must pay for any required maintenance and annual testing and must furnish a copy of the test results demonstrating that the assembly is functioning properly to the utility within 30 days after the anniversary date of the installation unless a different date is agreed upon.

# Section 2.08 - Access to Customer's Premises

The utility will have the right of access to the customer's premises at all reasonable times for the purpose of installing, testing, inspecting or repairing water mains or other equipment used in connection with its provision of water service, or for the purpose of removing its property and disconnecting lines, and for all other purposes necessary to the operation of the utility system including inspecting the customer's plumbing for code, plumbing or tariff violations. The customer shall allow the utility and its personnel access to the customer's property to conduct any water quality tests or inspections required by law. Unless necessary to respond to equipment failure, leak or other condition creating an immediate threat to public health and safety or the continued provision of adequate utility service to others, such entry upon the customer's property shall be during normal business hours and the utility personnel will attempt to notify the customer that they will be working on the customer's property. The customer may require any utility representative, employee, contractor, or agent seeking to make such entry identify themselves, their affiliation with the utility, and the purpose of their entry.

All customers or service applicants shall provide access to meters and utility cutoff valves at all times reasonably necessary to conduct ordinary utility business and after normal business hours as needed to protect and preserve the integrity of the public drinking water supply.

#### Section 2.09 - Meter Requirements, Readings, and Testing

One meter is required for each residential, commercial, or industrial connection. All water sold by the utility will be billed based on meter measurements. The utility will provide, install, own and maintain meters to measure amounts of water consumed by its customers.

Meters will be read at monthly intervals and as nearly as possible on the corresponding day of each monthly meter reading period unless otherwise authorized by the Commission.

Meter tests. The utility will, upon the request of a customer, and, if the customer so desires, in his or her presence or in that of his or her authorized representative, make without charge a test of the accuracy of the customer's meter. If the customer asks to observe the test, the test will be made during the utility's normal working hours at a time convenient to the customer. Whenever possible, the test will be made on the customer's premises, but may, at the utility's discretion, be made at the utility's testing facility.

If within a period of two years the customer requests a new test, the utility will make the test, but if the meter is found to be within the accuracy standards established by the American Water Works Association, the utility will charge the customer a fee which reflects the cost to test the meter up to a maximum \$25 for a residential customer. Following the completion of any requested test, the utility will promptly advise the customer of the date of removal of the meter, the date of the test, the result of the test, and who made the test.

#### Section 2.10 - Billing

# (A) Regular Billing

Bills from the utility will be mailed monthly unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. The due date of bills for utility service will be at least sixteen (16) days from the date of issuance. The postmark on the bill or, if there is no postmark on the bill, the recorded date of mailing by the utility will constitute proof of the date of issuance. Payment for utility service is delinquent if full payment, including late fees and the regulatory assessment, is not received at the utility or the utility's authorized payment agency by 5:00 p.m. on the due date. If the due date falls on a holiday or weekend, the due date for payment purposes will be the next workday after the due date.

### (B) Late Fees

A late penalty of either \$5.00 or 10.0% will be charged on bills received after the due date. The penalty on delinquent bills will not be applied to any balance to which the penalty was applied in a previous billing. The utility must maintain a record of the date of mailing to charge the late penalty.

# (C) Information on Bill

Each bill will provide all information required by the PUC Rules. For each of the systems it operates, the utility will maintain and note on the monthly bill a local or toll-free telephone number (or numbers) to which customers can direct questions about their utility service.

(D) <u>Prorated Bills</u> - If service is interrupted or seriously impaired for 24 consecutive hours or more, the utility will prorate the monthly base bill in proportion to the time service was not available to reflect this loss of service.

#### Section 2.11- Payments

All payments for utility service shall be delivered or mailed to the utility's business office. If the business office fails to receive payment prior to the time of noticed disconnection for non-payment of a delinquent account, service will be terminated as scheduled. Utility service crews shall not be allowed to collect payments on customer accounts in the field.

Payment of an account by any means that has been dishonored and returned by the payor or payee's bank, shall be deemed to be delinquent. All returned payments must be redeemed with cash or valid money order.

If a customer has two returned payments within a twelve month period, the customer shall be required to pay a deposit if one has not already been paid.

#### Section 2.12 - Service Disconnection

# (A) With Notice

Utility service may be disconnected if the bill has not been paid in full by the date listed on the termination notice. The termination date must be at least 10 days after the notice is mailed or hand delivered.

The utility is encouraged to offer a deferred payment plan to a customer who cannot pay an outstanding bill in full and is willing to pay the balance in reasonable installments. However, a customer's utility service may be disconnected if a bill has not been paid or a deferred payment agreement entered into within 26 days from the date of issuance of a bill and if proper notice of termination has been given.

Notice of termination must be a separate mailing or hand delivery in accordance with the PUC Rules.

#### (B) Without Notice

Utility service may also be disconnected without notice for reasons as described in the PUC Rules.

# Section 2.13 - Reconnection of Service

Utility personnel must be available during normal business hours to accept payments on the day service is disconnected and the following day unless service was disconnected at the customer's request or due to a hazardous condition.

Service will be reconnected within 36 hours after the past due bill, reconnect fees and any other outstanding charges are paid or the conditions which caused service to be disconnected are corrected.

# Section 2.14 - Service Interruptions

The utility will make all reasonable efforts to prevent interruptions of service. If interruptions occur, the utility will re-establish service within the shortest possible time. Except for momentary interruptions due to automatic equipment operations, the utility will keep a complete record of all interruptions, both emergency and scheduled and will notify the Commission in writing of any service interruptions affecting the entire system or any major division of the system lasting more than four hours. The notice will explain the cause of the interruptions.

# Section 2.15 - Quality of Service

The utility will plan, furnish, and maintain production, treatment, storage, transmission, and distribution facilities of sufficient size and capacity to provide a continuous and adequate supply of water for all reasonable consumer uses. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, the utility will maintain facilities as described in the TCEQ Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems.

# Section 2.16 - Customer Complaints and Disputes

If a customer or applicant for service lodges a complaint, the utility will promptly make a suitable investigation and advise the complainant of the results. Service will not be disconnected pending completion of the investigation. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the utility's response, the utility must advise the complainant that he has recourse through PUC complaint process. Pending resolution of a complaint, the commission may require continuation or restoration of service.

The utility will maintain a record of all complaints which shows the name and address of the complainant, the date and nature of the complaint and the adjustment or disposition thereof, for a period of two years after the final settlement of the complaint.

In the event of a dispute between a customer and a utility regarding any bill for utility service, the utility will conduct an investigation and report the results to the customer. If the dispute is not resolved, the utility will inform the customer that a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

#### Section 2.17 - Customer Liability

Customer shall be liable for any damage or injury to utility-owned property shown to be caused by the customer.

#### **SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY**

# Section 3.01 - Standard Extension Requirements

Line Extension and Construction Charges: No Contributions in Aid of Construction may be required of any customer except as provided for in the approved extension policy.

The Utility is not required to extend service to any applicant outside of its certified service area and will only do so under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to the Utility and the applicant, in compliance with PUC rules and policies, and upon extension of the Utility's certified service area boundaries by the PUC.

The applicant for service will be given an itemized statement of the costs, options such as rebates to the customer, sharing of construction costs between the utility and the customer, or sharing of costs between the customer and other applicants prior to beginning construction.

# Section 3.02 - Costs Utilities and Service Applicants Shall Bear

Within its certified area, the utility will pay the cost of the first 200 feet of any water main or distribution line necessary to extend service to an individual residential customer within a platted subdivision.

However, if the residential customer requesting service purchased the property after the developer was notified in writing of the need to provide facilities to the utility, the utility may charge for the first 200 feet. The utility must also be able to document that the developer of the subdivision refused to provide facilities compatible with the utility's facilities in accordance with the utility's approved extension policy after receiving a written request from the utility.

Residential customers will be charged the equivalent of the costs of extending service to their property from the nearest transmission or distribution line even if that line does not have adequate capacity to serve the customer. However, if the customer places unique, non-standard service demands upon the system, the customer may be charged the additional cost of extending service to and throughout their property, including the cost of all necessary transmission and storage facilities necessary to meet the service demands anticipated to be created by that property.

Unless an exception is granted by the PUC, the residential service applicant shall not be required to pay for costs of main extensions greater than 2" in diameter for water distribution and pressure wastewater collection lines and 6" in diameter for gravity wastewater lines.

Exceptions may be granted by the PUC if

- adequate service cannot be provided to the applicant using the maximum line sizes listed due to distance or elevation, in which case, it shall be the utility's burden to justify that a larger diameter pipe is required for adequate service;
- or larger minimum line sizes are required under subdivision platting requirements or building codes of municipalities within whose corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the point of use is located; or the residential service applicant is located outside the CCN service area.

# **SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)**

If an exception is granted, the Utility shall establish a proportional cost plan for the specific extension or a rebate plan which may be limited to seven years to return the portion of the applicant's costs for oversizing as new customers are added to ensure that future applicants for service on the line pay at least as much as the initial service applicant.

For purposes of determining the costs that service applicants shall pay, commercial customers with service demands greater than residential customer demands in the certified area, industrial, and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers. A service applicant requesting a one inch meter for a lawn sprinkler system to service a residential lot is not considered nonstandard service.

If an applicant requires service other than the standard service provided by the utility, such applicant will be required to pay all expenses incurred by the utility in excess of the expenses that would be incurred in providing the standard service and connection beyond 200 feet and throughout his property including the cost of all necessary transmission facilities.

The utility will bear the full cost of any over-sizing of water mains necessary to serve other customers in the immediate area. The individual residential customer shall not be charged for any additional production, storage, or treatment facilities. Contributions in aid of construction may not be required of individual residential customers for production, storage, treatment or transmission facilities unless otherwise approved by the Commission under this specific extension policy.

# Section 3.03 - Contributions in Aid of Construction

Developers may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction in amounts sufficient to furnish the development with all facilities necessary to provide for reasonable local demand requirements and to comply with Texas Commission on Environment Quality minimum design criteria for facilities used in the production, transmission, pumping, or treatment of water or Texas Commission on Environment Quality minimum requirements. For purposes of this subsection, a developer is one who subdivides or requests more than two meters on a piece of property. Commercial, industrial, and wholesale customers will be treated as developers.

Any applicant who places unique or non-standard service demands on the system may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction for the actual costs of any additional facilities required to maintain compliance with the TCEQ minimum design criteria for water production, treatment, pumping, storage and transmission.

Any service extension to a subdivision (recorded or unrecorded) may be subject to the provisions and restrictions of § 24.86(d). When a developer wishes to extend the system to prepare to service multiple new connections, the charge shall be the cost of such extension, plus a pro-rata charge for facilities which must be committed to such extension compliant with the TCEQ minimum design criteria. As provided by §24.85(e)(3), for purposes of this section, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers.

# SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

A utility may only charge a developer standby fees for unrecovered costs of facilities committed to a developer's property under the following circumstances:

- Under a contract and only in accordance with the terms of the contract; or
- if service is not being provided to a lot or lots within two years after installation of facilities necessary to provide service to the lots has been completed and if the standby fees are included on the utility's approved tariff after a rate change application has been filed. The fees cannot be billed to the developer or collected until the standby fees have been approved by the commission or executive director.
- For purposes of this section, a manufactured housing rental community can only be charged standby fees under a contract or if the utility installs the facilities necessary to provide individually metered service to each of the rental lots or spaces in the community.

# Section 3.04 - Appealing Connection Costs

The imposition of additional extension costs or charges as provided by Sections 3.0 - Extension Policy of this tariff shall be subject to appeal as provided in this tariff, PUC rules, or the rules of such other regulatory authority as may have jurisdiction over the utility's rates and services. Any applicant required to pay for any costs not specifically set forth in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be given a written explanation of such costs prior to payment and/or commencement of construction. If the applicant does not believe that these costs are reasonable or necessary, the applicant shall be informed of the right to appeal such costs to the PUC or such other regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the utility's rates in that portion of the utility's service area in which the applicant's property(ies) is located.

#### Section 3.05 - Applying for Service

The Utility will provide a written service application form to the applicant for each request for service received by the Utility's business offices. A separate application shall be required for each potential service location if more than one service connection is desired by any individual applicant. Service application forms will be available at the Utility's business office during normal weekday business hours. Service applications will be sent by prepaid first class United States mail to the address provided by the applicant upon request. Completed applications should be returned by hand delivery in case there are questions which might delay fulfilling the service request. Completed service applications may be submitted by mail if hand delivery is not possible.

Where a new tap or service connection is required, the service applicant shall be required to submit a written service application and request that a tap be made. A diagram, map, plat, or written metes and bounds description of precisely where the applicant desires each tap or service connection is to be made and, if necessary, where the meter is to be installed, along the applicant's property line may also be required with the tap request. The actual point of connection and meter installation must be readily accessible to Utility personnel for inspection, servicing, and meter reading while being reasonably secure from damage by vehicles and mowers.

# **SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)**

If the Utility has more than one main adjacent to the service applicant's property, the tap or service connection will be made to the Utility's nearest service main with adequate capacity to service the applicant's full potential service demand. Beyond the initial 200 feet, the customer shall bear only the equivalent cost of extending from the nearest main. If the tap or service connection cannot be made at the applicant's desired location, it will be made at another location mutually acceptable to the applicant and the Utility. If no agreement on location can be made, the applicant may refer the matter to the PUC for resolution.

# Section 3.06 - Qualified Service Applicant

A "qualified service applicant" is an applicant who has: (1) met all of the Utility's requirements for service contained in this tariff, PUC rules and/or PUC order, (2) has made payment or made arrangement for payment of tap fees, (3) has provided all easements and rights-of-way required to provide service to the requested location, (4) delivered an executed customer service inspection certificate to the Utility, if applicable, and (5) has executed a customer service application for each location to which service is being requested.

The Utility shall serve each qualified service applicant within its certified service area as soon as practical after receiving a completed service application. All service requests will be fulfilled within the time limits prescribed by PUC rules once the applicant has met all conditions precedent to achieving "qualified service applicant" status. If a service request cannot be fulfilled within the required period, the applicant shall be notified in writing of the delay, its cause and the anticipated date that service will be available. The PUC service dates shall not become applicable until the service applicant has met all conditions precedent to becoming a qualified service applicant as defined by PUC rules.

#### Section 3.07 - Developer Requirements

As a condition of service to a new subdivision, the Utility shall require a developer (as defined by PUC rule) to provide permanent recorded public utility easements as a condition of service to any location within the developer's property.

# APPENDIX A - DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

(This page incorporates by reference the utility's Drought Contingency Plan, as approved and periodically amended by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.)

#### APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT

# From 30 TAC Chapter 290.47(b), Appendix B

#### SERVICE AGREEMENT

- I. PURPOSE. The NAME OF WATER SYSTEM is responsible for protecting the drinking water supply from contamination or pollution which could result from improper private water distribution system construction or configuration. The purpose of this service agreement is to notify each customer of the restrictions which are in place to provide this protection. The utility enforces these restrictions to ensure the public health and welfare. Each customer must sign this agreement before the NAME OF WATER SYSTEM will begin service. In addition, when service to an existing connection has been suspended or terminated, the water system will not re-establish service unless it has a signed copy of this agreement.
- II. RESTRICTIONS. The following unacceptable practices are prohibited by State regulations.
- A. No direct connection between the public drinking water supply and a potential source of contamination is permitted. Potential sources of contamination shall be isolated from the public water system by an air-gap or an appropriate backflow prevention device.
- B. No cross-connection between the public drinking water supply and a private water system is permitted. These potential threats to the public drinking water supply shall be eliminated at the service connection by the installation of an air-gap or a reduced pressure-zone backflow prevention device.
- C. No connection which allows water to be returned to the public drinking water supply is permitted.
- D. No pipe or pipe fitting which contains more than 8.0% lead may be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
- E. No solder or flux which contains more than 0.2% lead can be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
- III. SERVICE AGREEMENT. The following are the terms of the service agreement between the NAME OF WATER SYSTEM (the Water System) and NAME OF CUSTOMER (the Customer).
- A. The Water System will maintain a copy of this agreement as long as the Customer and/or the premises is connected to the Water System.
- B. The Customer shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross-connections and other potential contamination hazards. These inspections shall be conducted by the Water System or its designated agent prior to initiating new water service; when there is reason to believe that cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards exist; or after any major changes to the private water distribution facilities. The inspections shall be conducted during the Water System's normal business hours.
- C. The Water System shall notify the Customer in writing of any cross-connection or other potential contamination hazard which has been identified during the initial inspection or the

periodic reinspection.

- D. The Customer shall immediately remove or adequately isolate any potential cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards on his premises.
- E. The Customer shall, at his expense, properly install, test, and maintain any backflow prevention device required by the Water System. Copies of all testing and maintenance records shall be provided to the Water System.
- IV. ENFORCEMENT. If the Customer fails to comply with the terms of the Service Agreement, the Water System shall, at its option, either terminate service or properly install, test, and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection. Any expenses associated with the enforcement of this agreement shall be billed to the Customer.

CUSTOMER'S SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	

# APPENDIX B -- APPLICATION FOR SERVICE (Utility Must Attach Blank Copy)



# SEWER UTILITY TARIFF

Docket Number: 42919

<u>Double Diamond Utilities Company, Inc.</u> (Utility Name)

10100 N. Central Expressway, Suite 400 (Business Address)

Dallas, Texas 75231 (City, State, Zip Code)

(214) 706-9801 (Area Code/Telephone)

This tariff is effective for utility operations under the following Certificate of Convenience and Necessity:

<u>20705</u> ---

This tariff is effective in the following counties:

Grayson, Hill, Palo Pinto, and Johnson

This tariff is effective in the following cities or unincorporated towns (if any):

None

This tariff is effective in the following subdivisions and public water systems:

The Cliffs: WQ0002789-000 The Retreat: WQ0014373-001 Rock Creek: WQ0014783-001 White Bluff: WQ0013786-002

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

The above utility lists the following sections of its tariff (if additional pages are needed for a section, all pages should be numbered consecutively):

SECTION 1.0 RATE SCHEDULE	2
SECTION 2.0 SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES	6
SECTION 3.0 EXTENSION POLICY	11

APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT APPENDIX B -- APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

#### The Cliffs

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE

# Section 1.01 - Rates

Meter Size:	Monthly Minimum Charge	Gallonage Charge
5/8" or 3/4"	\$49.37 (3,000 gallons included)	<u>\$8.25</u> per 1,000 gallons
1"	<u>\$86.29</u>	
11/2"	<u>\$147.83</u>	
2"	<u>\$221.67</u>	
3"	<u>\$393.98</u>	

Gallonage charges are determined based on average consumption for the winter months which are December, January, and February.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment:

Cash X, Check X, Money Order X, Credit Card X, Other (specify)

THE UTILITY MAY REQUIRE EXACT CHANGE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY REFUSE TO ACCEPT PAYMENTS MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CASH PAYMENTS.

# Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

TAP FEE (Large Connection Tap) \_\_\_\_\_\_Actual Cost FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR TAP SIZE INSTALLED.

#### RECONNECTION FEE

THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):

The Cliffs

# SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

TRANSFER FEE \$40.00
THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT NAME AT THE SAME SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED.
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE\$20.00 RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S DOCUMENTABLE COST.
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50)
COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT 1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL
GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY TCEQ AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND TESTING 30 TAC 291.21(K)(2).
LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

REFER TO SECTION 3.0--EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGES WHEN NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.

# The Retreat Water Supply

#### **SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE**

# Section 1.01 - Rates

Meter Size:	Monthly Minimum Charge	Gallonage Charge (Over Minimum)
5/8" or 3/4"	\$67.12 (3,000 gallons included)	\$0.00 per 1,000 gallons for 0-3,000 gallons
1"	<u>\$167.80</u>	\$11.19 per 1,000 gallons for 3,001-12,000 gallons
11/2"	<u>\$335.59</u>	\$0.00 per 1,000 gallons for 12,001+ gallons
2"	<u>\$536.95</u>	
3"	<u>\$1,006.78</u>	

Gallonage charges are determined based on average consumption for the winter months which are December, January, and February. The total billed sewer volume amount is capped at 12,000 gallons.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment: 
Cash X, Check X, Money Order X, Credit Card X, Other (specify)

THE UTILITY MAY REQUIRE EXACT CHANGE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY REFUSE TO ACCEPT PAYMENTS MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CASH PAYMENTS.

# Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

# The Retreat Water Supply

#### SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

# RECONNECTION FEE

THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):

a) Non payment of	f bill (Maximum \$25.00)	\$ <u>25.00</u>
1 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		A = 00

b) Customer's request that service be disconnected....... \$25.00

# TRANSFER FEE \$25.00

THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT NAME AT THE SAME SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED

RETURNED CHECK CHARGE \$30.00

RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S DOCUMENTABLE COST.

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50)......None

COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT ...... 1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL

#### GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE

WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY PUC AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND WATER TESTING PUC Subst. R. §24.21(K)(2).

#### LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

REFER TO SECTION 3.0-EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGES WHEN NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.

# Double Diamond Utilities Company, Inc.

# **Rock Creek only**

## **SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE**

# Section 1.01 - Rates

Meter Size: 5/8" or 3/4"	Monthly Minimum Charge \$87.00	
1"	<u>\$217.50</u>	
1½"	\$435.00	
2"	\$696.00	
3"	\$1,035.00	
Cash X , Check X THE UTILITY M PAYMENTS M	NT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment:	

## SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

LATE CHARGE (EITHER \$5.00 OR 10% OF THE BILL)	10%
TCEQ RULES ALLOW A ONE-TIME PENALTY TO BE CHARGED ON DELINQUENT	*****
BILLS. A LATE CHARGE MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO ANY BALANCE TO WHICH THE	
PENALTY WAS APPLIED IN A PREVIOUS BILLING.	
<u> </u>	
TRANSFER FEE	\$ <u>40.00</u>
THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT NAME AT	
THE SAME SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED.	
DETINATED CHECK CHARGE	<b>#****</b>
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE	\$ <u>20.00</u>
RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S	
DOCUMENTABLE COST.	
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50)	<u>None</u>
COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT 1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUA	L BILL
GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE	
WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY TCEQ AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE	
MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FE	ES AND
TESTING 30 TAC 291.21(K)(2).	
LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:	
REFER TO SECTION 3.0EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGI	es when
	70 WILLIAM
NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.	es when

## Double Diamond Utilities Company, Inc.

#### White Bluff

### SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE

### Section 1.01 - Rates

Meter Size:	Monthly Minimum Charge	Gallonage Charge
5/8" or 3/4"	\$41.00 (3,000 gallons included)	\$8.00 per 1,000 gallons
1"	<u>\$102.50</u>	
1½"	<u>\$205.00</u>	
2"	<u>\$328.00</u>	
3"	<u>\$615.00</u>	

Gallonage charges are determined based on average consumption for the winter months which are December, January, and February.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment:

Cash X, Check X, Money Order X, Credit Card X, Other (specify)

TIIE UTILITY MAY REQUIRE EXACT CHANGE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY REFUSE
TO ACCEPT PAYMENTS MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A
WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CASH PAYMENTS.

## Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

TAP FEE COVERS THE UTILITY'S COSTS FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR TO INSTALL A STANDARD RESIDENTIAL CONNECTION. AN ADDITIONAL FEE TO COVER UNIQUE COSTS IS PERMITTED IF LISTED ON THIS TARIFF.

TAP FEE (Large Connection Tap) \_\_\_\_\_\_Actual Cost FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR TAP SIZE INSTALLED.

#### **RECONNECTION FEE**

THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):

a) Non payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)	\$ <u>25.00</u>
b) Customer's request that service be disconnected	\$ <u>40.00</u>

## SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

LATE	CHARGE (EITHER \$5.00 OR 10% OF THE BILL)	<u>10</u> %
	PUC RULES ALLOW A ONE-TIME PENALTY TO BE CHARGED ON	DELINQUENT BILLS. A LATE
	CHARGE MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO ANY BALANCE TO WHICH	THE PENALTY WAS APPLIED
	IN A PREVIOUS BILLING.	
TRANS	ISFER FEE	\$40.00
	THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACC	COUNT NAME AT THE SAME
	SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTE	D.

RETURNED CHECK CHARGE \$20.00

RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S DOCUMENTABLE COST.

COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT ... 1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL

# GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY TCEQ AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND TESTING 30 TAC 291.21(K)(2).

#### LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

REFER TO SECTION 3.0--EXTENSION POLICY FOR TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND CHARGES WHEN NEW CONSTRUCTION IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE.

#### SECTION 2.0 -- SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES

The utility will have the most current Public Utility Commission (PUC or Commission) Rules, Chapter 24, available at its office for reference purposes. The Rules and this tariff <u>shall</u> be available for public inspection and reproduction at a reasonable cost. The latest Rules or Commission approved changes to the Rules supersede any rules or requirements in this tariff.

## Section 2.01 - Application for Sewer Service

All applications for service will be made on the utility's standard application or contract form (attached in the Appendix to this tariff), will be signed by the applicant, any required fees (deposits, reconnect, tap, extension fees, etc. as applicable) will be paid and easements, if required, will be granted before service is provided by the utility. A separate application or contract will be made for each service location.

#### Section 2.02 - Refusal of Service

The utility may decline to serve an applicant until the applicant has complied with the regulations of the regulatory agencies (state and municipal regulations) and for the reasons outlined in the TCEQ Rules. In the event that the utility refuses to serve an applicant, the utility will inform the applicant in writing of the basis of its refusal. The utility is also required to inform the applicant that a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

## Section 2.03 - Fees and Charges & Easements Required Before Service Can Be Connected

## (A) <u>Customer Deposits</u>

If a residential applicant cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the utility, the applicant may be required to pay a deposit as provided for in Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees of this tariff. The utility will keep records of the deposit and credit interest in accordance with PUC Rules.

Residential applicants 65 years of age or older may not be required to pay deposits unless the applicant has an outstanding account balance with the utility or another water or sewer utility which accrued within the last two years.

Nonresidential applicants who cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the utility may be required to make a deposit that does not exceed an amount equivalent to one-sixth of the estimated annual billings.

Refund of deposit - If service is not connected, or after disconnection of service, the utility will promptly refund the customer's deposit plus accrued interest or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills for service furnished. The utility may refund the deposit at any time prior to termination of utility service but must refund the deposit plus interest for any customer who has paid 18 consecutive billings without being delinquent.

#### Tap or Reconnect Fees

A new customer requesting service at a location where service has not previously been provided must pay a tap fee as provided in Section 1. A customer requesting service where service has previously been provided must pay a reconnect fee as provided in Section 1. Any applicant or existing customer required to pay for any costs not specifically set forth in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be given a written explanation of such costs prior to request for payment and/or commencement of construction. If the applicant or existing customer does not believe that these costs are reasonable or necessary, the applicant or existing customer shall be informed of their right to appeal such costs to the PUC or such other regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the utility's rates in that portion of the utility's service area in which the applicant's or existing customer's property(ies) is located.

Fees in addition to the regular tap fee may be charged to cover unique costs not normally incurred as permitted by 16 TAC §24.86(a)(1)(C) if they are listed on this approved tariff. For example, a road bore for customers outside a subdivision or residential area could be considered a unique cost.

## (B) Easement Requirement

Where recorded public utility easements on the service applicant's property do not exist or public road right-of-way easements are not available to access the applicant's property, the Utility may require the applicant to provide it with a permanent recorded public utility easement on and across the applicant's real property sufficient to provide service to that applicant. Such easement(s) shall not be used for the construction of production, storage, transmission or pressure facilities unless they are needed for adequate service to that applicant.

### Section 2.04 - Utility Response to Applications for Service

After the applicant has met all the requirements, conditions and regulations for service, the utility will install tap and utility cut-off and/or take all necessary actions to initiate service. The utility will serve each qualified applicant for service within 5 working days unless line extensions or new facilities are required. If construction is required to fill the order and if it cannot be completed within 30 days, the utility will provide the applicant with a written explanation of the construction required and an expected date of service.

Except for good cause where service has previously been provided, service will be reconnected within one working day after the applicant has met the requirements for reconnection.

### Section 2.05 - Customer Responsibility

The customer will be responsible for furnishing and laying the necessary customer service pipe from the tap location to the place of consumption. Customers will not be allowed to use the utility's cutoff.

#### 2.06 Access to Customer's Premises

All customers or service applicants shall provide access to utility cutoffs at all times reasonably necessary to conduct ordinary utility business and after normal business hours as needed to protect and preserve the integrity of the public drinking water supply.

### Section 2.07 - Back Flow Prevention Devices

No water connection shall be made to any establishment where an actual or potential contamination or system hazard exists without an approved air gap or mechanical backflow prevention assembly. The air gap or backflow prevention assembly shall be installed in accordance with the American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards C510, C511 and AWWA Manual M14 or the University of Southern California Manual of Cross-Connection Control, current edition. The backflow assembly installation by a licensed plumber shall occur at the customer's expense.

The back flow assembly shall be tested upon installation by a recognized prevention assembly tester and certified to be operating within specifications. Back flow prevention assemblies which are installed to provide protection against high health hazards must be tested and certified to be operating within specifications at least annually by a recognized back flow prevention device tester. The maintenance and testing of the back flow assembly shall occur at the customer's expense.

## Section 2.10 - Billing

## (A) Regular Billing

Bills from the utility will be mailed monthly unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. The due date of bills for utility service will be at least sixteen (16) days from the date of issuance. The postmark on the bill or, if there is no postmark on the bill, the recorded date of mailing by the utility will constitute proof of the date of issuance. Payment for utility service is delinquent if full payment, including late fees and the regulatory assessment, is not received at the utility or the utility's authorized payment agency by 5:00 p.m. on the due date. If the due date falls on a holiday or weekend, the due date for payment purposes will be the next workday after the due date.

#### (B) Late Fees

A late penalty of either \$5.00 or 10.0% will be charged on bills received after the due date. The penalty on delinquent bills will not be applied to any balance to which the penalty was applied in a previous billing. The utility must maintain a record of the date of mailing to charge the late penalty.

## (C) Information on Bill

Each bill will provide all information required by the PUC Rules. For each of the systems it operates, the utility will maintain and note on the monthly bill a local or toll-free telephone number (or numbers) to which customers can direct questions about their utility service.

#### (D) Prorated Bills

If service is interrupted or seriously impaired for 24 consecutive hours or more, the utility will prorate the monthly base bill in proportion to the time service was not available to reflect this loss of service.

#### Section 2.11- Payments

All payments for utility service shall be delivered or mailed to the utility's business office. If the business office fails to receive payment prior to the time of noticed disconnection for non-payment of a delinquent account, service will be terminated as scheduled. Utility service crews shall not be allowed to collect payments on customer accounts in the field.

Payment of an account by any means that has been dishonored and returned by the payor or payee's bank, shall be deemed to be delinquent. All returned payments must be redeemed with cash or valid money order. If a customer has two returned payments within a twelve month period, the customer shall be required to pay a deposit if one has not already been paid.

### Section 2.12 - Service Disconnection

## (A) With Notice

Utility service may be disconnected if the bill has not been paid in full by the date listed on the termination notice. The termination date must be at least 10 days after the notice is mailed or hand delivered.

The utility is encouraged to offer a deferred payment plan to a customer who cannot pay an outstanding bill in full and is willing to pay the balance in reasonable installments. However, a customer's utility service may be disconnected if a bill has not been paid or a deferred payment agreement entered into within 26 days from the date of issuance of a bill and if proper notice of termination has been given.

Notice of termination must be a separate mailing or hand delivery in accordance with the PUC Rules.

#### (B) Without Notice

Utility service may also be disconnected without notice for reasons as described in the PUC Rules.

#### Section 2.13 - Reconnection of Service

Utility personnel must be available during normal business hours to accept payments on the day service is disconnected and the following day unless service was disconnected at the customer's request or due to a hazardous condition.

Service will be reconnected within 24 hours after the past due bill, reconnect fees and any other outstanding charges are paid or the conditions which caused service to be disconnected are corrected.

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## Section 2.14 - Service Interruptions

The utility will make all reasonable efforts to prevent interruptions of service. If interruptions occur, the utility will re-establish service within the shortest possible time. Except for momentary interruptions due to automatic equipment operations, the utility will keep a complete record of all interruptions, both emergency and scheduled and will notify the Commission in writing of any service interruptions affecting the entire system or any major division of the system lasting more than four hours. The notice will explain the cause of the interruptions.

#### Section 2.15 - Quality of Service

The utility will plan, furnish, and maintain and operate production, treatment, storage, transmission, and collection facilities of sufficient size and capacity to provide continuous and adequate service for all reasonable consumer uses and to treat sewage and discharge effluent of the quality required by its discharge permit issued by the Commission. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, the utility will maintain facilities as described in the PUC Rules.

## Section 2.16 - Customer Complaints and Disputes

If a customer or applicant for service lodges a complaint, the utility will promptly make a suitable investigation and advise the complainant of the results. Service will not be disconnected pending completion of the investigation. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the utility's response, the utility must advise the complainant that he has recourse through the PUC complaint process. Pending resolution of a complaint, the commission may require continuation or restoration of service.

The utility will maintain a record of all complaints which shows the name and address of the complainant, the date and nature of the complaint and the adjustment or disposition thereof, for a period of two years after the final settlement of the complaint.

## Section 2.17 - Customer Liability

In the event of a dispute between a customer and a utility regarding any bill for utility service, the utility will conduct an investigation and report the results to the customer. If the dispute is not resolved, the utility will inform the customer that a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

Customer shall be liable for any damage or injury to utility-owned, property shown to be caused by the customer.

#### **SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY**

#### Section 3.01 - Standard Extension Requirements

Line Extension and Construction Charges. No contribution in aid of construction may be required of any customer except as provided for in this approved extension policy.

The Utility is not required to extend service to any applicant outside of its certified service area and will only do so under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to the Utility and the applicant, in compliance with PUC rules and policies, and upon extension of the Utility's certified service area boundaries by the PUC.

The applicant for service will be given an itemized statement of the costs, options such as rebates to the customer, sharing of construction costs between the utility and the customer, or sharing of costs between the customer and other applicants prior to beginning construction.

The Utility is not required to extend service to any applicant outside of its certificated service area and will only do so under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to the Utility and the applicant, in compliance with PUC rules and policies, and upon extension of the Utility's certificated service area boundaries by the PUC.

## Section 3.02 - Costs Utilities and Service Applicants Shall Bear

Within its certified area, the utility will pay the cost of the first 200 feet of any water main or distribution line necessary to extend service to an individual residential customer within a platted subdivision.

However, if the residential customer requesting service purchased the property after the developer was notified in writing of the need to provide facilities to the utility, the utility may charge for the first 200 feet. The utility must also be able to document that the developer of the subdivision refused to provide facilities compatible with the utility's facilities in accordance with the utility's approved extension policy after receiving a written request from the utility.

Residential customers will be charged the equivalent of the costs of extending service to their property from the nearest collection line even if that line does not have adequate capacity to serve the customer. However, if the customer places unique, non-standard service demands upon the system, the customer maybe charged the additional cost of extending service to and throughout their property, including the cost of all necessary transmission and storage facilities necessary to meet the service demands anticipated to be created by that property.

Unless an exception is granted by the PUC, the residential service applicant shall not be required to pay for costs of main extensions greater than 6" in diameter for wastewater lines.

#### SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

Exceptions may be granted by the PUC if:

- adequate service cannot be provided to the applicant using the maximum line sizes listed due to distance or elevation, in which case, it shall be the utility's burden to justify that a larger diameter pipe is required for adequate service; or
- larger minimum line sizes are required under subdivision platting requirements or building codes of municipalities within whose corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the point of use is located; or the residential service applicant is located outside the CCN service area.

If an exception is granted, the Utility shall establish a proportional cost plan for the specific extension or a rebate plan which may be limited to seven years to return the portion of the applicant's costs for oversizing as new customers are added to ensure that future applicants for service on the line pay at least as much as the initial service applicant.

For purposes of determining the costs that service applicants shall pay, commercial customers with service demands greater than residential customer demands in the certified area, industrial, and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers.

If an applicant requires service other than the standard service provided by the utility, such applicant will be required to pay all expenses incurred by the utility in excess of the expenses that would be incurred in providing the standard service and connection beyond 200 feet and throughout his property including the cost of all necessary transmission facilities.

The utility will bear the full cost of any over-sizing of sewer mains necessary to serve other customers in the immediate area. The individual residential customer shall not be charged for any additional treatment facilities. Contributions in aid of construction of individual residential customers for production, storage, treatment or transmission facilities unless otherwise approved by the Commission under this specific extension policy.

Developers may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction in amounts sufficient to furnish the development with all facilities necessary to provide for reasonable local demand requirements and to comply with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) minimum design criteria for facilities used in the production, collection, transmission, pumping, or treatment of sewage or TCEQ minimum requirements. For purposes of this subsection, a developer is one who subdivides or requests more than two meters on a piece of property. Commercial, industrial, and wholesale customers will be treated as developers.

Any applicant who places unique or non-standard service demands on the system may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction for the actual costs of any additional facilities required to maintain compliance with the TCEQ minimum design criteria for water production, treatment, pumping, storage and transmission.

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## SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

Any service extension to a subdivision (recorded or unrecorded) may be subject to the provisions and restrictions of 16 TAC § 24.86(d). When a developer wishes to extend the system to prepare to service multiple new connections, the charge shall be the cost of such extension, plus a pro-rata charge for facilities which must be committed to such extension compliant with the TCEQ minimum design criteria. As provided by 16 TAC § 24.85(e)(3), for purposes of this section, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers.

A utility may only charge a developer standby fees for unrecovered costs of facilities committed to a developer's property under the following circumstances:

- Under a contract and only in accordance with the terms of the contract; or
- If service is not being provided to a lot or lots within two years after installation of facilities necessary to provide service to the lots has been completed and if the standby fees are included on the utility's approved tariff after a rate change application has been filed. The fees cannot be billed to the developer or collected until the standby fees have been approved by the commission or executive director.

For purposes of this section, a manufactured housing rental community can only be charged standby fees under a contract or if the utility installs the facilities necessary to provide individually metered service to each of the rental lots or spaces in the community.

## Section 3.04 - Appealing Connection Costs

The imposition of additional extension costs or charges as provided by Sections 3.0 - Extension Policy of this tariff shall be subject to appeal as provided in this tariff, PUC rules, or the rules of such other regulatory authority as may have jurisdiction over the utility's rates and services. Any applicant required to pay for any costs not specifically set forth in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be given a written explanation of such costs prior to payment and/or commencement of construction. If the applicant does not believe that these costs are reasonable or necessary, the applicant shall be informed of the right to appeal such costs to the PUC or such other regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the utility's rates in that portion of the utility's service area in which the applicant's property(ies) is located.

## Section 3.05 - Applying for Service

The Utility will provide a. written service application form to the applicant for each request for service received by the Utility's business offices. A separate application shall be required for each potential service location if more than one service connection is desired by any individual applicant.

Service application forms will be available at the Utility's business office during normal weekday business hours. Service applications will be sent by prepaid first class United States mail to the address provided by the applicant upon request. Completed applications should be returned by hand delivery in case there are questions which might delay fulfilling the service request. Completed service applications may be submitted by mail if hand delivery is not possible.

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### SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

Where a new tap or service connection is required, the service applicant shall be required to submit a written service application and request that a tap be made. A diagram, map, plat, or written metes and bounds description of precisely where the applicant desires each tap or service connection is to be made and, if necessary, where the meter is to be installed, along the applicant's property line may also be required with the tap request. The actual point of connection and meter installation must be readily accessible to Utility personnel for inspection, servicing, and meter reading while being reasonably secure from damage by vehicles and mowers. If the Utility has more than one main adjacent to the service applicant's property, the tap or service connection will be made to the Utility's nearest service main with adequate capacity to service the applicant's full potential service demand. Beyond the initial 200 feet, the customer shall bear only the equivalent cost of extending from the nearest main. If the tap or service connection cannot be made at the applicant's desired location, it will be made at another location mutually acceptable to the applicant and the Utility. If no agreement on location can be made, the applicant may refer the matter to the PUC for resolution.

## Section 3.06 - Qualified Service Applicant

A "qualified service applicant" is an applicant who has: (1) met all of the Utility's requirements for service contained in this tariff, TCEQ rules and/or TCEQ order, (2) has made payment or made arrangement for payment of tap fees, (3) has provided all easements and rights-of-way required to provide service to the requested location, (4) delivered an executed customer service inspection certificate to the Utility, if applicable, and (5) has executed a customer service application for each location to which service is being requested.

The Utility shall serve each qualified service applicant within its certified service area as soon as practical after receiving a completed service application. All service requests will be fulfilled within the time limits prescribed by TCEQ rules once the applicant has met all conditions precedent to achieving "qualified service applicant" status. If a service request cannot be fulfilled within the required period, the applicant shall be notified in writing of the delay, its cause and the anticipated date that service will be available. The TCEQ service dates shall not become applicable until the service applicant has met all conditions precedent to becoming a qualified service applicant as defined by TCEQ rules.

## Section 3.07 - <u>Developer Requirements</u>

As a condition of service to a new subdivision, the Utility shall require a developer (as defined by PUC rule) to provide permanent recorded public utility easements as a condition of service to any location within the developer's property.

## APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT SERVICE AGREEMENT

- I. PURPOSE. The NAME OF SEWER SYSTEM is responsible for protecting the drinking water supply from contamination or pollution which could result from improper private water distribution system construction or configuration. The purpose of this service agreement is to notify each customer of the restrictions which are in place to provide this protection. The utility enforces these restrictions to ensure the public health and welfare. Each customer must sign this agreement before the NAME OF SEWER SYSTEM will begin service. In addition, when service to an existing connection has been suspended or terminated, the sewer system will not reestablish service unless it has a signed copy of this agreement.
- II. RESTRICTIONS. The following unacceptable practices are prohibited by State regulations.
  - A. No direct connection between the public drinking water supply and a potential source of contamination is permitted. Potential sources of contamination shall be isolated from the public water system by an air-gap or an appropriate backflow prevention device.
  - B. No cross-connection between the public drinking water supply and a private water system is permitted. These potential threats to the public drinking water supply shall be eliminated at the service connection by the installation of an air-gap or a reduced pressure-zone backflow prevention device.
  - C. No connection which allows water to be returned to the public drinking water supply is permitted.
  - D. No pipe or pipe fitting which contains more than 8.0% lead may be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
  - E. No solder or flux which contains more than 0.2% lead can be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
- III. SERVICE AGREEMENT. The following are the terms of the service agreement between the NAME OF SEWER SYSTEM (the Sewer System) and NAME OF CUSTOMER (the Customer).
  - A. The Sewer System will maintain a copy of this agreement as long as the Customer and/or the premises is connected to the Sewer System.
  - B. The Customer shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross-connections and other potential contamination hazards. These inspections shall be conducted by the Sewer System or its designated agent prior to initiating new water service; when there is reason to believe that cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards exist; or after any major changes to the private water distribution facilities. The inspections shall be conducted during the Sewer System's normal business hours.

- C. The Sewer System shall notify the Customer in writing of any cross-connection or other potential contamination hazard which has been identified during the initial inspection or the periodic reinspection.
- D. The Customer shall immediately remove or adequately isolate any potential cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards on his premises.
- E. The Customer shall, at his expense, properly install, test, and maintain any backflow prevention device required by the Sewer System. Copies of all testing and maintenance records shall be provided to the Sewer System.

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IV. ENFORCEMENT. If the Customer fails to comply with the terms of the Service Agreement, the Sewer System shall, at its option, either terminate service or properly install, test, and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection. Any expenses associated with the enforcement of this agreement shall be billed to the Customer.

CUSTOMER'S SIGNATURE:		
	<del></del>	
DATE:	 	

# APPENDIX B -- APPLICATION FOR SERVICE (Utility Must Attach Blank Copy)