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APPLICATION NI AMERICA TEXAS, LLC TO AMEND A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN WISE COUNTY (37937-C) PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

COMMISSION STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ON FINAL DISPOSITE

Commission Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) files its Recommendation on Final Disposition. Staff recommends that the application and the requested amendment of the certificate of convenience and necessity be approved. In support of its Recommendation on Final Disposition, Staff states the following:

I. Background

On May 30, 2014, Ni America Texas, LLC (Ni America), an investor-owned utility, filed an application and accompanying documents with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Ni America requested an amendment to its water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN No. 11922). Ni America requested an amendment in order to add a new service area to the area currently certificated under water CCN No. 11922. The proposed service area is in Wise County, Texas.

Effective September 1, 2014, the Commission began the economic regulation of water and sewer utilities. Ni America's application, which was pending at the TCEQ, was transferred to the Commission for processing.

On March 31, 2015, Patricia White filed comments regarding the service provided by Ni America. Staff has conferred with counsel for Ni America regarding Ms. White's comments. Counsel for Ni America has stated that Ni America will contact Ms. White to address the issues raised in her comments.

On May 6, 2015, the Administered Law Judge entered Order No. 6, which established May 6, 2015 as the deadline for Staff to file a recommendation or request a hearing. This Recommendation on Final Disposition is timely filed.

On May 5, 2015, Staff submitted to Ni America a proposed amended map of the additional service area to be certificated under water CCN No. 11922, a proposed amended water CCN No. 11922, and a proposed amended tariff applicable to water CCN No. 11922.

On May 12, 2015, Ni America filed a signed consent form regarding the proposed amended map of the additional service area to be certificated under water CCN No. 11922, the proposed amended water CCN No. 11922, and the proposed amended tariff applicable to water CCN No. 11922 submitted by Staff.

II. Applicable Statutes and Rules

The Texas Water Code details the requirements for amending a certificate of convenience and necessity. In determining whether to approve the amendment of a certificate of convenience and necessity, the Commission "shall ensure that the applicant possesses the financial, managerial, and technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service." With respect to water utility service, the Commission must ensure that the applicant:

- (1) is capable of providing drinking water that meets the requirements of Chapter 341, Health and Safety Code, and requirements of this code; and
- (2) has access to an adequate supply of water.

The factors that are to be considered by the Commission in determining whether to approve the amendment of a certificate of convenience and necessity are:

- (1) the adequacy of service currently provided to the requested area;
- (2) the need for additional service in the requested area, including whether any landowners, prospective landowners, tenants, or residents have requested service;
- (3) the effect of the granting of a certificate or of an amendment on the recipient of the certificate or amendment, on the landowners in the area, and on any retail public utility of the same kind already serving the proximate area;
- (4) the ability of the applicant to provide adequate service, including meeting the standards of the commission, taking into consideration the current and projected density and land use of the area;
- (5) the feasibility of obtaining service from an adjacent retail public utility;

¹ Tex. Water Code § 13.241(a).

² Tex. Water Code § 13.241(b)(1)-(2).

- (6) the financial ability of the applicant to pay for the facilities necessary to provide continuous and adequate service and the financial stability of the applicant, including, if applicable, the adequacy of the applicant's debtequity ratio;
- (7) environmental integrity;
- (8) the probable improvement of service or lowering of cost to consumers in that area resulting from the granting of the certificate or amendment; and
- (9) the effect on the land to be included in the certificated area.³

The Commission's substantive rules have substantially similar requirements.

III. Staff's Determination

Staff has reviewed Ni America's application and accompanying documents. Staff has determined that Ni America has the financial, managerial, and technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service. Additionally, Staff has determined that there is a need for additional service in the proposed service area in Wise County, Texas.

A. Ni America has demonstrated financial capability to provide continuous and adequate service

Staff has reviewed Ni America's unaudited financial statements that were included in Ni America's application. Staff has determined that Ni America has demonstrated financial capability to provide continuous and adequate service. As of September 30, 2013, Ni America had total assets of \$5.4 million and total liabilities of \$2.6 million. Ni America's current ratio, calculated by dividing current assets (\$1,725,275) by current liabilities (\$644,183), is 2.68. The current ratio tests an entity's liquidity and ability to repay debts over a twelve-month period. A current ratio under 1.0 suggests that an entity will not have sufficient funds to pay its debts over the next twelve months. Ni America's current ratio of 2.68 indicates good short-term financial strength. Ni America's debt-to-equity ratio, calculated by dividing long term liabilities (\$1,940,421) by total net assets (\$2,811,461), is 0.69. As it relates to financial and managerial capabilities, a current ratio of less than 1 indicates that an entity is able to meet its long-term

³ Tex. Water Code § 13.246(c).

⁴ See generally 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 24.102(a)(1)-(2), (d).

obligations and obtain to obtain additional borrowing.

B. Ni America has demonstrated managerial and technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service

Staff has also determined that Ni America has the managerial and technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service. First, Ni America's principals have years of experience overseeing the operations of water utilities. Second, Ni America owns six (6) TCEQ-approved water systems that are capable of providing drinking water that complies with Chapter 340 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and the TCEQ's substantive rules. These water systems provide water service to 760 customers and are all below 85% capacity. Third, the water system that will serve the proposed service area, Public Water System ID No. 2490061, does not have any unresolved violations. Staff has reviewed TCEQ's Central Registry Database and there is only one pending water quality complaint that was filed on April 21, 2015. This complaint will be reviewed by the TCEQ.

C. There is a need for additional service

Staff has also determined that there is need for additional service in the proposed service area in Wise County, Texas. Doud Land Company, LLC and Multi-Chem Group have requested that Ni America provide service in the proposed service area in Wise County, Texas.

IV. Staff's Recommendation

Based on Staff's determination detailed above, Staff recommends that: (1) the Commission approve Ni America's application; (2) the Commission approve the requested amendment of Ni America's water CCN No. 11922; and (3) the Commission find that Ni America has the financial, managerial, and technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service to the proposed service area in Wise County, Texas. Additionally, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the attached amendments to: (1) Ni America's water CCN No. 11922; (2) the map of the service area certificated under Ni America's water CCN No. 11922; and (3) Ni America's tariff applicable to its water CCN No. 11922. Staff's recommendation is based on the attached memorandum of Leila Guerrero, Regulatory Accountant/Auditor in the Water Utilities Division.

To assist in the processing of Ni America's application, Staff also recommends that the Administrative Law Judge set May 27, 2015 as the deadline for Ni America to either respond to Staff's Recommendation on Final Disposition or for the parties to file a proposed notice of approval.

V. Conclusion

Staff recommends that the Commission approve Ni America's application and the requested amendment of Ni America's water CCN No. 11922.

Date: May 13, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton Division Director Legal Division

Shelah J. Cisneros Managing Attorney Legal Division

Sam Chang

State Bar No. 24078333 Attorney, Legal Division

Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N. Congress Avenue P.O. Box 13326 Austin, Texas 78711-3326 (512) 936-7261 (512) 936-7268 (facsimile) sam.chang@puc.texas.gov

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document was served on all parties of record on May 13, 2015 in accordance with 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.74.

Sam Chang

DOCKET NO. 43177

APPLICATION NI AMERICA TEXAS, LLC TO AMEND A CERTIFICATE OF	§ 8	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN WISE COUNTY (37937-C)	8 8	OF TEXAS

MEMORANDUM OF LEILA GUERRERO

PUC Interoffice Memorandum

To:

Sam Chang, Attorney

Legal Division

THRU:

Tammy Benter, Director Lisa Fuentes, Work Leader Water Utilities Division

FROM:

Leila Guerrero, Regulatory Accountant/Auditor

Water Utilities Division

DATE:

May 12, 2015

SUBJECT: Docket No. 43177, Application of Ni America Texas, LLC to amend

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 11922 in Wise County

(Application No. 37937-C)

On May 30, 2014, Ni America Texas, LLC, filed an application with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to amend Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 11922, in Wise County, Texas. The purpose of the application is to add approximately ten (10) acres to the Applicant's CCN boundary in order to serve one (1) commercial connection. This application was filed pursuant to the criteria in the Texas Water Code, Chapter 13, and the TCEQ's rules outlined in Title 30, Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Sections 291.102 and 291.107. On September 1, 2014, the rates and CCN programs were transferred from the TCEQ to the Public Utility Commission (PUC). This application was part of the transfer and is now under the PUC's purview. The application is now being reviewed under the PUC's Substantive Rules in Chapter 24, §§24.102 and 24.107.

Proper public notice was provided on February 11, 18 and 25, 2015, in the Wise County Messenger. On February 13, 2015, notice was provided to neighboring systems, landowners, cities and affected parties in Wise County. Affidavits stating that notices were published in the newspaper and provided to all affected parties were received at the PUC on March 3, 2015. The comment period ended March 27, 2015, and no protests or opt-out requests were received.

The Applicant has demonstrated adequate financial and managerial capabilities to provide service to the area being requested. The debt-to-equity ratio for the Applicant was \$1,940,421 (total long-term liabilities) to \$2,811,461 (total net assets), or .69:1. A ratio of less than 1 to 1 is preferred for analysis of financial/managerial capabilities. The debt-to-equity ratio assists in discerning the Applicant's ability to meet its long-term obligations, as well as, ability to obtain additional borrowing. The addition of the 10 acres to the Applicant's CCN boundary does not have a material impact on the Applicant's financial or managerial capabilities.

The Applicant possesses the technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service pursuant to 16 TAC §24.102. Specifically, the Applicant has demonstrated that it owns six (6) TCEQ-approved water systems that are capable of providing drinking water in accordance with the requirements in Tex. Health and Safety Code Chapter 340 and TCEQ's rules in 30 TAC, Chapter 290. The Applicant currently provides water service to 760 customers and has access to an adequate supply of water. The Applicant's (6) public water systems are all below the 85% capacity requirements. Water service to the proposed area will be provided by the Applicant's existing facility, Public Water System (PWS) ID No. 2490061. A review of TCEQ's Central Registry Database indicates that the Applicant has no unresolved PWS violations; however a water quality complaint was filed on April 21, 2015, that will be addressed by the TCEQ's environmental investigator within 30 days.

The applicant meets all of the statutory requirements of Texas Water Code Chapter 13 and the Commission's Chapter 24 rules and regulations. Approving this application to amend CCN No. 11922 is necessary for the service, accommodation, convenience and safety of the public.

Staff recommends approval of the order. Attached are map, certificate, tariff, and the Applicant's signed consent form.

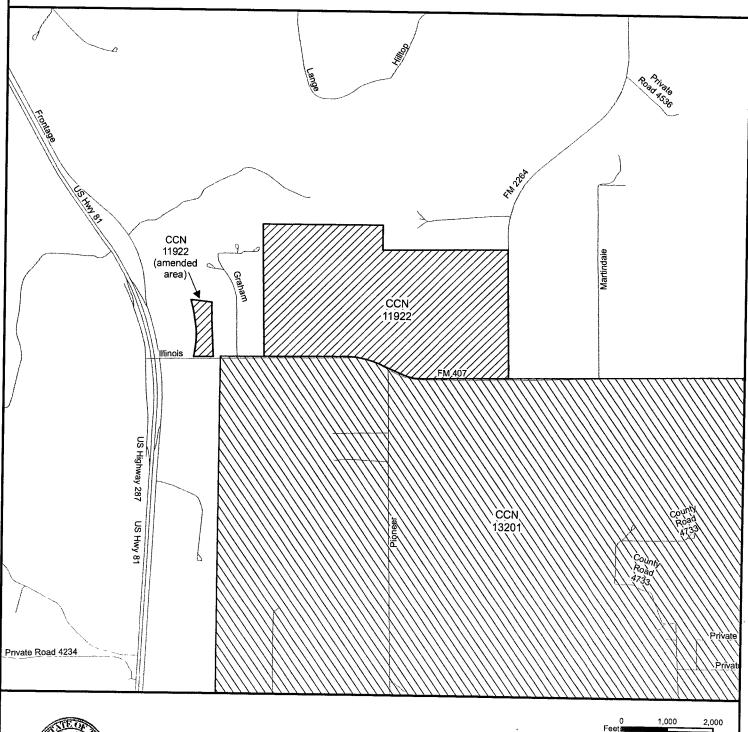
Based on the above information, Staff recommends the Commission do the following:

- 1) Issue an order and the certificates to the Applicant;
- 2) Provide a copy of an approved tariff to the Applicant (attached); and
- 3) Provide the attached map to the Applicant.

MAILING LIST FOR (Application No. 37937-C) Docket No. 43177

Mr. Ty Embrey, Attorney Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C. 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900 Austin, Texas 78701

Ni America Texas, LLC Portion of Water Service Area CCN No. 11922 PUC Docket No. 43177 Amended CCN No. 11922 in Wise County



Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N. Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701

Water CCN Service Areas

11922 - Ni America Texas LLC

13201 - Aqua Texas Inc

Map by: Suzanne Burt Date created: April 15, 2015 Project path: n:/gis/projects/applications/43177 mxd



Public Utility Commission Of Texas

By These Presents Be It Known To All That Ni America Texas, LLC

having duly applied for certification to provide water utility service for the convenience and necessity of the public, and it having been determined by this Commission that the public convenience and necessity would in fact be advanced by the provision of such service by this Applicant, is entitled to and is hereby granted this

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 11922

to provide continuous and adequate water utility service to that service area or those service areas in Johnson and Wise Counties as by final Order or Orders duly entered by this Commission, which Order or Orders resulting from Docket No. 43177 are on file at the Commission offices in Austin, Texas; and are matters of official record available for public inspection; and be it known further that these presents do evidence the authority and the duty of the Ni America Texas, LLC, to provide such utility service in accordance with the laws of this State and Rules of this Commission, subject only to any power and responsibility of this Commission to revoke or amend this Certificate in whole or in part upon a subsequent showing that the public convenience and necessity would be better served thereby.

Issued at Austin, Texas, thisday of	2019
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WATER UTILITY TARIFF Docket Number: 43177

Ni America Texas, LLC (Utility Name)

10913 Metronome Dr. (Business Address)

Houston, Texas 77043 (City, State, Zip Code)

(713) 574-5952 (Area Code/Telephone)

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

11922

This tariff is effective in the following county:

Johnson, Wise

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

New Fairview

"The rates set or approved by the city for the systems entirely within its corporate boundary are not presented in this tariff. Those rates are not under the original jurisdiction of the PUC and will have to be obtained from the city or utility."

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

See attached List

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	_
SECTION 2.0 SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES	
SECTION 3.0 EXTENSION POLICY	4 4
SECTION 4.0 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN	. 15

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

Ni America Texas, LLC

Shaded Lane Estates	1260103	Johnson
Chisholm Hills	2490046	Wise
Coyote Ridge	2490053	Wise
Hills of Oliver Creek	2490046	Wise
Royal Oaks		Wise
Sage Brush Estates	2490058	Wise
Skyview Ranch (Entirely within the city of New Fairview)	2490061	Wise
Windmill Trails	2490050	Wise
Chisholm Hills Estates (Entirely within the city of New Fairview)	2490044	Wise

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SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE

Section 1.01 - Rates

M . G.			
<u>Meter Size</u>	Monthly Minimum Charge		<u>Gallonage Charge</u>
These rates are effective on August 25, 2011 for Brighton Cycle 1 and Brighton Cycle 2 customers. These rates are effective on August 29, 2011 for Shaded Lane customers.			
5/8" or 3/4" 1" 1½" 2" 3"	\$40.00 (Includes 0 gallons) \$159.23 \$318.45 \$509.52 \$955.35	\$4.00 per 1,000 gallo \$7.50 per 1,000 gallo	ns up to 10,000 gallons ons over 10,000 gallons
Drighton Cycle 2 custo	he 5/8" or 3/4" rate will be \$50.0 mers, and on August 29, 2012, tl des 0 gallons). No other changes	16 5/8" or 3/4" rata will	L - 4 C O O C O
On August 25, 2013, the $5/8$ " or $3/4$ " rate will be \$60.00 (Includes 0 gallons) for Brighton Cycle 1 and Brighton Cycle 2 customers, and on August 29, 2013, the $5/8$ " or $3/4$ " rate will be \$60.00 for Shaded Lane customers (Includes 0 gallons). No other changes to the rates listed in this tariff.			
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.			
REGULATORY ASSESSMENT 1.0% PUC RULES REQUIRE THE UTILITY TO COLLECT A FEE OF ONE PERCENT OF THE RETAIL MONTHLY BILL AND TO REMIT FEES TO THE TCEQ.			
Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees			
STAINDAIND INES	S THE UTILITY'S COSTS FOR MAT SIDENTIAL 5/8" or 3/4" METER. A SITTED IF LISTED ON THIS TARIFI	N ADDITIONAL FEE TO (
TAP FEE (Unique co FOR EXAMPLE, AREAS.	sts) A ROAD BORE FOR CUSTOMERS (OUTSIDE OF SUBDIVISIO	<u>Actual Cost</u> NS OR RESIDENTIAL

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SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

TAP FEE (Large meter) TAP FEE IS THE UTILITY'S ACTUAL INSTALLED.	COST FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR METER SIZE
METER RELOCATION FEE	Actual Delegation Cost No. 1 -

METER RELOCATION FEE Actual Relocation Cost, Not to Exceed Tap Fee
THIS FEE MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER REQUESTS THAT AN EXISTING METER BE
RELOCATED.

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):

- RETURNED CHECK CHARGE \$25.00 RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY=S DOCUMENTABLE COST.
- CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50)......\$50.00
- COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT ... 1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL

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.

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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, Water Utility Regulation, 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.

<u>Section 2.03 - Fees and Charges & Easements Required Before Service Can Be Connected</u>

(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 residential customer who has paid 18 consecutive billings without being delinquent.

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(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 30 TAC 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.

- 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.

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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 Environmental Quality Rules (TCEQ) 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 Ch. 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 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 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 the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 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 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.

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 Commission, 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 Commission 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;

Docket No. 43177

SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

 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. 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 <u>may not be required</u> 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 TCEQ minimum design criteria for facilities used in the production, transmission, pumping, or treatment of water 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.

SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

Any service extension to a subdivision (recorded or unrecorded) may be subject to the provisions and restrictions of 30 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 30 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, 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.

SECTION 4.0 -- DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

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 airgap 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.

APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT (Continued)

- 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:		

CONSENT FORM

Applicant's Name: Ni America Texas, LLC Docket No.: 43177 (Application No. 37937-C)

T 1111 12 ATTE 63

I concur with the maps, certificates, and tariffs transmitted by e-mail on May 5, 2015.

I do not concur with the maps, certificates, and tariffs transmitted by e-mail on May 5, 2015. I understand that I have 14 days from the date of this email to provide my response.

I am authorized by Ni America Texas, LLC, to sign this form.

Signature: Les Strey

Printed Name: 19 tmbrey

Relationship to Applicant: Httorney

Date signed: $\frac{5}{\sqrt{\sqrt{2015}}}$

Please mail the original and 9 copies to:

Mailing Address:
Public Utility Commission of Texas
Central Records
1701 N Congress PO Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Shipping / Overnight Delivery Address:

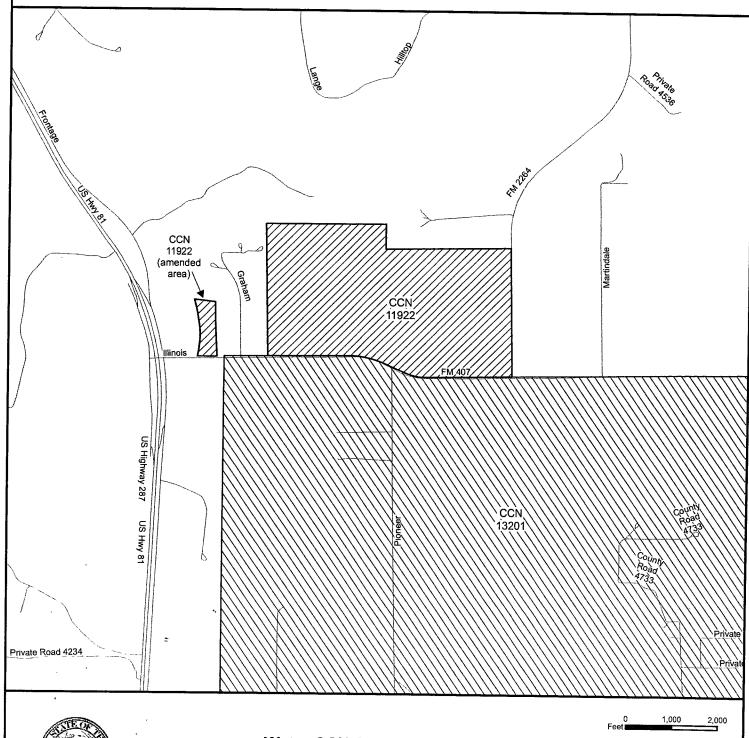
Public Utility Commission of Texas
Central Records
1701 N Congress, Suite 8-100
Austin, Texas 78701

DOCKET NO. 43177

APPLICATION NI AMERICA TEXAS,	§.	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
LLC TO AMEND A CERTIFICATE OF	Š	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN	8	OF TEXAS
WISE COUNTY (37937-C)	§	

PROPOSED AMENDED
MAP OF SERVICE AREA CERTIFICATED UNDER WATER CCN NO. 11922

Ni America Texas, LLC Portion of Water Service Area CCN No. 11922 PUC Docket No. 43177 Amended CCN No. 11922 in Wise County





Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701

Water CCN Service Areas

11922 - Ni America Texas LLC

13201 - Aqua Texas Inc

Map by: Suzanne Burt Date created: April 15, 2015 Project path: n:/gis/projects/applications/43177.mxd

DOCKET NO. 43177

APPLICATION NI AMERICA TEXAS,	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
LLC TO AMEND A CERTIFICATE OF	§	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN	8	OF TEXAS
WISE COUNTY (37937-C)	§	

PROPOSED AMENDED WATER CCN NO. 11922



Public Utility Commission Of Texas

By These Presents Be It Known To All That Ni America Texas, LLC

having duly applied for certification to provide water utility service for the convenience and necessity of the public, and it having been determined by this Commission that the public convenience and necessity would in fact be advanced by the provision of such service by this Applicant, is entitled to and is hereby granted this

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 11922

to provide continuous and adequate water utility service to that service area or those service areas in Johnson and Wise Counties as by final Order or Orders duly entered by this Commission, which Order or Orders resulting from Docket No. 43177 are on file at the Commission offices in Austin, Texas; and are matters of official record available for public inspection; and be it known further that these presents do evidence the authority and the duty of the Ni America Texas, LLC, to provide such utility service in accordance with the laws of this State and Rules of this Commission, subject only to any power and responsibility of this Commission to revoke or amend this Certificate in whole or in part upon a subsequent showing that the public convenience and necessity would be better served thereby.

uay 01	Issued at Austin, Texas, this	day of	201
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DOCKET NO. 43177

APPLICATION NI AMERICA TEXAS,	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
LLC TO AMEND A CERTIFICATE OF	8	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN	8	OF TEXAS
WISE COUNTY (37937-C)	§	

PROPOSED AMENDED TARIFF FOR WATER CCN NO. 11922



WATER UTILITY TARIFF Docket Number: 43177

Ni America Texas, LLC (Utility Name)

10913 Metronome Dr. (Business Address)

Houston, Texas 77043 (City, State, Zip Code)

(713) 574-5952 (Area Code/Telephone)

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

11922

This tariff is effective in the following county:

Johnson, Wise

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

New Fairview

"The rates set or approved by the city for the systems entirely within its corporate boundary are not presented in this tariff. Those rates are not under the original jurisdiction of the PUC and will have to be obtained from the city or utility."

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

See attached List

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	4
SECTION 3.0 EXTENSION POLICY	11
SECTION 4.0 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN	15

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

Ni America Texas, LLC

Shaded Lane Estates	1260103	Johnson
Chisholm Hills	2490046	Wise
Coyote Ridge	2490053	Wise
Hills of Oliver Creek	2490046	Wise
Royal Oaks		Wise
Sage Brush Estates	2490058	Wise
Skyview Ranch (Entirely within the city of New Fairview)	2490061	Wise
Windmill Trails	2490050	Wise
Chisholm Hills Estates (Entirely within the city of New Fairview)	2490044	Wise

Docket Number: 43177

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE

Section 1.01 - Rates

<u>Meter Size</u>	Monthly Minimum Charge		Gallonage Charge	
These rates are effective on August 25, 2011 for Brighton Cycle 1 and Brighton Cycle 2 customers. These rates are effective on August 29, 2011 for Shaded Lane customers.				
5/8" or 3/4" 1" 1½" 2" 3"	\$40.00 (Includes 0 gallons) \$159.23 \$318.45 \$509.52 \$955.35	\$4.00 per 1,000 gal \$7.50 per 1,000 ga	lons up to 10,000 gailons llons over 10,000 gallons	
Drighton Cycle 2 custo	he 5/8" or 3/4" rate will be \$50.0 mers, and on August 29, 2012, t des 0 gallons). No other changes	10 5/8" or 3/4" rata wil	ha #E0 00 f= cl	
On August 25, 2013, the $5/8"$ or $3/4"$ rate will be \$60.00 (Includes 0 gallons) for Brighton Cycle 1 and Brighton Cycle 2 customers, and on August 29, 2013, the $5/8"$ or $3/4"$ rate will be \$60.00 for Shaded Lane customers (Includes 0 gallons). No other changes to the rates listed in this tariff.				
(specify) THE UTILITY M	T: The utility will accept th X , Money Order X , C AY REQUIRE EXACT CHANGE FOR DE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN S SH PAYMENTS.	PAYMENTS AND MAY	Other	
I OC NOLLO NEC	ESSMENT QUIRE THE UTILITY TO COLLECT AND TO REMIT FEES TO THE TCE	A FEE OF ONE PERCENT	<u>1.0%</u> Г OF THE RETAIL	
Section 1.02 - Misc	ellaneous Fees			
STANDARD RES	S THE UTILITY'S COSTS FOR MA SIDENTIAL 5/8" or 3/4" METER. A NITTED IF LISTED ON THIS TARIF	TERIALS AND LABOR TO AN ADDITIONAL FEE TO		
TAP FEE (Unique co	osts)			

FOR EXAMPLE, A ROAD BORE FOR CUSTOMERS OUTSIDE OF SUBDIVISIONS OR RESIDENTIAL

Docket Number: 43177

AREAS.

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

,
TAP FEE (Large meter)
METER RELOCATION FEE Actual Relocation Cost, Not to Exceed Tap Fee THIS FEE MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER REQUESTS THAT AN EXISTING METER BE RELOCATED.
METER TEST FEE
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\$30.00 THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT NAME AT THE SAME SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED
LATE CHARGE (EITHER \$5.00 OR 10% OF THE BILL)
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE\$25.00 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
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.

Docket Number: 43177

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, Water Utility Regulation, 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.

<u>Section 2.03 - Fees and Charges & Easements Required Before Service Can Be Connected</u>

(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 ohe-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 residential customer who has paid 18 consecutive billings without being delinquent.

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(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 30 TAC 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.

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.

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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 Environmental Quality Rules (TCEQ) 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 Ch. 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 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 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 the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 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 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.

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 Commission, 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 Commission 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;

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SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

 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. 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 <u>may not be required</u> 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 TCEQ minimum design criteria for facilities used in the production, transmission, pumping, or treatment of water 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.