consideration given herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, HARLINGEN and PRIMERA agree as follows:

- 1. Recitals. The Parties agree and warrant that the above Recitals and Representations of the Parties are true and correct.
- 2. Term And Depreciation. The term of this Agreement, subject to the provisions herein for earlier termination, is twenty (20) years. The wastewater treatment facilities capacity being purchased by PRIMERA will continue to be available to treat PRIMERA's wastewater after the twenty (20) year term of this Agreement as long as PRIMERA and HARLINGEN mutually agree on the rates to be charged by HARLINGEN for such treatment. Depreciation of the treatment facilities will be over a twenty (20) year period and, at the end of that period, there will not be any undepreciated value in the facilities. If this Agreement is terminated in accordance with this Agreement prior to the end of the twenty (20) year period and the remaining value (original construction cost less depreciation) is requested to be reimbursed in accordance with applicable federal or state laws or regulations, it will be made to the state or federal agency that provided the initial funding. this Agreement terminates after the twenty (20) year period, the facilities will have been fully depreciated and no reimbursement shall be due to any agency or to PRIMERA. If there is any

undepreciated value remaining at the time of termination, payment for such value shall be made by HARLINGEN to the appropriate state or federal agency only.

- 3. <u>Sewage Treatment</u>. Subject to the limitations set out herein, HARLINGEN hereby offers and PRIMERA hereby accepts HARLINGEN's offer to provide treatment facilities capacity for sewage generated within the PRIMERA Area, up to the maximum as shown in Exhibit "C" and delivered to the Point of Delivery as shown on Exhibit "A".
- 4. Service Area. The PRIMERA Area consists of the area within the PRIMERA city corporate limits. and its sewer CCN area. The current boundaries of the PRIMERA Area are as set out in Exhibit "A".

5. COMBES' Collection System.

a. Sewage from the PRIMERA Area will be collected by mains, lines and lift stations (the "PRIMERA Facilities") constructed, owned, operated and maintained by PRIMERA. All of the PRIMERA Facilities within the PRIMERA Area are and hereafter shall be the sole and separate property of PRIMERA. PRIMERA shall be solely liable for capital debts relating to the PRIMERA Facilities to be built.

- The Parties acknowledge that the construction of b. the PRIMERA Facilities, as well as the relative obligations of the Parties hereunder, are subject to the following: 1) receipt by PRIMERA of certain permits and approvals of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission ("TNRCC"), 2) sufficient funding of a portion or all of the costs of a wastewater collection system within PRIMERA's CCN, including right-of-way acquisition and construction costs of collection lines and lift stations, 3) sufficient funding is provided to HARLINGEN through a grant to PRIMERA from the Texas Water Development Board, EDAP, or other state or federal agency for a lift station and force main, and major sufficient funding is provided to HARLINGEN through a grant to PRIMERA from the Texas Water Development Board, EDAP, or other state or federal agency for the equity buy in of treatment capacity at WWTP No. Such funding shall be provided to HARLINGEN in accordance with the terms of paragraph 12 hereunder.
- c. PRIMERA will build its wastewater collection system in compliance with all applicable federal, state

and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations and further agrees to submit its construction plans and specifications for informational purposes only to HARLINGEN prior to their submission to the TNRCC. After construction of the wastewater collection system is completed, PRIMERA will provide HARLINGEN with a copy of the "as built" or recorded drawings.

- d. Upkeep and maintenance of the PRIMERA collection system shall be the exclusive responsibility of PRIMERA.
- PRIMERA shall be required to install new equipment e. or modify existing equipment or operations to conform to state and federal laws or regulations and to keep its system in similar efficiency and as operational as HARLINGEN's sewer system. emergency exists, PRIMERA shall provide for immediate repairs, installations or changes. The repeated or habitual failure of PRIMERA to make such repairs, installations or changes as required by this Agreement, upon notice in writing to do so from HARLINGEN within the time periods specified, shall be sufficient grounds for HARLINGEN to

discontinue accepting sewage from the PRIMERA Area, in whole or in part until the problem is corrected.

6. PRIMERA Ordinances. PRIMERA shall enact appropriate ordinances covering all sanitary sewer customers within its city limits which shall cause the sewage discharge delivered to the Point of Delivery to comply with all requirements as set out in Exhibit "D". See also Section 14.

7. Compliance With Applicable Law.

a.

All collected wastewater delivered to HARLINGEN's wastewater collection system at the Point of Delivery will meet and be in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. ordinances, rules and regulations, including the pre-treatment requirements of HARLINGEN as set out in HARLINGEN's Pretreatment Ordinance (No. 93-1), which is incorporated by reference herein as if set forth verbatim. PRIMERA shall enforce all federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances and regulations, pertaining to industrial effluent discharge into the sewer systems covered by this Agreement, with particular reference to HARLINGEN's Pretreatment Ordinance, as amended or as may be amended, and shall enact ordinances and enforce

same as required to insure that all users of the sewer lines lying in the PRIMERA Area comply with the standards set forth in the aforesaid statutes, ordinances and regulations.

The collected wastewater delivered to HARLINGEN b. shall not exceed the limits set forth in Exhibits "B", "C", and "D", as amended from time to time, unless authorized by subsequent written amendment PRIMERA's this Agreement. In the event wastewater does exceed the limits set forth in Exhibits "B", "C" and "D", PRIMERA shall pay to and/or penalties all surcharges HARLINGEN authorized by HARLINGEN's Pretreatment Ordinance, as amended from time to time, and HARLINGEN may shut off the flow of wastewater from PRIMERA if, in HARLINGEN's sole judgment, the wastewater may cause any upset at any of its wastewater plants or cause HARLINGEN to violate the parameters, conditions or requirements of any of their permits from federal, state or local regulatory agencies. Any surcharges or penalties due under HARLINGEN's ordinances and collected by PRIMERA shall be paid over HARLINGEN; however, PRIMERA shall pay to HARLINGEN

all such surcharges on penalties due under these ordinances whether or not they are collected by PRIMERA. PRIMERA may charge an additional fee to the violating customer to recover PRIMERA's costs for collecting and enforcing any federal, state or local law or regulation against such customer.

- 8. Fines And Penalties. In the event that HARLINGEN receives and is compelled to pay any fine or penalty assessed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), the TNRCC or any other state or federal agency with oversight powers and if the reason for the fine or penalty, in whole or in part, is a result of the effluent quality or quantity of the wastewater delivered by PRIMERA to HARLINGEN, PRIMERA shall be liable to pay to HARLINGEN its proportionate share of the fine or penalty and any reasonable attorney's fees necessarily incurred by HARLINGEN to review and analyze the assessed fine or penalty and attempt to defend HARLINGEN's position with the assessing agency. Payment to HARLINGEN of PRIMERA's proportionate share shall be due within thirty (30) days after the invoice is sent to PRIMERA as required hereunder.
- 9. <u>HARLINGEN'S Right To Inspect.</u> HARLINGEN and its authorized representatives are hereby granted the right to, but is not required to, inspect all of PRIMERA's sewer lines or facilities

and to take samples and perform tests upon reasonable notice and at any reasonable time and place to determine whether the PRIMERA's collection system is operating properly and complies with all federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances, including HARLINGEN's Pretreatment Ordinance. If such tests show harmful substances in excess of the quantity or concentrations permitted under HARLINGEN's Pretreatment Ordinance, the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM General Manager or his designee shall notify PRIMERA in writing. PRIMERA shall require the violating customer to make the adequate corrective measures to remedy such conditions. PRIMERA shall pay all surcharges and/or penalties assessed or required under HARLINGEN's Pretreatment Ordinance and/or any other relevant law, regulation or ordinance, until notified in writing by the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM General Manager or his designee that such conditions have been remedied.

10. Notice of Emergencies. PRIMERA agrees to notify the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM General Manager as promptly as possible of all emergency and other conditions which may directly or indirectly affect the operation of HARLINGEN's wastewater treatment and collection system. HARLINGEN agrees to notify PRIMERA as promptly as possible of all emergencies and other conditions which may directly or indirectly affect the ability of HARLINGEN to transport and/or treat PRIMERA's wastewater.

- Equipment To Monitor At Point Of Discharge. 11. HARLINGEN install, operate, and maintain the furnish, will necessary equipment and devices of standard type required for measuring properly all wastewater discharged at the Point of Delivery into its sanitary sewer system by PRIMERA. HARLINGEN'S costs of furnishing, installing, operating and maintaining the equipment will be calculated and included in future rates to be paid by PRIMERA. Such meters and other equipment shall be and remain the property of HARLINGEN. PRIMERA shall have access to such metering equipment at all reasonable times for inspection and examination, but the reading, calibration, and adjustment thereof shall be done only by employees or agents of HARLINGEN. If requested by PRIMERA in writing, such reading, calibration and adjustment of any meter shall be conducted in the presence of a PRIMERA representative. All readings of meters will be entered upon proper books of record maintained by the HARLINGEN. PRIMERA may have access to said record books during reasonable business hours.
- 12. Funding For Collection And Payment For Capacity. Funding for collector mains and lines and for the capacity as set out in Exhibit "B", being purchased under this Agreement, will be provided through a grant or loan to PRIMERA from the Texas Water Development Board, EDAP, or other state or federal agency. Payment for the capacity set out in Exhibit "B" shall be made to HARLINGEN within

thirty (30) days of receipt of these grant or loan funds and is subject to the procedure set out below. If the funding of a loan or grant does not occur or does not occur in an amount adequate to build or purchase the necessary improvements or capacity, in the discretion of either city, either party may cancel this Agreement.

PRIMERA and the Texas Water Development Board agrees that funds for construction of the portion of perproject that will be part of the HARLINGEN System wi ided in accordance contracts executed by HARLINGEN and that disbursed to HARLINGEN as required to comply with the contracts. Such funds shall be deposited into a separate checking account from PRIMERA's account(s) for all other grant funds for this Project. The separate HARLINGEN checking account will require two signatures to withdraw funds. One signature will be provided by one of the officials designated by PRIMERA and the second signature will be provided by one of the officials designated by HARLINGEN. HARLINGEN will not be responsible for securing or providing any such funds during or after the contract work.

13. Expansion. In the event that PRIMERA's volume of sewage exceeds on an average 75% of the average daily flow as stated in Exhibit "B" for any three months consecutive period in any twelve (12) month period, HARLINGEN shall notify PRIMERA that PRIMERA must begin negotiations with the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM regarding

the price of the additional transportation and treatment capacity needed by PRIMERA and the rate to be charged for the transportation and/or treatment. HARLINGEN agrees that all capacity and service charges shall be just and reasonable and based on the cost to provide the service. In the event that PRIMERA's volume of sewage exceeds on an average 90% of such average daily flow as stated in Exhibit "B" for any three months in a calendar year, PRIMERA shall not issue any building permits or approve any new subdivision plats which will be served under this contract without the specific written authority of the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM.

- Responsibilities Of Subdividers And Commercial Developers. PRIMERA shall be solely responsible for the discharge(s) of all sewage from its system into the HARLINGEN System including hydraulic load, strength, and toxic levels. The manner in which PRIMERA does this is its sole responsibility using whatever means it deems necessary to insure its discharge does not violate any criteria set forth in this Agreement. Failure to keep such discharge(s) within these criteria shall be subject to all of the rights and remedies set out herein. Some suggestions regarding how PRIMERA may regulate future development in order to meet these criteria are the following:
 - a. PRIMERA may, upon adoption of this Agreement, pass an ordinance requiring all subdividers submitting

plats or replats creating an additional number of lots or subdivisions in the PRIMERA Area, which are approved on and after the effective date hereof, to provide improvements necessary to connect to the sewer system, including the requirements set out in 14.b. below.

- b. If a new or enlarged subdivision or commercial development or connection creates or causes or will create or cause an overload to any part of the HARLINGEN collection system (e.g. force mains, lift stations. collectors) orto its wastewater treatment system, PRIMERA may require subdivider and/or developer to pay for any required improvement, upgrade, enlargement or addition to the affected part of HARLINGEN'S wastewater treatment or collection systems. PRIMERA may want require similar funding for improvements required by its system.
- c. PRIMERA may require all sewer connections to be made in conformity with the provisions of the HARLINGEN City Code (Plumbing Code), as it presently exists or as may be amended. PRIMERA shall adopt similar ordinances and regulations to

accomplish this purpose and to enforce same. All new sewer connections may be made only after an application therefor has been made to and a permit issued by PRIMERA.

- 15. <u>Technical Assistance</u>. HARLINGEN will provide reasonable technical assistance to PRIMERA as requested and as HARLINGEN, in its sole discretion, is able to provide.
- 16. Septic Tank Hauler Discharge Prohibited. PRIMERA shall prohibit any septic tank hauler or honey wagon operator from discharging any sewage into its collection system and shall take all necessary steps to prevent such discharge, including enacting an ordinance preventing such discharges. HARLINGEN agrees not to provide wholesale or retail sewer service to any person, corporation or organization located within the PRIMERA city limits.
- 17. Service Fees And Rates. PRIMERA shall pay service fees to the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM for the services rendered hereunder as set forth in Exhibit "C" attached. HARLINGEN may raise its rates for sanitary sewer service from time to time as needed to maintain just and reasonable rates. HARLINGEN shall give PRIMERA ninety (90) days written notice before raising the rates and shall provide PRIMERA its calculations information for the proposed rate increases at the time the information is presented to its Board of Trustees, whichever is earlier. As provided in

Exhibit "C", II, Treatment Cost, HARLINGEN has the authority to retroactively adjust the service fees to PRIMERA based on the audited figures for the cost of providing sewer services under this Agreement.

- 18. No Partnership; Indemnity. This Agreement is made for the purpose of providing wastewater treatment services by HARLINGEN to PRIMERA. No partnership or joint venture is intended to be created hereby. HARLINGEN's sole responsibility is that of providing wastewater treatment services as set out herein and HARLINGEN shall have no responsibility for, and PRIMERA shall indemnify, defend and hold HARLINGEN harmless from any damage, claims, demands, or causes of action arising from:
 - a. the construction, operation, maintenance, repair or existence of PRIMERA's wastewater collection facilities to be built or any part of its wastewater system used to deliver wastewater to HARLINGEN for treatment;
 - b. the provision of sewer collection service; and/or
 - c. any act or omission relating to such services.

This indemnity shall also extend to, but shall not be limited to, any cost, expense or fee, including attorney's fees, costs of court or expert fees, incurred by HARLINGEN relating to or arising from any such damages, claims, demands or causes of action.

- HARLINGEN shall have the right to discontinue providing sewer services to PRIMERA and its sanitary sewer customers so long as PRIMERA remains delinquent in any payments due hereunder for a period of thirty (30) days from billing date, and shall have the right to not resume such service while PRIMERA remains delinquent. However, HARLINGEN may pursue all legal remedies against PRIMERA to enforce and protect its rights and PRIMERA shall not be relieved of its liability to HARLINGEN for the payment of all amounts which would have been due hereunder. These contractual rights are cumulative of all other rights allowed by law.
- 20. <u>Termination Upon Default</u>. Any Party may terminate this Agreement following a default by the other Party in the performance of this Agreement and the failure to correct or take reasonable steps to correct said default within thirty (30) days after written notice of default has been provided by the non-defaulting Party.
- 21. Other Remedies. It is not intended hereby to specify (and this Agreement shall not be considered as specifying) an exclusive remedy for any default, but all such other remedies (other than termination) existing at law or in equity may be availed of by any party hereto and shall be cumulative. Recognizing however, that HARLINGEN's undertaking to provide and maintain the wastewater collection system and disposal facilities

used by PRIMERA is an obligation, failure in the performance of which cannot be adequately compensated in money damage alone. HARLINGEN agrees, in the event of any default on its part, that PRIMERA shall have available to it the equitable remedy of mandamus and specific performance in addition to any other legal or equitable remedies (other than termination) which may also be available. Recognizing that failure in the performance of PRIMERA's obligations hereunder could not be adequately compensated in money damages alone. PRIMERA agrees in the event of any default on its part that HARLINGEN shall have available to it the equitable remedy of mandamus and specific performance in addition to any other legal or equitable remedies (other than termination) which may also be available to HARLINGEN.

22. Force Majeure. If by reason of force majeure any party hereto shall be rendered unable wholly or in part to carry out its obligations under this Agreement, other than the obligation of PRIMERA to make the payments required under this Agreement, then if such party shall give notice and full particulars of such force majeure in writing to the other party within a reasonable time after occurrence of the event or cause relied on, the obligation of the party giving such notice, so far as it is affected by such force majeure, shall be suspended during the continuance of the inability then claimed, but for no longer period, and any such

party shall endeavor to remove or overcome such inability with all reasonable dispatch. The term "force majeure" as employed herein shall mean acts of God, strikes, lockouts, or other industrial disturbances, acts of public enemy, orders of any kind of the Government of the United States or the State of Texas, or any civil or military authority, insurrection, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightning, earthquake, fires, hurricanes, storms, floods, washouts, droughts, arrests, restraint of government and people, civil disturbances, explosions, breakage or accidents to machinery, pipelines or canals, partial or entire failure of water supply, or on account of any other causes not reasonably within the control of the party claiming such inability.

23. Severability: The Parties hereto specifically agree that in case any one or more of the sections, subsections, provisions, clauses, or words of this Agreement or the application of such sections, subsections, provisions, clauses, or words to any situation or circumstance should be, or should be held to be, for any reason, invalid or unconstitutional, under the laws or constitutions of the State of Texas or the United States of America, or in contravention of any such laws or constitutions, such invalidity, unconstitutionality, or contravention shall not affect any other sections, subsections, provisions, clauses, or words of this Agreement or the application of such sections,

subsections, provisions, clauses, or words to any other situation or circumstance, and it is intended that this Agreement shall be severable and shall be construed and applied as if any such invalid or unconstitutional section, subsection, provision, clause, or word had not been included herein, and the rights and obligations of the Parties hereto shall be construed and remain in force accordingly.

- 24. Attorney's Fees. The prevailing party in any legal proceeding against any other party to this Agreement brought under or which relates to the Agreement or a breach thereof shall, in addition to its damages, shall be entitled to recover its costs and reasonable attorney's fees.
- 25. <u>Notices.</u> Any notice or communication required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be sufficiently given when received by any other party and must be:
 - (1) delivered by hand delivery; or
 - (2) mailed by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the addresses indicated below, or at such other addresses as may hereafter be furnished in writing by any Party to all other parties, and such notice shall be deemed to have been given as of the date so delivered or mailed:

HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM Attention: General Manager P. O. Box 1950 219 E. Jackson Harlingen, Texas 78551

CITY OF PRIMERA Attention: Mayor Route 1, Box 177 Primera, Texas 78552

- 26. No Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement is not executed for the benefit of any third party and its terms shall not be enforceable by or in favor of any person or entity other than the express Parties to the Agreement.
- 27. <u>Interest.</u> Any amount due and unpaid more than thirty (30) days from the billing date shall accrue interest at the maximum rate allowed by law. Failure to pay within thirty (30) days is a default.
- 28. <u>Waiver</u>. Any waiver at any time by either HARLINGEN or PRIMERA with respect to a default or any other manner arising in connection with this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any other default or matter arising under this Agreement.
- 29. <u>Venue.</u> The Parties agree that the exclusive venue of any litigation arising out of a dispute under this Agreement shall be in Cameron County, Texas.
 - 30. <u>Texas Law.</u> This Agreement shall be governed in all

respects, including validity, interpretation and effect, by and shall be enforceable in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, except as preempted by federal law.

31. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, between the HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM and PRIMERA with respect to treatment of wastewater.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement is executed on behalf of the CITY OF HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM and PRIMERA.

CITY OF HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM:

_

Louis Devellis, Chairman of the Board of Utility Trustees

CITY OF PRIMERA:

BY

Jose J. Ramirez, May

AGREED TO AND APPROVED

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE	STA	ATE	OF	TEXAS		S
COUN	ITY	OF	CAN	MERON		S

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared is LOUIS DELELLIS, Chairman of the Board of Utility Trustees of the City of Harlingen Waterworks System, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, in the capacity therein stated and as the act and deed of said System.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this ___ day of _____, 1996.

Notary	Public,	State	of	Texas	
My Comr	mission	Expires	5:		

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

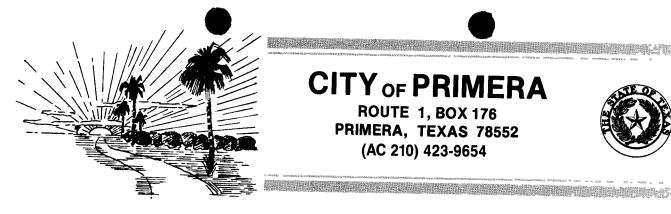
S

COUNTY OF CAMERON §
Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally
appeared Jose J. Ramirez, Mayor of the City of Primera, known to me
to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing
instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for
the purposes and consideration therein expressed, in the capacity
therein stated and as the act and deed of said City.
Given under my hand and seal of office on this day of
, 1996.
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires:

Interlocal Agreement Between The City Of Barlingen Waterworks System And The City of Primera For Wastewater Treatment Services

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Exhibit 5 City of Primera Letter of Consent



CITY OF PRIMERA

ROUTE 1, BOX 176 PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552 (AC 210) 423-9654



September 16, 1998

TNRCC Utility Certification Section Water Utilities Division (MC-153) P. O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

RE: Water and Sewer CCN Application

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter shall serve notice that the firm of Guzman and Munoz, Engineering and Surveying Inc., is authorized to address questions pertaining to the above referenced application.

Respectfully,

Jose J. Ramirez

Mayor

Exhibit 6 Maps Administrative Review No.

Name of Utility

File Number
Putition
Style
Cameron
County

LOG OF ITEMS IN FILE

Date	No.	Item of Description
6.18.93	1	Petition
7.9.93	2	Ltr. to M. Wright
7.9.93	3	Memo to Hearings
	4	-
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	

PETITION/APPEAL APPLICATION

Pater ayers Petitioner and CCN No.	P-17-3 Petition Review No.
	$\frac{6-18-93}{\text{Date Filed}}$
City of Primers Petitionee and CCN No.	7-2-93 Review Completion Date
Type of Petition Cameron County PETITION/APPEAL REVIE	Contact Person W CHECKLIST
FILING CLERK	YES NO
 Original and two copies of Petition Filing fee Map (if applicable) Copy of Contract (if applicable) Other 	
STAFF REVIEW	
Name of Reviewer	
I have reviewed this petition and recommend it be:	
DATE	
Accepted for filing. Not accepted for filing. Please send attached letter	er.
The petition will not be accepted for filing until the noted	I deficiency(ies) has (have) been corrected.

John Hall, Chairman
Pam Reed, Commissioner
Peggy Garner, Commissioner
Anthony Grigsby, Executive Director



TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

November 12, 1993

Dr. James E. Wright 5006 Oakmont Circle Harlingen, Texas 78552

Re: Docket No. 30090-W; Petition of Out-Of-City Rate Payers of the City of Primera's Rate Increase, in Cameron County

Dear Dr. Wright:

Pursuant to the city rescinding the rate increase and with the subsequent agreement of the customer petitioners to withdraw th referenced project, we are closing the above mentioned docket. The official file for Docket No. 30090-W will be kept on file for informational purposes.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 512/908-6960.

Sincerely,

Vera Poe

Utility Certification and

Rate Design Section

Water Utilities Division

VOP/vop/ecm

cc: Office of Hearings Examiners; ATTN: Kerry D. Sullivan

Legal Division; ATTN: Leslie Brown

The Honorable Jose Ramirez

John Hall, Chairman
Pam Reed, Commissioner
Peggy Garner, Commissioner
Anthony Grigsby, Executive Director



TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 15, 1993

FAX Number: (512) 463-7974

To: Interested Persons

Re: Docket No. 30090-W; Petition of Out-Of-City Rate Payers of the City of Primera's Water Rate Increase in Cameron County

This letter will confirm my telephone conversation or phone message from yesterday.

The hearing previously scheduled for September 16, 1993 is officially cancelled.

The City of Primera has provided documentation that it has rescinded the rate increase previously at issue in this docket. It is my understanding that the rate increase was either not collected or has been fully refunded. I have discussed this with Ms. Wright, wife of customer representative Dr. James E. Wright. Ms. Wright informed me that the customers no longer request a hearing on this docket in view of the City's action, and that they no longer desired to attend the previously scheduled hearing. (If the City raises its rates in the future, the customers will have another opportunity to request a hearing.)

I appreciate your cooperation in this regard.

Sincerely,

Ker/zy/D. Sullivan

Assistant Chief Hearings Exam Office of Hearings Examiners

cc: Service List

collection

03/000/

SERVICE LIST City of Primera Docket No. 30090-W

The Honorable José J. Ramirez Mayor, City of Primera Route 1, Box 176 Primera, Texas 78552

Dr. James E. Wright 5006 Oakmont Circle Harlingen, Texas 78552

Leslie Brown, Staff Attorney
Legal Division
Texas Natural Resource
Conservation Commission
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Cynthia G. Hayes, Attorney Acting Public Interest Counsel Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission P. O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087 Representing: Out-of-City Ratepayers

Representing: the Executive Director of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

COUNTY	OF TR	AVIS)	(
I,	Glor	ia A.	Va	squez,	Chie	f Cl	lerk	of	the	Texas	Water	Commis	sion,	do l	nereby
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Augu	st 11,	1993		with	instr	ucti	ons t	hat	this	notic	e be r	eproduce	ed and	mail	led to
all rat	e cust	tomers	of	said (compan	у•									
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11·	th day	of _	Aug	ust		·	, 1	19_9	93.						

) (

Cloria A. Vasquez, Chief Clerk Texas Water Commission

SEAL

STATE OF TEXAS

John Hall, Chairman Pam Reed, Commissioner Peggy Garner, Commissioner



TEXAS WATER COMMISSION

PROTECTING TEXANS' HEALTH AND SAFETY BY PREVENTING AND REDUCING POLLUTION

August 11, 1993

CERTIFIED MAIL

City of Primera

Attn: Jose J. Ramirez, Mayor

Route 1, Box 176

Primera, Texas 78552

Mailing requirements on Notice of Public Hearing regarding water rate increase

Docket No. 30090-W

Dear Mayor Ramirez:

Enclosed is a Notice of Public Hearing concerning the above-referenced. This notice must be provided in its entirety (including the attached mailing list) to all affected utility customers, at your expense. You may mail it with a utility bill or statement, or by separate first class mail. In accordance with Section 13(a) of the Administrative Procedure and Texas Register Act, all affected customers must receive the notice not less than 10 days before the hearing date, or not later than September 6, 1993.

After the notice is mailed to all affected customers, you must file an affidavit stating the attached notice was mailed to all affected customers, and stating the date on which it was mailed. The affidavit must be filed with Heidi Jackson, the Hearings Examiner of the Texas Water Commission assigned to this matter, within ten days following completion of the mailing. Immediately contact the Hearings Examiner in the event notice is not provided in a timely manner.

Two copies of an affidavit form are enclosed for your use in complying with our requirements in the above paragraph. Please mail one copy to the Hearings Examiner as indicated above, and retain the second one in your records. On the day of the hearing, please bring your copy of this affidavit with you to the hearing.

If you have any questions, please call (512) 463-7875 to speak with the Hearings Examiner assigned to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Gloria A. Vasquez, Chief Clerk

Texas Water Commission

GAV/crs Enclosures

Dr. James E. Wright, Representative Spokesman for Out-of-City Ratepayers, 5006 cc: Oakmont Circle, Harlingen, Texas 78552 Heidi Jackson, Hearings Examiner, Texas Water Commission

TEXAS WATER COMMISSION

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPEAL BY OUT-OF-CITY RATEPAYERS CONCERNING WATER RATE INCREASE BY THE CITY OF PRIMERA

On April 8, 1993, by Ordinance No. 93-101, the City Council of the CITY OF PRIMERA approved an increase of water rates effective immediately. Out-of-City ratepayers have filed a petition with the Texas Water Commission appealing the water rate increase under Section 13.043(b)(4) of the <u>Texas Water Code</u>. This matter has been designated as Docket No. 30090-W. A Hearings Examiner of the Texas Water Commission will conduct a preliminary public hearing at:

> 10:00 a.m. - Thursday, September 16, 1993 John H. Reagan State Office Building - Room 104 105 West 15th Street - Austin, Texas

This hearing will be held under the authority of Chapter 13 of the $\underline{\text{Texas Water Code}}$ and the Rules of the Texas Water Commission (31 TAC Chapter 291).

Persons desiring to present information relating to the appeal must appear at the public hearing either in person or by a representative and present such information, subject to all applicable rules of evidence. Information offered in written form in the writer's absence will be noted by the Commission but will not be considered as evidence since the writer cannot be cross-examined. No person will be admitted as a party to the proceeding unless the person complies with Commission Rules, which require a justiciable interest and attendance at the hearing either in person or by a qualified representative. Parties will be given an opportunity to negotiate a settlement prior to the hearing on the merits.

The record of this proceeding will include evidence and testimony taken at the public The hearing may be continued from time to time and place to place, if necessary, to develop all relevant evidence bearing on the subject of the hearing. The Texas Water Commission reserves the right to schedule or reschedule hearings as it deems necessary. Further information concerning any aspect of the appeal, if available, may be obtained by writing the Water Utilities Division, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711, telephone 512/908-6960. Information may also be obtained from Leslie Brown, Staff Attorney, at the same address or by calling 512/463-8069. Information concerning any procedures of the hearing may be obtained by contacting Heidi Jackson, Hearings Examiner, at the same address or by calling 512/463-7875. Information concerning public participation in hearings may be obtained by contacting the Public Interest Counsel at the same address, or by calling (512) 908-6363.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this hearing and who may need auxiliary aids or services (such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print, or braille) are requested to contact the Hearings Examiners Office at (512) 463-7875 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) at least two (2) work days prior to the hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Issued this 11th day of August, 1993.

(Seal)

Gloria A. Vasquez, Chief Clerk

Texas Water Commission

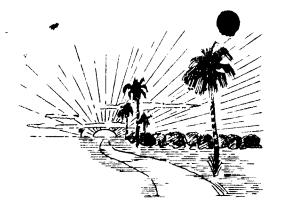
MAILING LIST CITY OF PRIMERA Docket No. 30090-W

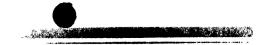
City of Primera Attn: Jose J. Ramirez, Mayor Route 1, Box 176 Primera, Texas 78552

Dr. James E. Wright, Representative Spokesman for Out-of-City Ratepayers
5006 Oakmont Circle
Harlingen, Texas 78552

Texas Water Commission
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087
Leslie Brown, Staff Attorney
Jorge Arroyo, Staff Engineer
Bernie Erwin, Staff Accountant
Heidi Jackson, Hearings Examiner
Cynthia Hayes, Acting Public Interest Company Cantu, Media Relations, Office of
Nancy Lynch, Legal - Enforcement Policy

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CITY OF PRIMERA

ROUTE 1, BOX 176 PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552 (AC 512) 423-9654





PRIMERA CITY COUNCIL CITY OF PRIMERA

"MINUTES"

The Primera City Council held a Special Meeting Thursday, June 24, 1993 at 6:30 P.M. at the Wilson School Cafeteria.

ITEM # I: Meeting was called to order by Mayor, Jose J. Ramriez at 6:55 P.M.

ITEM # II: Invocation was given by Mayor Ramirez.

ITEM # III: ROLL CALL:

Present: Jose J. Ramirez Mayor
Emma L. Tamez Alderman
Christine Vargas Alderman
Javier Correa Alderman
Antonio Segura Alderman

Absent: John David Osborne Mayor Pro-Tem

Comprisng a quorum of the City Council.

ITEM # IV: PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS: No presentations were given at this time.

ITEM # V: All bids submitted for the completion of the new

City Hall were accepted as follows:

BASE BID 1: Sweezy Constr., Jennings, BJ Septic Tanks BASE BID 2: ALECO, Sweezy Constr., Pamelton Paving

BASE BID 3: ALECO, Sweezy Constr.

ITEM # VI: After a brief discussion the Council selected the

bids as follows:

BASE BID 1: JENNINGS/SEPTIC \$3,900.00 BASE BID 2: PAMELTON/PAVING \$25,041.00

BASE BID 3: SWEEZY CONSTR./GENERAL \$127,400.00

Alderman Segura moved to approve the motion. Motion was seconded by Alderman Correa. All in favor, motion was carried.

SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 24, 1993 PAGE II

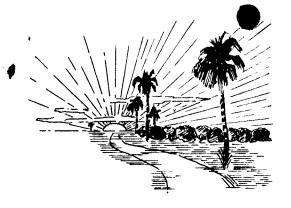
VII: A brief discussion was held concerning water rate increase for the people outside the city limits. Council agreed to rescind Ordinance No. 93-101, SECTION 2, ART. 1. Alderman Segura moved to approve the motion. Motion was seconded by Alderman Correa. All in favor, motion was carried.

ITEM # VIII: A discussion was held concerning renting Community Center. The Council agreed to charge \$150.00 plus a \$50.00 dollar deposit. Contract and restrictions will be drawn up by City Attorney, William Wepfer. City Secretary will be in charge of reservations and money.

1X: After a brief discussion concerning Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the Council agreed to serve coffe, juice, donuts and fruit for the ceremony and hot dogs, pop corn and punch for the social gathering. A DJ will be hired for the social gathering.

X: There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Tamez moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Alderman Vargas. All in favor, motion was carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.





CITY OF PRIMERA

ROUTE 1, BOX 176
PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552
(AC 512) 423-9654



STATE OF TEXAS SCITY OF PRIMERA SCAMERON COUNTY

ORDINANCE NO. 93-101

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PRIMERA, TEXAS, SETTING MONTHLY RATES FOR WATER SERVICE AND OTHER CHARGES FOR NEW SERVICE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FEES, ADMINISTRATIVE FEES, RECORDING AND TAX ASSESSOR FEES, PLAT REVIEW FEES AND WATR RIGHTS FEES, AND PROVIDING FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL OF WATER SERVICE OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is necessary to adopt rates and fees for water service to produce revenues adequate to pay necessary maintenance and operating expenses of the City of Primera Waterworks System and to provide for the future water needs of the City and expansion of the Waterworks System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PRIMERA, TEXAS:

Article I: Monthly Rates for Water Services

Section 1. Rates for services within the City Limits. The following rates are hereby effective for water service within the City Limits of the City of Primera:

2,000	gallons and below	\$ 10.00	Minimum
2,001	gallons to 5,000 gallons	\$ 2.00	per thousand
5,001	gallons to 24,000 gallons		per thousand
24,001	gallons and above	\$ 1.25	per thousand

Section 2. Rates for services outside the City Limits. The following rates are hereby effective for water service outside the City of Primera:

2,000	gallons and below	\$	20.00	Minimum
2,001	gallons to 5,000 gallons	\$	4.00	per thousand
5,001	gallons to 24,000 gallons	•		per thousand
24,001	gallons and above	\$	2.50	per thousand

Article II: Other Rates and Charges for Water Services

Section 1. Installation of New Service

a. Whenever new water service is provided to a single property owner or a developer, whether inside City Limits or outside the City Limits, the owner or developer shall be required to pay, in advance, a meter and water tap fee of \$300.00 for each 3/4" meter and \$425.00 for each 1" meter.

ORDINANCE NO. 93-101 PAGE II

Section 2. Capital Improvement Fees, Administrative Fees, Recording and Tax Assessor Fees, and Plat Review Fees Inside the City Limits.

Each developer of a subdivision located within the City Limits of the City of Primera shall pay the following fees prior to receiving approval from the City for the subdivision:

1. Capital Improvement Fee

2. Administrative Fee

3. Recording and Tax Assessor Fee

4. Plat review by City Engineer Fee
(An additional fee of \$60.00/hr
will be charged to review construction
plans and specifications, if any)

\$50.00 per lot \$50.00 per lot \$40.00 per lot \$75.00 per subdivision

Section 3. Capital Improvement Fees, Administrative Fee, Water Rights Fees and Plat Review Fees for Subdivisions Outside the City Limits.

a. Developer Fees. Each developer of a subdivision located outside the City Limits of the City of Primera, whether located within or outside the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City, shall pay the following fees prior to receiving approval from the City for water services:

1. Capital Improvement Fee

2. Administrative Fee

3. Water rights fee

4. Plat review by City Engineer Fee (An additional fee of \$60.00/hr will be charged to review construction plans and specifications, if any)

\$50.00 per lot \$50.00 per lot \$275.00 per lot

\$75.00 per subdivision

b. Property Owner Fees. Each individual property owner of a lot or lots within a subdivision located outside the City Limits for which the developer fees set forth above have not been paid as required by the developer, shall pay all applicable fee attributable to the lot or lots owned prior to approval of water services by the City.

Article III. Water Service Outside the City Limits.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be constructed to obligate the City of Primera to provide water service to persons living outside the City Limits. Water service outside the City Limits can only be furnished with prior approval of the City Council at its sole discretion and upon payment of the fees required by this Ordinance.

John Hall, Chairman
Pam Reed, Commissioner
Peggy Garner, Commissione:



TEXAS WATER COMMISSION

PROTECTING TEXANS' HEALTH AND SAFETY BY PREVENTING AND REDUCING POLLUTION

July 9, 1993

Mr. James E. Wright 5006 Oakmont Circle Harlingen, TX 78552

Re: Docket No. 30090-W; Petition Submitted by Out of City Ratepayers of the City of Primera's Water Rate Increase in Cameron County

Dear Mr. Wright:

The referenced petition has been accepted for filing. The petition has been assigned Docket No. 30090-W. Please reference all further communications regarding this petition to this number.

The petition is being forwarded to the Texas Water Commission's Office of Hearings Examiner. A date for a preliminary hearing in this matter will be scheduled. I will request that the Hearings Examiner require the utility provide notice of the preliminary hearing.

At this preliminary hearing the Commission will first establish jurisdiction. The jurisdictional issues may include the filing date of the petition, percentage of customers signing the petition and the validity of the signatures on the petition. If jurisdiction is established, an attempt to reach an agreed settlement in this case may be made. If a settlement is not possible, then a schedule for discovery, prefiled testimony and another hearing date will be set.

If you have any questions, please contact Jorge Arroyo or Bernie Erwin at (512) 908-6960, or at the address below.

Sincerely,

Doug Holcomb, P.E.

Doug Helcont

Utility Certification and

Rate Design Section

Water Utilities Division

SHB/bre/ecm

cc: Attached Proposed Mailing List

JUN I 8 1993

TEXAS WATER COMMISSION

16 June 1993

To: Texas Water Commission

UTILITY CERTIFICATION
From: Ratepayers Outside City Limits of Primera & BATE DESIGN

Dr. James E. Wright, representative spokesman

Subject: Petition to Appeal Increased Water Rates

Enclosed is the original petition with 4 copies which contain 112 signatures of a possible 250 outside ratepayers for water in Primera. This is to appeal the doubling of the water rates on outside water users (attachment #1). Primera buys water from the Harlingen TX water utility (contract = attachment #2, usage and payment schedule = attachment #3) at the rate of \$1.00 per 1000 gallons.

The original water system for Primera was installed by HUD and outside water users had to be included in order for Primera to obtain funds for its installation. Its installation system included the extension of single lines to individuals at a considerable distance from Primera proper who were involved in originally obtaining the HUD funds.

The auditing of water utility income and expenses is apparently not done by ${\tt CPAs}$

Even at the original cost level, the water rate of Primera is excessive as compared to other nearby communities (attachment #4).

PETITION TO APPEAL RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF PRIMERA
CITY OF PRIMERA

ROUTE 1, BOX 176 PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552 512-423-9854

JUN | 8 1993

The undersigned ratepayers outside the city limits of Primera and users of Primera water services hereby appeal the primera and council members and City of Primera affecting the rates change was approved on the by the City of Primera. The rate change was approved on the council members and city of Primera. April, 1993 and effective immediately by Ordinance no. 93-101 and affected the rates charged for water utility service, tap fees, capital improvement fees, administrative fees, recording and tax assessor fees, and plat review fees. On May 10, 1993 the ratepayers were notified by the service provider of this rate increase. The undersigned request that the Texas Water Commission review the decision to determine if the rates established are just and reasonable. The old rates charged by the service provider are \$10.00 minimum bill plus \$2.00 for each 1,000 gallons up to 5,000 gallon, \$1.50 per thousand up to 24,000, and \$1.25 for 24.001 and above. The new rates are doubled for us that are on the outsides of the city limits of Primera: the rates quoted are those within Primera. The undersign designate James E. Wright, Primera Outside Water Users as their representative on this matter. Correspondence to the ratepayers representative may be directed to James E. Wright, Primera Outside Water Users, 5006 Oakmont Circle, Harlingen, TX 78552; 210-423-2471. (1) Attached is the City of Primera, TX Ordinance no. 93-101 delineating the increase in races. (2) Attached is the contract with the City of Harlingen Water Department from which Primera purchases the water at \$1.00 per thousand gallons and a base fee of \$100 monthly. (3) Attached is a statement of water usage by Primera from Harlingen since 1991--two meters are used: apparently one for Primera internal use and one (Wilson Rd) for outside use. Outside uses more than 5.7 times the volume of water)

Names (Please print) and Signature

Service Address (and Mailing Phone no. if different from service address

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PETITION TO APPEAL RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF PRIMERA

CITY OF PRIMERA ROUTE 1, BOX 176

PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552 512-423-9854

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Names (Please print) Service Address (and Mailing if different from service address and Signature 5007 Junta



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PETITION TO APPEAL RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF PRIMERA CITY OF PRIMERA

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PETITION TO APPEAL RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF PRIMERA CITY OF PRIMERA

ROUTE 1, BOX 176 PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552 512-423-9854

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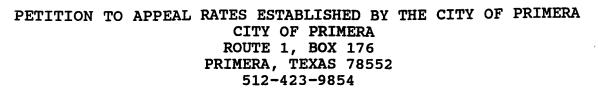
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PETITION TO APPEAL RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF PRIMERA CITY OF PRIMERA ROUTE 1, BOX 176 PRIMERA, TEXAS 78552 512-423-9854

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The undersigned ratepayers outside the city limits of Primera and users of Primera water services hereby appeal the decision of the council members and City of Primera affecting the rates charged to the by the City of Primera. The rate change was approved on 8 April, 1993 and effective immediately by Ordinance no. 93-101 and affected the rates charged for water utility service, tap fees, capital improvement fees, administrative fees, recording and tax assessor fees, and plat review fees. On May 10, 1993 the ratepayers were notified by the service provider of this rate increase. The undersigned request that the Texas Water Commission review the decision to determine if the rates established are just and reasonable. The old rates charged by the service provider are \$10.00 minimum bill plus \$2.00 for each 1,000 gallons up to 5,000 gallon, \$1.50 per thousand up to 24,000, and \$1.25 for 24.001 and above. The new rates are doubled for us that are on the outsides of the city limits of Primera: the rates quoted are those within Primera. The undersign designate James E. Wright, Primera Outside Water Users as their representative on this matter. Correspondence to the ratepayers representative may be directed to James E. Wright, Primera Outside Water Users, 5006 Oakmont Circle, Harlingen, TX 78552; 210-423-2471. (1) Attached is the City of Primera, TX Ordinance no. 93-101 delineating the increase in rates.(2) Attached is the contract with the City of Harlingen Water Department from which Primera purchases the water at \$1.00 per thousand gallons and a base fee of \$100 monthly. (3) Attached is a statement of water usage by Primera from Harlingen since 1991--two meters are used: apparently one for Primera internal use and one (Wilson Rd) for outside use. Outside uses more than 5.7 times the volume of water)

and Signature

Names (Please print) Service Address (and Mailing Phone no. if different from service address