

Control Number: 46181



Item Number: 18

Addendum StartPage: 0

DOCKET NO. 46181

§

8 8 8

§

RECEIVED

APPLICATION OF AQUA TEXAS, INC. DBA AQUA TEXAS TO AMEND CERTIFICATES OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN CHAMBERS COUNTY

PUBLIC UTHITS COMMISSION

NOTICE OF APPROVAL

This Notice addresses the application of Aqua Texas, Inc. d/b/a Aqua Texas to amend its water and sewer certificates of convenience and necessity in Chambers County. Commission Staff recommended approval of the application, as amended. The application, as amended, is approved.

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

I. Findings of Fact

Procedural History

- On July 18, 2016, Aqua filed an application to amend its water CCN No. 13203 and sewer CCN No. 21065 in Chambers County. Aqua supplemented the application on November 18, 2016.
- 2. On August 18, 2016, Order No. 2 was issued, deeming the application sufficient for filing.
- 3. On October 4, 2016, Order, No. 3 was issued, finding the notice provided by Aqua to be sufficient and adopting an updated procedural schedule.
- 4. On December 20, 2016, Aqua submitted a signed consent to the proposed revised maps, certificates, and tariffs, as prepared by Commission Staff.
- 5. On December 27, 2016, Commission Staff recommended approval of Aqua's application.
- 6. On December 28, 2016, Commission Staff filed an amended final recommendation, with the only change being that the water and sewer tariff pages were attached.
- 7. The revised certificates, maps, and tariff pages discussed in Finding of Fact Nos. 4 and 6 are attached to this Notice.
- 8. On January 3, 2017, the parties filed a joint proposed notice of approval and motion to admit evidence.

<u>Notice</u>

- 9. Notice of the application was published in the *Texas Register* on July 29, 2016.
- 10. Aqua provided notice by publication in the *Baytown Sun* on August 26, 2016, and September 2, 2016.
- 11. On September 23, 2016, Aqua filed a publisher's affidavit, dated September 9, 2016, signed by Jessica Rodriguez, an Agent of *the Baytown Sun*, which attested to the notice.
- 12. Aqua mailed notice of the application to neighboring systems, landowners, and cities and to neighboring utilities and affected parties on September 6, 2016.
- 13. On September 23, 2016, Aqua filed an affidavit attesting to mailed notice to landowners and other entities on September 6, 2016.

Aqua's application

- Aqua has provided all of the information required by Texas Water Code §§ 13.242-.250¹
 and 16 Texas Administrative Code §§ 24.101-.107 (TAC) to amend its water and sewer
 certificates as requested in this application.
- 15. Aqua currently provides service to 1,065 water connections and 957 sewer connections.
- Aqua's service area will be expanded to allow for the provision of services to the proposed
 Joseph's Cove development.
- 17. The water and sewer service area requested in this application includes approximately93.49 acres, no current customers, and no infrastructure.
- 18. The proposed utility service area is located approximately 4 miles southeast of downtown Mont Belvieu, and is generally bounded on the north by 0.76 mile south of IH 10, on the east by 1 mile west of FM 3246, on the south by FM 565, and on the west by Cotton Bayou.

Evidentiary Record

19. On February 2, 2017, Order No. 4 was issued, admitting evidence into the record of this proceeding.

Informal Disposition

20. Commission Staff and Aqua are the only parties to this proceeding.

¹ Tex. Water Code Ann. §§ 13.242-.250 (West 2008 and Supp. 2016) (TWC).

بريوا المحصية

- 21. More than 15 days have passed since completion of the notice provided in this docket.
- 22. There were no protests or hearing requests filed in response to the public notices; therefore, no hearing is necessary.
- 23. The requirements for informal disposition under 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

II. Conclusions of Law

- The Commission has jurisdiction and authority over this docket pursuant to the TWC §§ 13.242-.250 and 16 TAC §§ 24.101-.107.
- 2. Aqua is a retail public utility as defined in TWC § 13.002(19) and 16 TAC § 24.3(58).
- 3. Aqua provided public notice of the application in compliance with TWC § 13.246 and with 16 TAC § 24.106.
- 4. After considering the relevant factors in TWC § 13.246(c), Aqua has demonstrated adequate financial, managerial, and technical capability for providing continuous and adequate service to the requested area and its current service area.
- Aqua has demonstrated that the application meets the requirements set forth in TWC §§ 13.242-.250 and in 16 TAC §§ 24.101-.102 to be granted an amendment to its certificates.
- Aqua demonstrated that amendments to its water CCN No. 13203 and sewer CCN No. 21065 are necessary for the service, accommodation, convenience, or safety of the public, as required under TWC § 13.246(b) and 16 TAC § 24.102(c).
- 7. Under TWC § 13.257(r) and 16 TAC § 24.106(f), Aqua is required to record a certified copy of the approved certificates and maps, along with a boundary description of the service areas, in the real property records of each county in which the service area or a portion of the service area is located, and submit to the Commission evidence of the recording.
- 8. The requirements for informal disposition under 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

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

- 1. Aqua's application, as amended, is approved.
- 2. Aqua's water CCN No. 13203 and sewer CCN No. 21065 are amended consistent with this Notice.
- 3. The tariff pages attached to this Notice are approved.
- 4. Aqua shall comply with the recording requirements in TWC § 13.257(r) for the areas in Chambers County affected by this application and submit to the Commission evidence of the recording no later than 31 days after receipt of this Notice.
- 5. All other motions, requests for entry of specific findings of fact and conclusions of law, and any other requests for general or specific relief, if not expressly granted herein, are denied.

Signed at Austin, Texas the $2^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ day of February 2017.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

1

1. U.A SUSAN E. GOODSON

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

W2013 q:\cadm\docket management\water\ccn\46xxx\46181noa.docx



Public Utility Commission of Texas

By These Presents Be It Known To All That

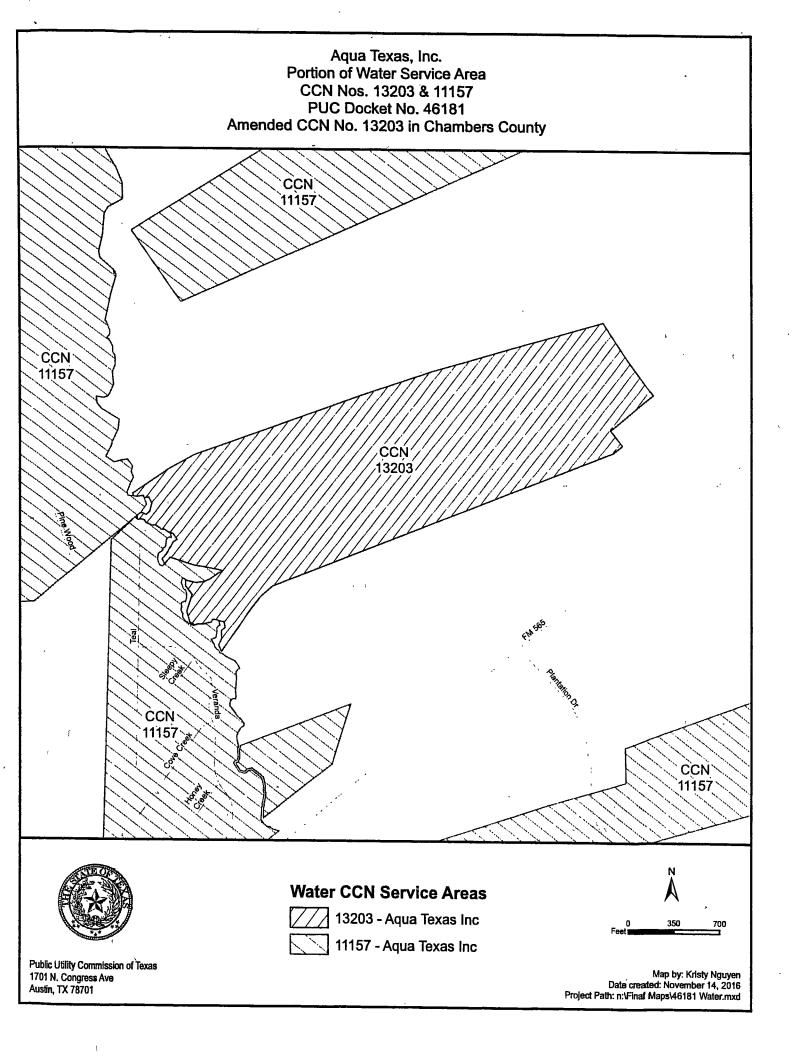
Aqua Texas, Inc.

having obtained 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, Aqua Texas, Inc., is entitled to this

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 13203

to provide continuous and adequate water utility service to that service area or those service areas in Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto Trinity, and Wharton Counties as by final Order or Orders duly entered by this Commission, which Order or Orders resulting from Docket No. 46181 are on file at the Commission offices in Austin, Texas; and are a matter of official record available for public inspection; and be it known further that these presents do evidence the authority and the duty Aqua Texas, Inc. 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, the 2nd day of February 2017.





WATER UTILITY TARIFF FOR Southeast Region – Gray Docket Number 46181

Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc. <u>dba Aqua Texas</u> (Utility Name)

1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 400W (Business Address)

Austin, Texas 78723 (City, State, Zip Code) (512) 990-4400 (Area Code/Telephone)

This tariff is effective for utility operations under the following Certificate of Convenience and Necessity: 11157 and 13203

This tariff is effective in the following counties: Chambers, Liberty and Jefferson

The following is a list of cities where Aqua Texas – Southeast Region Gray water systems provide service:

City of Old-River Winfree, and City of Beach City

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 Public Utility Commission of Texas and will have to be obtained from the city or utility. This tariff applies to outside city customers of systems that provide service inside and outside of a city's corporate boundary.

This tariff is effective in the following subdivisions/service areas and for the following public water systems:

See attached Table for Southeast Region - Gray

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 2.0	RATE SCHEDULE2-8SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS9SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND
SECTION 3.0	REGULATIONS
SECTION 4.0	SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY
AGREEMENT	

.

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas – Southeast Region-Gray</u>

PWS #	TCEQ System Name	SUBDIVISION/ AREA SERVED	COUNTY	RATE REGION
0360005	Gray Utility Service	Cove at Cotton Creek Creekside at Cotton Creek Cotton Creek Lanai Maley Woods The Veranda Gas Station Strip Center Commercial Development Travel Park Joseph's Cove	Chambers	SE/Gray
0360081	Leaning Oaks Water Association	Leaning Oaks Water Association	Chambers, ` Liberty	SE/Gray
0360084	Trinity Cove Subdivision	Trinity Cove	Chambers	SE/Gray
0360093	Carriage Trail Subdivision	Carriage Trail	Chambers	SE/Gray
0360100	Hackberry Creek Subdivision	Hackberry Creek	Chambers	SE/Gray
***0360122	Barrow Ranch	Barrow Ranch Barrow Ranch Estates Legends Bay Southwind	Chambers	SE/Gray
1230083	Sunchase Subdivision	South Fork Sunchase Estates	Jefferson	SE/Gray
1460096	Oak Meadows II Subdivision	Oak Meadows II	Liberty	SE/Gray
1460100	Oak Meadows III Subdivision	Oak Meadows III	Liberty	SE/Gray
1460137	Webb Way Subdivision	Webb Way	Liberty	SE/Gray
1460145	Towering Oaks I	Towering Oaks I Towering Oaks II Cedar Lane	Liberty	SE/Gray

This tariff is effective for the following systems, subdivisions, and areas:

*****Note:** All the customers served by the Barrow Ranch water system (PWS ID 0360122) are currently located entirely within the corporate limits of the City of Beach City. Therefore, these rates are <u>not</u> applicable to these current customers within the city limits. If Aqua Texas has any Barrow Ranch water system customer connections in the future that are located outside the city limits of the City of Beach City, the rates shown in this tariff will apply to those connections.

÷

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE

Section 1.01 - Rates

Meter Size	Monthly Minimum Charge
5/8" x 3/4"	\$ <u>31.00</u> (Includes 0 gallons)
3/4"	\$ <u>46.50</u>
. 1"	\$ <u>87.50</u>
1 1/2"	\$ <u>175.00</u>
2"	\$ <u>280.00</u>
3"	\$ <u>560.00</u>
4"	\$875.00
6"	\$1,750.00
8"	\$2,800.00
10"	\$4,025.00
12"	\$ <u>8,750.00</u>

Monthly minimum charge for any water meter size larger than 12" meter will be calculated using American Water Works Association approved meter equivalency factors.

Charges per 1,000 gallons used:

Gallonage Charge: \$3.70

Regional Pass through Gallonage Charge: \$0.00

The calculation for the regional pass through gallonage charge must comply with the formula set out in Section 1.02 of this tariff.

1.

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

Cash <u>X (If in person at designated locations)</u>, Check <u>X</u>, Money Order <u>X</u>, Credit Card <u>X</u>, Other (specify) <u>Electronic Billing & Payment</u> (See Section 2.06 – Billing)

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.

UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTIES WHO ACCEPT AND PROCESS CASH, CREDIT CARD, OR ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS FOR UTILITY BILLS MAY REQUIRE PAYMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL CONVENIENCE CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE.

ł

t

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees
TAP FEE
TAP FEE (Unique costs) Actual Cost FOR EXAMPLE, A ROAD BORE FOR CUSTOMERS OUTSIDE A SUBDIVISION IS A UNIQUE COST. UNIQUE COSTS WILL BE DETERMINED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.
TAP FEE (Large meter)Actual CostTHIS TAP FEE IS BASED ON THE UTILITY'S ACTUAL COST FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR METERSLARGER THAN STANDARD 5/8" x 3/4" METERS. UNIQUE COSTS, SUCH AS ROAD BORES, WILL BECHARGED IN ADDITION TO THIS TAP FEE AT THEIR ACTUAL COST OF INSTALLATION.
RECONNECTION FEE THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):
a) Non-payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)
TRANSFER FEE
LATE CHARGE
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT - RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT – COMMERCIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL
METER TEST FEE\$25.00
THIS FEE, WHICH SHOULD REFLECT THE UTILITY'S COST, MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER REQUESTS A SECOND METER TEST WITHIN A TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE TEST INDICATES THAT THE METER IS RECORDING ACCURATELY. THE FEE MAY NOT EXCEED \$25.

λ.

•

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

CUSTOMER SERVICE INSPECTION FEE –Actual cost not to exceed <u>\$150.00</u> COMMERCIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL

SERVICE APPLICANTS MAY CHOOSE TO HAVE CUSTOMER SERVICE INSPECTIONS REQUIRED BY TCEO RULE 290.46(J) PERFORMED BY ANY STATE-LICENSED INSPECTOR OF THEIR CHOICE.UNLESS THE SERVICE APPLICANT CHOOSES TO ARRANGE FOR AND PAY FOR THE INSPECTION INDEPENDENTLY. THE UTILITY MAY CHARGE SERVICE APPLICANTS THE CUSTOMER SERVICE INSPECTION FEE AT THE TIME THEY APPLY FOR SERVICE. IF A RE-INSPECTION IS REQUIRED TO BRING THE PLUMBING INTO COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OR IF AN EXTRA INSPECTION APPOINTMENT IS REQUIRED BECAUSE A CUSTOMER DOES NOT PERMIT PERFORMANCE OF AN INSPECTION AT A PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON APPOINTMENT TIME, THE CUSTOMER MAY CHOOSE TO HAVE ANY STATE-LICENSED INSPECTOR OF THEIR CHOICE PERFORM THE INSPECTION. IF THE CUSTOMER CHOOSES TO HAVE THE UTILITY PERFORM THE INSPECTION OR RE-INSPECTION, THE CUSTOMER WILL BE CHARGED \$100.00 FOR EACH REQUIRED INSPECTION, RE-INSPECTION OR AGREED UPON INSPECTION APPOINTMENT AND WILL PAY THE UTILITY THE TOTAL AMOUNT OWED AT THE TIME AN INSPECTION OR RE-INSPECTION IS PERFORMED. THE UTILITY MAY, AT ITS OPTION, INCLUDE THE ADDITIONAL CHARGE OR CHARGES ON THE NEXT MONTH'S UTILITY BILL RATHER THAN REQUIRING PAYMENT AT THE TIME OF THE INSPECTION OR RE-INSPECTION. THE UTILITY MAY USE UTILITY EMPLOYEES OR MAY HAVE THE INSPECTION PERFORMED BY A LICENSED THIRD PARTY CONTRACTOR.

IN ORDER TO REIMBURSE THE UTILITY WITHOUT BURDENING OTHER CUSTOMERS WITH HIGHER RATES FOR THE ADDITIONAL COST OF SERVICE TRIPS TO DISCONNECT A CUSTOMER/ACCOUNT HOLDER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR NONPAYMENT AND TO PAY FOR THE COST OF BROKEN OR CUT LOCKS AND SERVICE TIME, THIS FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED TO THE ACCOUNT HOLDER OF ANY DELINQUENT ACCOUNT THAT HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR NONPAYMENT BY VALVING OFF. LOCKING OR REMOVING THE METER WHEN SERVICE TO THE PERMISES IS SUBSEQUENTLY RECONNECTED BY NON-UTILITY PERSONNEL BY CUTTING OR REMOVING THE LOCK, REOPENING THE VALVE, OR REMOVING OR BYPASSING THE METER WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION BY THE UTILITY. THIS FEE MAY BE CHARGED EACH TIME AN EVENT OCCURS AND SERVICE WILL NOT BE RECONNECTED UNTIL THIS FEE IS PAID IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER BALANCES AND RECONNECT FEES. THIS FEE SHALL NOT BE CHARGED IF A FEE FOR A DAMAGED METER IS CHARGED OR IF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER OR HIS/HER REPRESENTATIVE INFORMS THE UTILITY WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER DISCOVERING THAT SERVICE HAS BEEN RESTORED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION OF THE UTILITY: (1) THAT SERVICE WAS RECONNECTED WITHOUT THE ACCOUNT HOLDER'S PERMISSION: AND (2) THE ACCOUNT HOLDER AGREES TO PAY FOR ALL WATER USED.

ι,

ŧ

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION, AND COSTS SURCHARGE:

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

VALVES OR CURB STOPS THAT HAVE HAD THEIR LOCKING EYES BROKEN OFF THE FLANGES.

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.

REGIONAL TEMPORARY WATER RATE:

UNLESS OTHERWISE SUPERSEDED BY TCEQ ORDER OR RULE, IF THE UTILITY IS ORDERED BY A COURT OR GOVERNMENTAL BODY OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION TO REDUCE ITS PUMPAGE, PRODUCTION OR WATER SALES, AQUA TEXAS SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE ITS APPROVED LINE ITEM CHARGES PER 1,000 GALLONS USED (GALLONAGE CHARGE & REGIONAL PASS-THROUGH GALLONAGE CHARGE) BY THE AMOUNT OF THE REGIONAL TEMPORARY WATER RATE INCREASE ("RTWR") CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THE FORMULA:

RTWR = (((PRR)(CGC)(R))/(1-R))*((APV)/(RPV))

Where:

RTWR		Regional Temporary Water Rate increase per 1,000 gallons
CGC	=	current total volume charge per 1,000 gallons used (Gallonage
		Charge + Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge)
R	=	water use reduction expressed as a decimal fraction (the pumping
		restriction)
PRR	=	percentage of revenues to be recovered expressed as a decimal
		fraction; for this tariff PRR shall equal 0.5.
APV	=	Annual Pumped and Purchased volume from the most recent 12
		months; and
RPV	=	Annual Pumped and Purchased volume for Region from the most
		recent 12 months

To implement the Regional Temporary Water Rate, Aqua Texas must comply with all notice and other requirements of 30 T.A.C. 291.21(l).

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

REGIONAL PASS-THROUGH GALLONAGE CHARGE ADJUSTMENT:

INCREASES OR DECREASES IN COSTS, FEES, RATES AND CHARGES IMPOSED BY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, WATER AUTHORITIES OR DISTRICTS HAVING JURISDICTION OVER AQUA TEXAS OR ITS OPERATIONS OR BY NON-AFFILIATED THIRD PARTY WATER SUPPLIERS OR WATER RIGHTS HOLDERS SELLING WATER OR WATER RIGHTS TO AQUA TEXAS SHALL BE PASSED THROUGH ON A REGIONAL BASIS AS A LINE ITEM REGIONAL PASS-THROUGH GALLONAGE CHARGE OR AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE EXISTING REGIONAL PASS-THROUGH GALLONAGE CHARGE USING THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

NRPTGC = ORPTGC (+/-) CRPTGC

Where:

NRPTGC	=	New Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge;
ORPTGC	=	Original Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge from last rate application or
		pass-through adjustment application;
CRPTGC	=	Change in Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge; and,
-		۶ ۶
CRPTGC	=	((NVC+(VC*APV))/(RPV))/(1-WL)

Sum of all changes (all increases or decreases) since last adjustment in costs, fees, rates and charges divided by the Regional Pumped and Purchased Volume divided by one minus water loss;

- APV = Annual Pumped and/or Purchased Volume from the most recent rate application for the system or systems where the changes in costs, fees, rates and charges occurred; or the most recent 12 months if more than 3 years have passed since the most recent rate application was filed;
- RPV = Annual Pumped and/or Purchased Volume for Region from the most recent rate application; or the most recent 12 months if more than 3 years have passed since the most recent rate application was filed;
- WL = Annual water loss average for Region in most recent rate application not to exceed 0.15; or water loss, not to exceed 0.15, for the most recent 12 months if more than 3 years have passed since the most recent application was filed;
- NVC = Annual non-volumetric cost change = annual increases or decreases in costs, fees, rates and charges that are not based on water purchased, pumped and/or billed;
- VC = Volumetric cost change = volumetric cost increases or decreases from costs, fees, rates and charges based on water purchased, pumped and/or billed.

â,

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

To implement a new Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge, Aqua Texas shall take the following actions:

- 1. Prior to the beginning of the billing period in which the revision takes place, submit written notice to the Public Utility Commission of Texas with documentation supporting the line item Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge adjustment; and
 - 2. Mail notice to affected customers separately at the beginning of the billing period or include written notice to affected customers with the billing sent out at the beginning of the billing period in which the new Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge becomes effective. The notice must contain: (a) the effective date of the change, (b) the then-present calculation of the line item Regional Pass-

Through Gallonage Charge, (c) the new calculation of the line item Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge, and (d) the change in costs, fees, rates or charges to Aqua Texas prompting the adjustment to the line item Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge.

3. The notice will include the following language:

"This tariff change is being implemented in accordance with Aqua Texas' approved Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge Adjustment provision to recognize (increases)(decreases) in the (costs), (fees), (rates) and (charges) imposed by (governmental entities), (water authorities) or (districts) (having jurisdiction over Aqua Texas or its operations) or (by non-affiliated third-party) (water suppliers) or (water rights holders) (selling water) or (water rights) to Aqua Texas. The cost of these charges to customers will not exceed the (increased) (decreased) cost of the (costs), (fees), (rates) and (charges) to Aqua Texas."

The process of implementing the Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge Adjustment provision and the Executive Director's review of a proposed revision to Aqua Texas' line item Regional Pass-Through Gallonage Charge is an informal proceeding and not a contested case hearing. Only the Commission, the Executive Director, or Aqua Texas may request a hearing on the proposed revision. It shall not be considered a rate case under the Texas Water Code or PUC rules, and Texas Water Code § 13.187 shall not apply.

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 2.01 - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rules

The utility will have the most current Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Rules, Chapter 291, Water Rates, 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 2.02 - Application for and Provision of Water Service

All applications for standard residential service will be made on the utility's standard application (attached in the Appendix to this tariff) and will be signed by the applicant before water service is provided by the utility. A separate application or contract will be made for each service at each separate location. The application process for non-standard or non-residential water service will require completion of other forms and agreements to be provided by the utility.

After the applicant has met all the requirements, conditions and regulations for service, the utility will install a 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 ten 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. Notwithstanding any statement in this tariff to the contrary, the utility will serve each qualified applicant for service within the time limits prescribed in 30 TAC 291.85 (a)-(b) as that rule may be amended by the TCEQ.

Where service has previously been provided, service will be reconnected within three working days after the applicant has met the requirements for reconnection.

The customer/applicant will be responsible for furnishing and laying the necessary customer service pipe from the meter location to the place of consumption. Customers/applicants may be required to install a customer owned cut-off valve on the customer's side of the meter or connection.

Section 2.03 - Refusal of Service

The utility may decline to serve an applicant until the applicant has complied with the regulations of the γ 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 a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

\$.

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Section 2.04 - Customer Deposits

If a residential applicant cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the utility, the applicant may be required to pay a deposit as provided for in Section 1.02 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.

Non-residential 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.

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

Section 2.05 - Meter Requirements, Readings, and Testing

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. One meter is required for each residential, commercial, industrial, or other non-residential facility in accordance with the PUC Rules.

Service 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.

<u>Meter Tests.</u> - 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 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Section 2.06 - Billing

Bills from the Utility will be mailed monthly unless otherwise authorized by the Commission or the customer voluntarily elects to be billed through a paperless electronic billing system which uses the standard forms, protocols and conformation processes established and maintained by the Utility or unaffiliated third parties providing online billing and payment services that are approved by the Utility. The due date of bills for utility service will be at least 21 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 or electronic mailing by the Utility or the Utility's billing service 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 work day after the due date.

A late penalty of 10% will be charged on bills received after the due date. Customer payments post marked by the due date will not incur a late penalty. 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.

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 telephone number (or numbers) which may be reached by a local call by customers. At the utility's option, a toll-free telephone number or the equivalent may be provided.

Cash Payments at Non-utility Payment Locations or Credit Card Payments – The Utility may use unaffiliated third parties to accept and process utility bill cash payments at non-utility payment locations or to accept and process utility bill credit card payments. Any charges required by the third party to accept and process such utility bill payments are the responsibility of the customer and are in addition to utility bill amounts.

Electronic Billing and Payment – A customer may v0luntarily elect to be billed through a paperless electronic billing system which uses standard forms, protocols and conformation processes established and maintained by the Utility or unaffiliated third parties providing online billing and payment services that are approved by the Utility. Any charges required by the third party to process the electronic bill or payment are the responsibility of the customer and are in addition to utility bill amounts. In administering this electronic billing at www.aquaamerica.com. Required information that otherwise accompanies a paper bill is transmitted to the customer electronically, or an Internet link access to such information is transmitted electronically to the customer. Any applicable disconnection notice continues to be sent to the customer via United States mail. The Utility may utilize unaffiliated third parties to electronically transmit bills to the customer. The Utility is not responsible for any loss resulting from the customer's election to receive bills electronically, including but

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

not limited to, any loss associated with damage to the customer's computer equipment or facilities and any loss associated with a third party's unauthorized use of the customer's information. Either the Utility or customer may, upon thirty (30) days notice to the other party, terminate electronic transmission of bills without any liability to the terminating party resulting from such termination, and without affecting the customer's obligation to pay all amounts due to the Utility. In such event, the Utility will begin to issue paper bills via United States mail to the customer as soon as reasonably practical. The Utility reserves the right to determine whether or not a customer is eligible to be billed through its paperless electronic billing system. A customer that elects electronic billing, who is a combination water and sewer service customer of the Utility, will receive electronic billing for both services.

Third Party Charges for Processing Utility Bill Payments – Any charges required by a third party to accept or process a cash utility bill payment at a non-utility payment location, a credit card utility bill payment, or an electronic utility bill or payment are the responsibility of the customer and are in addition to utility bill amounts.

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 2.07 - Service Disconnection

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

The utility may, but is not required, 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 31 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 TCEQ Rules.

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

Utility personnel must be available to collect payments and to reconnect service on the day of and the day after any disconnection of service unless service was disconnected at the customer's request or due to a hazardous condition.

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Section 2.08 - Reconnection of Service

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

Section 2.09 - 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.

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

Section 2.10 - Quality of Service

The utility will plan, furnish, and maintain production, treatment, storage, transmission, and distribution facilities of sufficient size and capacity to provide a continuous and adequate supply of water for all reasonable consumer uses. Unless

otherwise authorized by the Commission, the utility will maintain facilities as described in the TCEQ Rules or in the TCEQ's "Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems." The utility will not provide supply for fire prevention, fire flow, or fire fighting services as part of standard retail water utility service.

Section 2.11 - 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 TCEQ complaint process. Pending resolution of a complaint, the commission may require continuation or restoration of service.

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

-

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

This section contains specific utility service rules in addition to the rules previously listed under Section 2.0. It must be reviewed and approved by the Commission and in compliance with TCEQ Rules to be effective.

The utility adopts the administrative rules of the TCEQ, as the same may be amended from time to time, as its company specific service rules and regulations. These rules will be kept on file at the company's offices for customer inspection during regular business hours. In the event of a conflict between the TCEQ's amended rules and the provisions of this tariff, the amended rules shall prevail. Where necessary, any conflicting provision of this tariff shall be deemed to have been superseded by the TCEQ rule in question to the degree that the utility may conduct its lawful business in conformance with all requirements of said rule.

All payments for utility service shall be delivered or mailed to the remittance address on the utility bill received or paid using any method described on the utility bill received. Cash payments are only accepted in person at designated payment locations as described in the utility bill received. If the utility or its authorized agent 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.

Customers shall 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 must install customer-owned and maintained cutoff valves on their side of the meter.

No water connection from any public drinking water supply system shall be made to any establishment where an actual or potential contamination or system hazard exists without an air gap separation between the drinking water supply and the source of potential contamination. The containment air gap is sometimes impractical and, instead, reliance must be placed on individual Ainternal@ air gaps or mechanical backflow prevention devices.

Under these conditions, additional protection shall be required at the meter in the form of a backflow prevention device (in accordance with AWWA Standards C510 and C511, and AWWA Manual M14) on those establishments handling substances deleterious or hazardous to the public health. The water purveyor need not require backflow protection at the water service entrance if an adequate cross-connection control program is in effect that includes an annual inspection and testing by a certified backflow prevention device tester. It will be the responsibility of the water purveyor to ensure that these requirements are met.

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Customer shall be liable for any damage or injury to utility-owned property or personnel shown to be caused by the customer, his invitees, his agents, his employees, or others directly under his control.

Limitation on Product/Service Liability - Public water utilities are required to deliver water to the customer's side of the meter or service connection that meets the potability and pressure standards of the TCEQ. The utility will not accept liability for any injury or damage to individuals or their property occurring on the customer's side of the meter when the water delivered meets these state standards. The utility makes no representations or warranties (expressed or implied) that customer's appliances will not be damaged by disruptions of or fluctuations in water service whatever the cause. The utility will not accept liability for injuries or damages to persons or property due to disruption of water service caused by: (1) acts of God, (2) acts of third parties not subject to the control of the utility if the utility has undertaken such preventive measures as are required by TCEQ rules, (3) electrical power failures in water systems not required by TCEQ rule to have auxiliary power supplies, or (4) termination of water service pursuant to the utility's tariff and the TCEQ's rules. The utility is not required by law and does not provide fire prevention, fire flow, or fire fighting services. The utility therefore does not accept liability for fire-related injuries or damages to persons or property caused or aggravated by the availability (or lack thereof) of water or water pressure (or lack thereof) during fire emergencies. The utility will accept liability for any injury or damage to individuals or their property directly caused by defective utility plant facilities (e.g., leaking water lines or meters) or the repairs to or construction of the utility's facilities.

If the services of a registered professional engineer are required as a result of an application for service received by the utility for service to that applicant's service extension only, such engineer will be selected by the utility and the applicant, and the applicant shall bear all expenses incurred therein.

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

Any applicant or existing customer required to pay for any costs not specifically set forth in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be entitled to a written explanation of such

costs prior to 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 have the right to appeal such costs to the TCEQ 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.

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Tap fees may be increased by unique costs not normally incurred as may be permitted by 30 TAC 291.86(a)(1)(C).

The utility adopts the Uniform Plumbing Code pursuant to TCEQ Rule 290.46(i). The piping and other equipment on the premises furnished by the customer will be maintained by the customer at all times in conformity with the requirements of the TCEQ, the Uniform Plumbing Code and with the service rules and regulations of the utility. The customer will bring out his service line to his property line at the point on the customer's property mutually acceptable to the customer and the utility subject to such requirements as may exist by TCEQ rule. No meters smaller than those identified in Section 1.0 of this tariff will be connected. No pipe or pipe fitting which contains more than 8.0% lead can be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use. No solder or flux which contains more than 0.2% lead can be used at any connection which provides water for human use.

The utility will have the right of access to the customer's premises at all times reasonable 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. The customer may require any utility representative, employee, contractor, or agent seeking to make such entry to identify themselves, their affiliation with the utility, and the purpose of their entry.

Threats to or assaults upon utility personnel shall result in criminal prosecution.

Except in cases where the customer has a contract with the utility for reserve or auxiliary service, no other water service will be used by the customer on the same installation in conjunction with the utility's service, either by means of a cross-over valve or any other connection. Customer shall not connect, or allow any other person or party to connect,

onto any water lines on his premises. Two places shall not be permitted to be supplied with one service pipe where there is a water main abutting the premises.

No connection shall be allowed which allows water to be returned to the public drinking water supply. No backflow prevention device shall be permitted to be installed in the customer's plumbing without notice to and written permission from the utility. Any backflow prevention devices so installed shall be inspected annually by a licensed backflow prevention device inspector or appropriately licensed plumber and a written report of such inspection delivered to the utility.

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

No application, agreement or contract for service may be assigned or transferred without the written consent of the utility.

It is agreed and understood that any and all meters, water lines and other equipment furnished by the utility (excepting the customer's individual service lines from the point of connection to customer's structures on customer's premises) are and shall remain the sole property of the utility, and nothing contained herein or in a contract/application for service shall be construed to reflect a sale or transfer of any such meters, lines or equipment to any customer. All tap and extension charges shall be for the privilege of connecting to said water lines and for installation, not purchase, of said meters and lines.

Applicants for service at new consuming facilities or facilities which have undergone extensive plumbing modifications are required to deliver to the utility a certificate that their facilities have been inspected by a state-licensed inspector and that they are in compliance with all applicable plumbing codes and are free of potential hazards to public health and safety. Service may be denied until the certificate is received or any identified violations or hazards are remedied. The utility is not required to perform these inspections for the applicant/customer, but will assist the applicant/customer to locate and obtain the services of a licensed inspector in a timely manner. When potential sources of contamination are identified which, in the opinion of the inspector or the utility, require the installation of a state-approved backflow prevention device, such backflow prevention device shall be installed on the customer's service line or other necessary plumbing facilities by an appropriately licensed plumber/backflow prevention device specialist at the customer's expense. The backflow prevention device shall be maintained by the customer at the customer's expense and inspected annually by a licensed inspector. Copies of the annual inspection report must be provided to the utility. Failure to comply with this requirement may constitute grounds for termination of water service with notice.

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. Access to meters and cutoff valves shall be controlled by the provisions of 30 TAC 291.89(c).

Where necessary to serve an applicant's property, the utility may require the applicant to provide it a permanent recorded public utility easement on and across the applicant's real property sufficient to provide service to that applicant.

Service applicants may be required to comply with any pre-condition to receiving service not printed herein as may exist under TCEQ rule (customer service, health and safety, water conservation, or environmental), USEPA rule, TWDB rule, local water or conservation district rule, or health department rule. Existing customers shall be required to comply with such rules, including modification of their plumbing and/or consumption patterns, after notice.

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Customers must make meters accessible to the Utility and its personnel. If they do not, the Utility may require the removal of the meter to another location according to Section 291.89(c) of the TCEQ's rules. The Utility will give the customer the option of converting to a remote radio read meter at the customer's' expense in lieu of bearing the cost of relocating the meter and any Utility water lines necessitated by the customer's actions. If the customer does not accept this option, the customer will be charged for all incurred meter relocation costs. Before relocating the meter, the utility must provide the customer with written notice of its intent to do so.

This notice must include information on the estimated cost of relocating the meter, an explanation of the condition hindering access and what the customer can do to correct that condition, and information on how to contact the utility. The notice must give the customer a reasonable length of time to arrange for utility access so the customer may avoid incurring the relocation cost. A copy of the notice given to the customer shall be filed with the utility's records on the customer's account.

Customers shall not enclose meters with fences or other artificial barriers. If there is a fence in front of a meter, the customer shall install a gate or stile with 300 pound-load bearing capacity to enable meter readers and service crews to obtain ready access to the utility's property.

1

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

The utility will bear the full cost of any oversizing 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.

COST UTILITY SHALL BEAR. Within its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") service 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 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.

Developers may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction in amounts to furnish the system with all facilities necessary to comply with the TCEQ's Rules.

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY

This section contains the utility's specific extension policy that complies with the requirements already stated under Section 3.01. It must be reviewed and approved by the Commission and in compliance with TCEQ Rules to be effective.

Residential customers not covered under Section 3.01 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 full 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.

.

Ľ

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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 tariff, a developer is one who subdivides or requests more than two meters on a piece of property. Commercial, industrial, other non-residential and wholesale customers will be treated as developers.

The utility adopts the administrative rules of the TCEQ, as amended from time to time, as its company specific extension policy. These rules will be kept on file at the company's business office for customer inspection during normal business hours. In the event of a conflict between the TCEQ's amended rules and the provisions of this tariff, the amended rules shall prevail. Where necessary, any conflicting provision of this tariff shall be deemed to have been superseded by the TCEQ rule in question to the degree that the utility may conduct its lawful business in conformance with all requirements of said rule.

When an individual residential applicant requires an extension of a main line beyond 200 feet, the charge to that applicant shall be the actual cost of such extension in excess of 200 feet, plus the applicable tap fee plus such other approved costs as may be provided in this tariff and/or TCEQ rules.

Residential tap fees may be increased by other unique costs not normally incurred as permitted by TCEQ rule. Larger meter taps shall be made at actual cost associated with that tap which shall include such extraordinary expenses.

Any service extension to a subdivision (recorded or unrecorded) may be subject to the provisions and restrictions of 30 TAC 291.86(d) and this tariff. 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 based upon the capacities of production, transmission, storage, pumping and treatment facilities, compliant with the TCEQ minimum design criteria, which must be committed to such extension. As provided by 30 TAC §291.86(d)(4), for purposes of this tariff, commercial, industrial, other non-residential, and wholesale customers shall 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.

Unless expressly exempted by TCEQ rule or order, each point of use (as defined by 30 TAC §291.3) must be individually metered.

The imposition of additional extension costs or charges as provided by Sections 2.20 and 3.20 of this tariff shall be subject to appeal as provided in this tariff, TCEQ 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

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be entitled to 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 have the right to appeal such costs to the TCEQ 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. Unless the TCEQ or other regulatory authority enters interlocutory orders to the contrary, service to the applicant may be delayed until such appeal is resolved.

The utility will provide a written service application form to the applicant for each request for standard 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. The application process for non-standard or non-residential water service will require completion of other forms and agreements to be provided by the utility in addition to the standard service application form. Standard service application forms will be available for applicant pick up at the utility's business office during normal weekday business hours or for download from the utility's web site. Forms and agreements for non-standard or non-residential water service will be provided by the utility upon request. Service applications will be sent by prepaid first class United States mail to the address provided by the applicant upon request. Completed applications may be submitted by hand delivery or by mail to one of the utility's business offices.

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

The utility is not required to extend service to any applicant outside of its CCN service area and will only do so, at the utility's sole option, under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to the utility and the applicant and upon extension of the utility's certificated service area boundaries by the TCEQ. Service applicants may be required to bear the cost of the service area amendment.

A "qualified service applicant" is an applicant who has: (1) met all of the utility's requirements of service contained in this tariff, TCEQ rules and/or TCEQ order, (2) has made all payments for tap fees and extension charges, (3) has provided all necessary easements and rights-of-way necessary to provide service to the requested location, including staking said easements or rights-of-way where necessary, (4) delivered an executed customer service inspection certificate to the utility, and (5) has executed a customer service application for each location to which service is being requested.

Docket 46181

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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. The tap request must be accompanied with a plat, map, diagram or written metes and bounds description of precisely where the applicant desires each tap or service connection to be made, and, if necessary, where the meter is to be installed, along the applicant's property line. 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. 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 TCEQ for resolution. Unless otherwise ordered by the TCEQ, the tap or service connection will not be made until the location dispute is resolved.

The utility shall require a developer (as defined by TCEQ rule) to provide permanent recorded public utility easements as a condition of service to any location within the developer's property. The developer shall be required to obtain all necessary easements and rights-of-way required to extend the utility's existing service facilities from their nearest point with adequate service capacity (as prescribed by TCEQ rules and local service conditions) to and throughout the developer's property. The easements shall be sufficient to allow the construction, installation, repair, maintenance, testing, and replacement of any and all utility plant necessary to provide continuous and adequate service to each and every potential service location within the property at full occupancy. Unless otherwise restricted by law, well plant sites shall convey with unrestricted rights to produce water for public drinking water supply./ The developer shall be required to provide the utility with a minimum of a 160-foot radius sanitary control easement or fee simple real property conveyance around the proposed well site acceptable to the TCEQ for each water well site to be located within the developer's property or otherwise being obtained to serve the developer's property. Unless otherwise agreed to by the utility, pipeline right-of-way easements must be at least 15 feet wide to allow adequate room to facilitate backhoe and other heavy equipment operation and meters. Easements must be provided for all production, storage, treatment, pressurization and disposal sites which are sufficient to construct and maintain all weather roads as prescribed by TCEQ rules. All easements shall be evidenced, at developer's expense, by recorded county-approved subdivision plat or by specific assignment supported by metes and bounds survey from a surveyor licensed by the State of Texas.

Prior to the extension of utility service to developers (as defined by TCEQ rules) or new subdivisions, the developer shall comply with the following:

(a) The developer shall make a written request for service to property that is to be subdivided and developed. The developer shall submit to the utility a proposed plat on a scale of one inch (1") to two hundred feet (200') for review and determination of required easements, utility plant, and plant location. If sewer service is requested, the

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

plat must contain elevation data. A reconcilable deposit in an amount set by the utility may be required to cover preliminary engineering, legal and copy cost to be incurred by the utility in reviewing and planning to meet this service request. The plat and/or accompanying information shall identify the type, location and number of houses and other planned structures that will be requiring utility service. If other than residential structures are to be located on the property, all other types of anticipated businesses and their service demands shall be identified with specificity. All areas requiring special irrigation and/or other unique water demands must be identified. To the extent reasonably possible, this information must be precise so that adequate facilities can be designed and constructed to meet all future service demands without hazard to the public, other utility customers, and/or the environment.~

(b) After the requirements of easements and rights-of-way have been determined, a red line copy will be returned by the utility to the developer for final plat preparation.

(c) Copies of all proposed plats and plans must be submitted to the utility prior to their submission to the county for approval to insure that they are compatible with the adequate long-term utility needs of potential service customers. Copies will be returned after review by the utility so that necessary changes may be incorporated into the developer's final submitted plat(s) and plans.

(d) The utility shall be provided with three (3) certified copies of the final plat(s) approved by the County Commissioners Court. At this time, the utility will begin engineering the facilities necessary to serve the property. Plans and specifications will be prepared and submitted to the TCEQ by the utility if required by law. If further plat or plans changes are necessary to accommodate the specific service needs of the property and the anticipated customer demands, the developer will be so notified. Plat amendments must be obtained by the developer. The developer shall be notified when all required TCEQ or other governmental approvals or permits have been received. No construction of utility plant which requires prior TCEQ plans approval shall be commenced until that approval has been received by the utility and any conditions imposed by the TCEQ in association with its approvals have been satisfied.

(e) The developer shall be required to post bond or escrow the funds necessary to construct all required utility plant, except individual taps, meters and sewer connections, required to serve the property. Construction shall not commence until funds are available. If the construction is to be done in coordination with the phased development of the property, funds must be provided in advance which are sufficient to complete each phase. No phase or facilities for any phase shall be constructed prior to the bonding or escrowing of all funds associated with that phase.

(f) At the sole option of the utility, the developer may be required to execute a Developer Extension Contract setting forth all terms and conditions of extending service to the developer's property including all contributions-in-aid-of-construction and developer reimbursements, if any.

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

(g) The utility may require the developer to commence construction of subdivision improvements within three (3) months of utility plans approval or the utility may abate its construction activities until full development construction begins. If the developer stops construction of subdivision improvements for any purpose, the utility may abate its construction for a similar period.

(h) As soon as the roads are rough cut and prior to paving, extension lines will need to be constructed at each road crossing. The developer must notify the utility sufficiently in advance of this development stage to allow for the necessary utility construction without disruption to other service operations of the utility. Failure to provide adequate advance notice and cooperation in the construction of necessary utility plant may result in additional delays in obtaining service to the property. The developer shall be required to pay for all additional costs of road boring or other remedial construction necessary to install adequate utility plant throughout the affected property.

(i) The developer, not the utility, shall insure that developer's employees, agents, contractors and others under its control coordinate their work or construction throughout the property with the utility to insure the orderly and timely construction of all utility plant necessary to serve the public.

Within its CCN service area, the utility shall bear the cost of the first 200 feet of any water main line necessary to extend service to an individual residential service applicant within a platted subdivision unless the utility can document:

(a) 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; or

(b) that the developer defaulted on the terms and conditions of a written agreement or contract existing between the utility and the developer or the terms of this tariff regarding payment for services, extensions, or other requirements; or in the event the developer declared bankruptcy and was therefore unable to meet obligations; and

(c) that the residential service applicant purchased the property from the developer after the developer was notified of the need to provide facilities to the utility.

A residential service applicant may be charged the remaining costs of extending service to his property; provided, however, that the residential service applicant may only be required to pay the cost equivalent to the cost of extending the nearest water main line, whether or not that line has adequate capacity to serve that residential service applicant. The following criteria shall be considered to determine the residential service:

Ł

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

(a) The residential service applicant shall not be required to pay for costs of main extensions greater than 20 in diameter for water distribution.

(b) Exceptions may be granted by the TCEQ Executive Director if:

(1) adequate service cannot be provided to the applicant using the maximum line sizes listed due to distance or elevation, in which case, it shall be the utility's burden to justify that a larger diameter pipe is required for adequate service; or

(2) larger minimum line sizes are required under subdivision platting requirements or applicable building codes.

(c) 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 over-sizing 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 CCN area, industrial, other non-residential 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. Any applicant for non-residential service is considered a request for nonstandard service.

Water Utility Tariff Page No. 26

À

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas – Southeast Region-Gray</u>

,

SECTION 4.0 -- DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN (Utility must attach copy of TCEQ approved Drought Contingency Plan)

.e



Public Utility Commission

of Texas

By These Presents Be It Known To All That

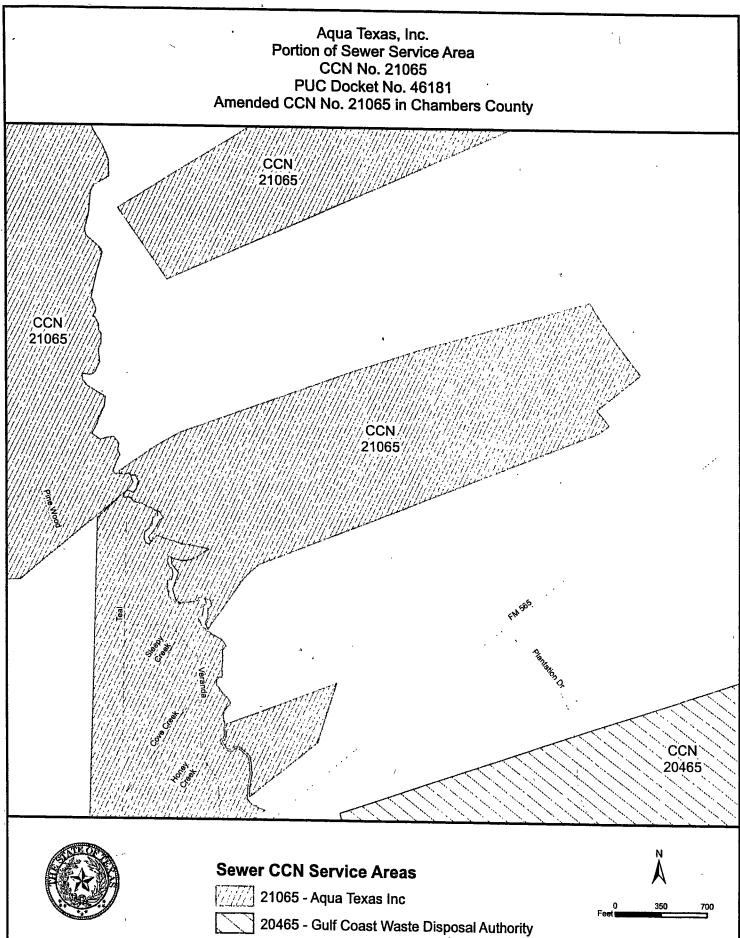
Aqua Texas Inc.

having obtained certification to provide sewer 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, Aqua Texas Inc., is entitled to this

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 21065

to provide continuous and adequate sewer utility service to that service area or those service areas in Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Harris, Jefferson, Montgomery, Polk, and Trinity Counties as by final Order or Orders duly entered by this Commission, which Order or Orders resulting from Docket No. 46181 are on file at the Commission offices in Austin, Texas; and are a matter of official record available for public inspection; and be it known further that these presents do evidence the authority and the duty Aqua Texas Inc. 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, the 2nd day of Februar 2017.



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

Map by: Kristy Nguyen Date created: September 14, 2016 Project Path: n:\Final Maps\46181Sewer.mxd



SEWER UTILITY TARIFF Docket Number: 46181 Southeast Region - Gray

Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc. dba Aqua Texas (Utility Name)

1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 400W (Business Address)

Austin, Texas 78723 (City, State, Zip Code) (512) 990-4400 (Area Code/Telephone)

1

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

21065

This tariff is effective in the following counties:

1

Chambers

This tariff is effective in the following subdivisions/service areas and for the following water quality permit numbers/wastewater systems:

See attached page.

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):

	RATE SCHEDULE.	
	SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES	8
	SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS	12
	EXTENSION POLICY	
SECTION 3.20 -	SPECIFIC EXTENSION POLICY	18
	APPLICATION FOR STANDARD RESIDENTIAL SE SERVICE AGREEMENT	RVICE/

APPENDIX B - CONDITIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL SEWER SERVICE

ţ

، شمنتي

•

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region – Gray</u>

1

WQ Permit #	TCEQ System Name	SUBDIVISION/ AREA SERVED	COUNTY	RATE REGION
11449-001	Veranda	Cotton Creek	Chambers	SE/Gray
	Wastewater	Cove at Cotton Creek		
	Treatment	Creekside at Cotton		
	Facility System	Creek		
		Lanai		
		Legends Bay		
		The Veranda		
		Strip Center		
		Commercial		
		Development	I.	
		Travel Park		
		Joseph's Cove		

ŧ

Ş

•

Sewer Utility Tariff Page No. 3

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region – Gray</u>

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE

Section 1.01 - Rates

<u>Meter Size</u> 5/8" x 3/4"	<u>Monthly Flat Rate</u> \$63.80
3/4"	[*] \$ <u>95.70</u>
1"	\$ <u>159.49</u>
1 1/2"	\$ <u>318.99</u>
2"	\$ <u>510.38</u>
3"	\$ <u>1,020.76</u>
4"	\$ <u>1,594.93</u>
6"	\$ <u>3,189.87</u>
8"	\$ <u>5,103.79</u>
10"	\$ <u>7,337.00</u>
12"	\$ <u>15,950.00</u>

Sewer Rates for Customers also Receiving Water Service from Aqua Texas:

Monthly flat rates will be charged to sewer customers who also receive water service based on their water meter size. Charges based on any water meter size larger than 12" will be calculated using American Water Works Association ("AWWA") approved meter equivalency factors.

Sewer Rates for Customers Not Receiving Water Service from Aqua Texas:

Single family residential dwelling customers who purchase sewer service only will be charged the 5/8" x 3/4" meter monthly flat rate. Other sewer-only customers will be charged a monthly flat rate that corresponds with the water meter size the utility would typically require for a customer with similar water demands.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms of payment: Cash <u>X (If in person at designated locations)</u>, Check <u>X</u>, Money Order <u>X</u>, Credit Card <u>X</u>, Other (specify) <u>Electronic Billing & Payment (See Section 2.06 – Billing)</u> THE UTU ITY MAY BEOLUBE EXACT CHANGE FOR PAYMENTS AND MAY BEFLISE TO ACCEPT

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.

UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTIES WHO ACCEPT AND PROCESS CASH, CREDIT CARD, OR ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS FOR UTILITY BILLS MAY REQUIRE PAYMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL CONVENIENCE CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE.

Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

`

.

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

TAP FEE (Unique costs) Actual Cost FOR EXAMPLE, A ROAD BORE FOR CUSTOMERS OUTSIDE A SUBDIVISION IS A UNIQUE COST. UNIQUE COSTS WILL BE DETERMINED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.				
TAP FEE (Non-Residential) Actual Cost THIS TAP FEE IS BASED ON THE UTILITY'S ACTUAL COST FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR NON- RESIDENTIAL SEWER CONNECTIONS. UNIQUE COSTS, SUCH AS ROAD BORES, WILL BE CHARGED IN ADDITION TO THIS TAP FEE AT THEIR ACTUAL COST OF INSTALLATION. Residential)				
SERVICE RELOCATION FEE (Customer's Request) <u>Actual Cost</u> THIS FEE MAY BE CHARGED IF A CUSTOMER REQUESTS THAT AN EXISTING SERVICE CONNECTION 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):				
 a) Non-payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)				
TRANSFER FEE				
LATE CHARGE				
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE				
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT - RESIDENTIAL				
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT – COMMERCIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL <u>1/6th of estimated</u> annual bill				

ş

J

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

ILLEGAL RECONNECTION OR SHUT-OFF EQUIPMENT DAMAGE FEE\$250.00 IN ORDER TO REIMBURSE THE UTILITY WITHOUT BURDENING OTHER CUSTOMERS WITH HIGHER RATES FOR THE ADDITIONAL COST OF SERVICE TRIPS AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRED TO MORE FORCEFULLY DISCONNECT A CUSTOMER/ACCOUNT HOLDER PREVIOUSLY DISCONNECTED FOR NONPAYMENT, FAILURE TO CORRECT IMPROPER WATEWATER DISCHARGES, OR OTHER LAWFUL REASONS WHO HAS ILLEGALLY RECONNNECTED SERVICE OR BEGUN TO DISCHARGE WASTEWATER TO THE UTILITY'S SYSTEM AGAIN WITHOUT PAYING PAST DUE CHARGES, CORRECTING IMPROPER GREASE TRAP OPERATING CONDITIONS, OR OTHERWISE ACHIEVING COMPLIANCE WITH THE "CONDITIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL SEWER SERVICE" INCLUDED IN APPENDIX B, AND TO PAY FOR THE COST OF DAMAGE TO EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO KEEP A DELINQUENT CUSTOMER DISCONNECTED, THIS FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED TO THE ACCOUNT HOLDER OF ANY DELINQUENT ACCOUNT DISCONNECTED FOR NONPAYMENT BY ANY PHYSICAL MEANS, INCLUDING INSTALLING A PHYSICAL BLOCKING DEVICE IN THE SERVICE LINE, WHEN NON-UTILITY PERSONNEL RECONNECT SERVICE TO THE PREMISES BY CUTTING, DAMAGING OR REMOVING THE PHYSICAL BLOCKING DEVICE OR WHEN WASTEWATER IS OTHERWISE DISCHARGED THROUGH THE SERVICE CONNECTION WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION BY THE UTILITY. THIS FEE MAY BE CHARGED EACH TIME AN EVENT OCCURS AND SERVICE WILL NOT BE RECONNECTED UNTIL THIS FEE IS PAID IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER BALANCES AND RECONNECT FEES. THIS FEE SHALL NOT BE CHARGED IF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER OR HIS/HER REPRESENTATIVE INFORMS THE UTILITY WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER DISCOVERING THAT SERVICE HAS BEEN RESTORED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION OF THE UTILITY: (1) THAT SERVICE WAS RECONNECTED WITHOUT THE ACCOUNT HOLDER'S PERMISSION; AND (2) THE ACCOUNT HOLDER AGREES TO PAY FOR ALL WASTEWATER SERVICE PROVIDED.

GREASE TRAP, PRETREATMENT UNIT, SAMPLING WELL INSPECTION, REINSPECTION AND TESTING:

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT DISCHARGES FROM NON-RESIDENTIAL WASTEWATER CUSTOMERS UTILIZING GREASE TRAP OR PRETREATMENT UNIT FACILITIES/EQUIPMENT CAN BE PROPERLY TREATED AND DISCHARGED ACCORDING TO PUC PERMIT REQUIREMENTS, INSPECTIONS OF SUCH FACILITIES/EQUIPMENT AND DISCHARGE TESTING ARE REQUIRED. THE FOLLOWING FEES WILL BE CHARGED RELATED TO THESE ACTIVITIES:

BEFORE INITIAL SERVICE

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

PERIODIC GREASE TRAP INSPECTION FEE

GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION, AND COSTS SURCHARGE:

WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY PUC AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND TESTING. [16 TAC 24.21(k)(2)]

LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

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

REGIONAL WASTEWATER PASS-THROUGH PROVISION:

INCREASES OR DECREASES IN WASTEWATER COSTS, FEES, RATES AND CHARGES IMPOSED BY ANY NON-AFFILIATED THIRD PARTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT SERVIĆE PROVIDER OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL BE PASSED THROUGH TO SEWER CUSTOMERS ON A REGIONAL BASIS BY CALCULATING AN ADJUSTED MONTHLY FLAT RATE FOR EACH METER SIZE USING THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

AMR	=	MR + (((CAC-PAC)/(TSCE * 12)) * SCE for customer), where:
AMR	=	Adjusted Monthly Rate – The adjusted monthly flat rate rounded to the nearest one cent;
MR	=	Monthly Rate – The approved monthly flat rate with or without prior pass- through adjustment;
CAPTC		Current Annual Pass-Through Costs –Total regional pass-through costs, fees, rates, and charges to Aqua Texas over a 12 month period;
PAPTC	=	Previous Annual Pass-Through Costs – Total regional pass-through costs, fees, rates, and charges to Aqua Texas over 12 month period last used to set MR;
SCE	Ξ	Sewer Customer Equivalent – The AWWA meter equivalency factor that corresponds to the meter size rate being calculated for AMR (for a standard residential 5/8" x 3/4" meter this number is 1; for sewer only customers without a meter, the meter equivalency factor used will be based on meter size needed to meet estimated customer demand); and
TSCE	=	Total Sewer Customer Equivalents – Total number of sewer connections multiplied by corresponding SCEs for region at end of 12 month period used for CAC.

To implement a new Adjusted Monthly Flat Rate, Aqua Texas shall take the following actions:

- 1. Prior to the beginning of the billing period in which the revision takes place, submit written notice to the PUC Executive Director with documentation supporting the adjustment; and
- 2. Mail notice to affected customers separately at the beginning of the billing period or include written notice to affected customers with the billing sent out at the beginning of the billing period in which the new Adjusted Monthly Flat Rate becomes effective. The notice must contain: (a) the effective date of the change, (b) the then-present calculation of pass-through costs included in the Monthly Flat Rate, (c) the calculation of the new Adjusted Monthly Flat Rate, and (d) the change in costs, fees, rates or charges to Aqua Texas prompting the adjustment to the Monthly Flat Rate.
- 3. The notice will include the following language: "This tariff change is being implemented in accordance with Aqua Texas' approved Regional Wastewater Pass-Through Provision to recognize (increases)(decreases) in the wastewater (costs), (fees), (rates) and (charges) imposed by (non-affiliated third-party wastewater treatment service providers) (selling wastewater treatment services) to Aqua Texas or by (governmental entities). The cost of these charges to customers will not exceed the (increased) (decreased) cost of the (costs), (fees), (rates) and (charges) to Aqua Texas."

The process of implementing the Regional Wastewater Pass-Through Provision and the Commission's review of a proposed Adjusted Monthly Flat Rate is an informal proceeding and not a contested case hearing. Only the Commission or Aqua Texas may request a hearing on the proposed revision. It shall not be considered a rate case under the Texas Water Code or PUC rules, and Texas Water Code § 13.187 shall not apply.

1

1

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 2.01 – Public Utility Commission Rules

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

Section 2.02--Application for and Provision of Sewer Service

All applications for standard residential service will be made on the utility's standard application (attached in the Appendix to this tariff) and will be signed by the applicant before sewer service is provided by the utility. A separate application or contract will be made for each service at each separate location. The application process for non-standard or non-residential sewer service will require completion of other forms and agreements to be provided by the utility.

After the applicant has met all the requirements, conditions and regulations for service, the utility will install service connections, which may include a 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.

Where service has previously been provided, the utility will reconnect the service within one working day after the applicant has met the requirements for reconnection.

The customer/applicant will be responsible for furnishing and laying the necessary sewer service pipe from the utility's connection location to the place of use.

Section 2.03 - Refusal of Service

ł

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 Commission 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 a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

Section 2.04 - Customer Deposits

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

Non-residential 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.

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region – Gray</u>

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

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

Section 2.05 - Meter Requirements, Readings, and Testing

It is not a requirement that the utility use meters to measure the quantity of sewage disposed of by individual customers. One connection is required for each residential, commercial, industrial, or other non-residential facility.

Section 2.06 - Billing

Bills from the Utility will be mailed monthly unless otherwise authorized by the Commission or the customer voluntarily elects to be billed through a paperless electronic billing system which uses the standard forms, protocols and conformation processes established and maintained by the Utility or unaffiliated third parties providing online billing and payment services that are approved by the Utility. The due date of bills for utility service will be at least 21 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 or electronic mailing by the Utility or the Utility's billing service 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 work day after the due date.

A late penalty of 10% will be charged on bills received after the due date. Customer payments post marked by the due date will not incur a late penalty. 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.

Each bill will provide all information required by the Commission Rules. For each of the systems it operates, the utility will maintain and note on the monthly bill a telephone number (or numbers) which may be reached by a local call by customers. At the utility's option, a toll-free telephone number or the equivalent may be provided.

Cash Payments at Non-utility Payment Locations or Credit Card Payments – The Utility may use unaffiliated third parties to accept and process utility bill cash payments at non-utility payment locations or to accept and process utility bill credit card payments. Any charges required by the third party to accept and process such utility bill payments are the responsibility of the customer and are in addition to utility bill amounts.

Electronic Billing and Payment – A customer may v0luntarily elect to be billed through a paperless electronic billing system which uses standard forms, protocols and conformation processes established and maintained by the Utility or unaffiliated third parties providing online billing and payment services that are approved by the Utility. Any charges required by the third party to process the electronic bill or payment are the responsibility of the customer and are in addition to utility bill amounts. In administering this electronic billing option, the Utility does not send the customer paper bills. Customers may sign up for electronic billing at www.aquaamerica.com.

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Required information that otherwise accompanies a paper bill is transmitted to the customer electronically, or via an Internet link access to such information is transmitted electronically to the customer. Any applicable disconnection notice continues to be sent to the customer via United States mail. The Utility may utilize unaffiliated third parties to electronically transmit bills to the customer. The Utility is not responsible for any loss resulting from the customer's election to receive bills electronically, including but not limited to, any loss associated with damage to the customer's computer equipment or facilities and any loss associated with a third party's unauthorized use of the customer's information. Either the Utility or customer may, upon thirty (30) days' notice to the other party, terminate electronic transmission of bills without any liability to the terminating party resulting from such termination, and without affecting the customer's obligation to pay all amounts due to the Utility. In such event, the Utility will begin to issue paper bills via United States mail to the customer as soon as reasonably practical. The Utility reserves the right to determine whether or not a customer is eligible to be billed through its paperless electronic billing system. A customer that elects electronic billing, who is a combination water and sewer service customer of the Utility, will receive electronic billing for both services.

Third Party Charges for Processing Utility Bill Payments – Any charges required by a third party to accept or process a cash utility bill payment at a non-utility payment location, a credit card utility bill payment, or an electronic utility bill or payment are the responsibility of the customer and are in addition to utility bill amounts.

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.

Each bill will provide all information required by the Commission Rules. For each of the systems it operates, the utility will maintain and note on the monthly bill a telephone number (or numbers) which may be reached by a local call by customers. At the utility's option, a toll-free telephone number or the equivalent may be provided.

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 2.07 - Service Disconnection

Utility service may be disconnected if the bill has not been paid in full by the date listed on the termination notice, for reasons set forth in Section 2.20 of this Tariff, or for any other reason authorized by Commission Rules. The termination date must be at least 10 days after the notice is mailed or hand delivered.

The utility may, but is not required, 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 31 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 Commission Rules.

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

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Utility personnel must be available to collect payments and to reconnect service on the day of and the day after any disconnection of service unless service was disconnected at the customer's request or due to a hazardous condition.

Section 2.08 - Reconnection of Service

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

Section 2.09 - 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.

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

Section 2.10 - Quality of Service

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

Section 2.11 - 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 Commission 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.

<u>Aqua-Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region – Gray</u>

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

This section contains specific utility service rules in addition to the rules previously listed under Section 2.0. It must be reviewed and approved by the PUC and in compliance with PUC Rules to be effective.

The utility adopts the administrative rules of the PUC, as the same may be amended from time to time, as its company specific service rules and regulations. These rules will be kept on file at the company's offices for customer inspection during regular business hours. In the event of a conflict between the PUC's amended rules and the provisions of this tariff, the amended rules shall prevail. Where necessary, any conflicting provision of this tariff shall be deemed to have been superseded by the PUC rule in question to the degree that the utility may conduct its lawful business in conformance with all requirements of said rule.

All payments for utility service shall be delivered or mailed to the remittance address on the utility bill received or paid using any method described on the utility bill received. Cash payments are only accepted in person at designated payment locations as described in the utility bill received. If the utility or its authorized agent 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.

Customer shall be liable for any damage or injury to utility-owned property or personnel shown to be caused by the customer, his invitees, his agents, his employees, or others directly under his control.

Limitation on Product/Service Liability. - The utility will not accept liability for any injury or damage to individuals or their property occurring on the customer's premises. The utility makes no representations or warranties (expressed or implied) that customer's appliances will not be damaged by disruptions of or fluctuations in sewer service whatever the cause. The utility will not accept liability for injuries or damages to persons or property due to disruption of sewer service caused by: (1) acts of God, (2) acts of third pat1ies not subject to the control of the utility if the utility has undertaken such preventive measures as are required by PUC rules, (3) electrical power failures in sewer systems not required by PUC rule to have auxiliary power supplies, or (4) termination of sewer service pursuant to the utility's tariff and the PUC's rules. The utility will accept liability for any injury or damage to individuals or their property directly caused by defective utility plant facilities or the repairs to or construction of the utility's facilities.

If the services of a registered professional engineer are required as a result of an application for service received by the utility for service to that applicant's service extension only, such engineer will be selected by the utility and the applicant, and the applicant shall bear all expenses incurred therein.

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.

Any applicant who places unique or non-standard service demands on the system may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction (as may be allowed by PUC rule) for the actual costs of any additional facilities required to maintain compliance with the TCEQ minimum design criteria for the collection, transmission, treatment, or discharge of wastewater.

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region - Gray</u>

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

C

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 entitled to a written explanation of such costs prior to 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 have the right to appeal such costs to the Commission 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.

Tap fees may be increased by unique costs not normally incurred as may be permitted by 30 TAC 24.86(b)(1)(C).

The utility adopts the Uniform Plumbing Code pursuant to PUC Rule 290.46(i). The piping and other equipment on the premises furnished by the customer will be maintained by the customer at all times in conformity with the requirements of the Commission, the Uniform Plumbing Code and with the service rules and regulations of the utility. The customer will bring out his sewer line to his property line at the point on the customer's property mutually acceptable to the customer and the utility subject to such requirements as may exist by Commission rule.

The utility will have the right of access to the customer's premises at all times reasonable for the purpose of installing, testing, inspecting or repairing the utility's equipment or piping and for inspecting or testing the customer's facilities, grease traps or pretreatment units used in connection with the utility's provision of sewer service, or for the purpose of removing the utility's 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 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. 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.

Threats to or assaults upon utility personnel or utility contractors shall result in criminal prosecution.

Except in cases where the customer has a contract with the utility for reserve or auxiliary service, no other sewer service will be used by the customer on the same installation in conjunction with the utility's service, either by means of a cross-over valve or any other connection. Customer shall not connect, or allow any other person or party to connect, onto any sewer lines on his premises. Two places shall not be permitted to be supplied with one service pipe where there is a sewer main abutting the premises.

No application, agreement or contract for service may be assigned or transferred without the written consent of the utility.

It is agreed and understood that any and all sewer lines and other equipment furnished by the utility (excepting the customer's individual service lines from the point of connection to customer's structures on customer's premises) are and shall remain the sole property of the utility, and nothing contained herein or in a contract/application for service shall be construed to reflect a sale or transfer of any such lines or equipment to any customer. All tap and extension charges shall be for the privilege of connecting to said sewer lines and for installation, not purchase, of said lines.

4

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region - Gray</u>

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Service applicants may be required to comply with any pre-condition to receiving service not printed herein as may exist under Commission rule (customer service, health and safety or environmental), USEPA rule, TWDB rule, local regulatory district rule or health department rule. Existing customer shall be required to comply with such rules, including modification of their plumbing and/or consumption patterns, after notice.

The disposal into the utility's sewer collection system of bulk quantities of food or food scraps not previously processed by a grinder or similar garbage disposal unit and grease and oils, except as incidental waste in process or wash water, used in or resulting from food preparation by sewer utility customers engaged in the preparation and/or processing of food for other than domestic consumption for sale to the public shall be prohibited. Specifically included in this prohibition are grease and oils from grease traps to other grease and/or oil storage containers. These substances are defined as "garbage" under Section 361.003 (12) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, Texas Health and Safety Code, and are not "sewage" as defined by Section 26.001 (7) of the Texas Water Code. The utility only provides "sewage" collection and disposal service to the public. This service is limited to the collection, treatment and disposal of waterborne human waste and waste from domestic activities such as washing, bathing, and food preparation. This service does not include the collection, treatment or disposal of waste of such high BOD or TSS characteristics that it cannot reasonably be processed by the utility's state-approved wastewater treatment plant within the parameters of the utility's state and federal wastewater discharge permits. THIS SERVICE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF STORM WATERS OR RUN OFF WATERS, WHICH MAY NOT BE DIVERTED INTO OR DRAINED INTO THE UTILITY'S COLLECTION SYSTEM.

Pursuant to PUC Rule 24.87(o), the utility may charge for all labor, material, equipment, and other costs necessary to repair or replace all equipment damaged due to service diversion or the discharge of wastes which the system cannot properly treat. This shall include all repair and cleanup costs associated with discharges of grease and oils, except as incidental waste in process or wash water, used in or resulting from food preparation by sewer utility customers engaged in the preparation and/or processing of food for other than domestic consumption or for sale to the public discharged from grease traps or other grease and/or oil storage containers. The utility may charge for all costs necessary to correct service diversion or unauthorized taps where there is no equipment damage, including incidents where service is reconnected without authority.

The utility may not charge any additional penalty or charge other than actual costs unless such penalty has been expressly approved by the regulatory authority having rate/tariff jurisdiction and filed in the utility's tariff.

Pursuant to TCEQ Rule 24.86(b)(3)(A) and (B), the customer's service line and appurtenances shall be constructed in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Texas, local plumbing codes, or, in the absence of such local codes, the Uniform Plumbing Code. It shall be the customer's responsibility to maintain the service line and appurtenances in good operating condition, *i.e.*, clear of obstruction, defects, or blockage.

If the utility can provide evidence of excessive infiltration or inflow or failure to provide proper pretreatment, the utility may, with the written approval of the Commission, require the customer to repair the line or eliminate the infiltration or inflow or take such actions necessary to correct the problem. If the customer fails to correct the problem within a reasonable time, the utility may disconnect service after proper notice.

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

In accordance with the requirements of utility's Wastewater discharge Permit, any and all repairs and maintenance of utility's lines, tanks, pumps and equipment located on Customer's premises shall be performed exclusively by the utility.

Copies of the utility's state and federal wastewater discharge permits shall be available for public inspection and copying in the utility's business office during normal business hours.

Non-residential customers electing the pretreatment option for sewage with non-standard characteristics may be charged those costs set forth in the utility's extension policy if such pretreatment fails or otherwise causes the utility's facilities to violate their wastewater discharge permits.

ADDITIONAL REASONS FOR DISCONNECTION OF SEWER SERVICE

Sewer service can be disconnected 10 days after notice is mailed or hand delivered for the following reasons: (1) failure to prevent improper discharges of wastewater that does not meet the requirements of the "Conditions for Non-residential Sewer Service" included in Appendix B; (2) failure to correct improper grease trap conditions after written notice from the utility; (3) failure by a customer required to have a grease trap to correct improper grease trap conditions identified in an inspection by utility personnel or a contractor, such as excessive grit, excessive floating solids, or any condition that does not allow the grease trap to function properly and discharge wastewater that meets the limits set forth in the "Conditions for Non-residential Sewer Service" included in Appendix B; (4) failure to ensure that all wastewater discharges and pre-treatment actions comply with the "Conditions for Non-residential Sewer Service" included in Appendix B; or (5) allowing disposal of wastes that are not generated on the customer's property, whether generated by the customer or another party, through the customer's connection to the utility's wastewater system.

Service will not be reconnected until the customer demonstrates that the improper wastewater discharge conditions are corrected. If service is disconnected due to a sample analysis demonstrating that the wastewater does not meet the limits set forth in the "Conditions for Non-residential Sewer Service" included in Appendix B, service will not be reconnected until the customer submits and pays for analysis of a sample, collected in the presence of utility personnel or utility contractor, that meets the limits in the "Conditions for Non-residential Sewer Service" included in Appendix B.

RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY GRINDER STATIONS, LIFT STATIONS, RECEIVING TANKS, OR SEWAGE STATIONS

Prior to the installation of a residential single family grinder station, lift station, receiving tank, or sewage station, the utility must be given a complete listing of all materials and equipment that will be used.

In order to prevent inflow and infiltration, the materials must comply with standard specifications, approved by the Commission and the utility.

After the utility has approved the installation, construction may begin. Once the work is complete, the utility will perform an inspection of the installation and equipment to ensure the installation is completed as specified.

The customer will retain ownership of installed equipment on the customer's property, including grinder pumps, lift pumps, and appurtenances, and all maintenance, repairs and replacement for such equipment, and payment for electricity needed to operate such equipment, are the customer's responsibility and not the utility's.

Docket No. 46181

SECTION 2.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Repairs of grinder stations, lift stations, receiving tanks, or sewage stations installed on the customer's property may be performed by anyone selected by the customer who is competent to perform such repairs. The utility requires that parts and equipment meet the minimum standards approved by the TCEQ and the utility to insure proper and efficient operation of the utility's sewer system receiving wastewater from such equipment.

MULTI-FAMILY OR NON-RESIDENTIAL GRINDER STATIONS, LIFT STATIONS, RECEIVING TANKS, OR SEWAGE STATIONS

Prior to the installation of a multi-family or non-residential grinder station, lift station, receiving tank, or sewage station, the utility must be given a complete listing of all materials and equipment that will be used, along with a description of any associated storage needs and equipment that will be used.

In order to minimize inflow and infiltration into the collection system, the installation and materials must comply with standard specifications approved by the TCEQ.

After the utility has approved the installation, construction may begin. Once the work is complete, the utility will perform an inspection of the installation and equipment to ensure the installation is completed as specified.

Prior to acceptance of an existing grinder station, lift station, receiving tank, or sewage station that is being used as an interceptor tank for primary treatment, wastewater storage, or pump tank prior to discharge into an alternative or conventional sewage system, such facilities must be cleaned, inspected, repaired, modified, or replaced if necessary to minimize inflow and infiltration into the collection system.

Existing pumps and tanks must be of adequate size to insure proper pumpage in the event of high flow or when one pump is out of service. If the existing pumps and receiving tanks or lift stations are of inadequate size, the utility will not accept liability for backups due to events including, but not limited to: high flows, one pump out of service, rainfall causing inflow or infiltration, power outages, lack of proper storage capacity, etc.

If the collection system that discharges into the grinder station, lift station, receiving tank, or sewage station has an inflow or infiltration problem and collects rainfall discharge, the owner or P.O.A. will correct it within 90 days of written notice from the utility. If no action is taken to correct the problem within 90 days, the utility may discontinue service. The grinder station, lift station, receiving tank, or sewage station and the collection system that discharges into one of these units shall at all times remain the owner's / P.O.A.'s responsibility and not the utility's. All maintenance, repairs and replacement for such equipment, and payment for electricity needed to operate such equipment, are the owner / P.O.A.'s responsibility and not the utility's.

An adequate easement must encompass the grinder station, lift station, receiving tank, or sewage station by a 15 foot radius and also a 15 foot access easement to any of these units to facilitate proper maintenance and repairs. If this easement does not exist, one must be created and filed of record.

1

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

The utility will bear the full cost of any oversizing of collection mains necessary to serve other customers in the immediate area. The individual residential customer shall not be charged for any additional treatment capacity or facilities. Contributions in aid of construction <u>may not be required</u> of individual residential customers for treatment capacity or collection facilities unless otherwise approved by the Commission under this specific extension policy.

COST UTILITY SHALL BEAR. Within its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") service area, the utility will pay the cost of the first 200 feet of any sewer collection 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 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.

Developers may be required to provide contributions in aid of construction in amounts to furnish the system with all facilities necessary to comply with the Commission's Rules.

1

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY

This section contains the utility's specific extension policy that complies with the requirements already stated under Section 3.01. It must be reviewed and approved by the Commission and in compliance with Commission Rules to be effective.

Residential customers not covered under Section 3.01 will be charged the equivalent of the costs of extending service to their property from the nearest collection line even if that line does not have adequate capacity to serve the customer. However, if the customer places unique, non-standard service demands upon the system, the customer may be charged the full cost of extending service to and throughout their property, including the cost of all necessary collection, transmission, and treatment facilities with necessary capacity to meet the service demands anticipated to be created by that property.

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 collecting, treating, transmitting, and discharging wastewater effluent. For purposes of this subsection, a developer is one who subdivides or requests more than two sewer connections on a piece of property. Commercial, industrial, other nonresidential, and wholesale customers will be treated as developers.

The utility adopts the administrative rules of the Commission, as amended from time to time, as its company specific extension policy. These rules will be kept on file at the company's business office for customer inspection during normal business hours. In the event of a conflict between the Commission's amended rules and the provisions of this tariff, the amended rules shall prevail. Where necessary, any conflicting provision of this tariff shall be deemed to have been superseded by the Commission rule in question to the degree that the utility may conduct its lawful business in conformance with all requirements of said rule.

Non-residential customers generating sewage creating unique or non-standard treatment demands which might reasonably be expected to cause the utility's treatment facilities to operate outside their current wastewater discharge permit parameters may be charged the cost of all studies, engineering plans, permit costs, and collection treatment or discharge facilities construction or modification costs necessary to enable the utility to treat said sewage within permit limits acceptable to the TCEQ, EPA and other regulatory agencies. In the alternative, the customer may have the option of pre-treating said sewage in such a manner so that it may not reasonably be expected to cause the utility's facilities to operate outside their permit parameters. In such case, the customer shall be required to pay the utility's costs of evaluating such pretreatment processes and cost of obtaining regulatory approval of such pretreatment processes. In the event the pretreatment facilities of a customer making this election fail and cause the utility's facilities to operate outside their permit parameters, the customer shall indemnify the utility for all costs incurred for clean ups or environmental remediation and all fines, penalties, and costs imposed by regulatory or judicial enforcement actions relating to such permit violations.

Non-residential sewer customers producing water borne waste significantly different from waste generated by residential customers may be required to provide a suitable sampling point at the property line for testing the customer's waste for chemicals or substances, *e.g.*, grease, oils, solvents, pesticides, etc., which can reasonably be believed to have an injurious effect on the utility's plant and/or its ability to treat and dispose of such wastes within the parameters of the utility's permit. Utility shall have reasonable access to the sampling point at all times.

Any service extension to a subdivision (recorded or unrecorded) may be subject to the provisions and restrictions of 30 TAC 24.86(d) and this tariff.

ſ

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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 based upon the capacities of collection, transmission, storage, treatment and discharge facilities, compliant with the TCEQ minimum design criteria, which must be committed to such extension. As provided by 30 TAC 24.86(d)(4), for purposes of this section, commercial, industrial, other non-residential, and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers.

The imposition of additional extension costs or charges as provided by Sections 2.20 and 3.20 of this tariff shall be subject to appeal as provided in this tariff, Commission 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 entitled to 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 have the right to appeal such costs to the Commission 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. Unless the TCEQ or other regulatory authority enters interlocutory orders to the contrary, service to the applicant may be delayed until such appeal is resolved.

The utility will provide a written service application form to the applicant for each request for standard 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. The application process for non-standard or non-residential sewer service will require completion of other forms and agreements to be provided by the utility in addition to the standard service application form. Standard service application forms will be available for applicant pick up at the utility's business office during normal weekday business hours or for download from the utility's web site. Forms and agreements for non-standard or non-residential sewer service will be provided by the utility upon request. Service applications will be sent by prepaid first class United States mail to the address provided by the applicant upon request. Completed applications may be submitted by hand delivery or by mail to one of the utility's business offices.

The utility shall serve each qualified service applicant within its CCN service area as soon as practical after receiving a completed service application and all required agreements. All service requests will be fulfilled within the time limits prescribed by Commission rules once the applicant has met all conditions precedent to achieving a 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 Commission service dates shall not become applicable until the service applicant has met all conditions precedent to becoming a qualified service applicant as defined herein or by Commission rules.

The utility is not required to extend service to any applicant outside of its CCN service area and will only do so, at the utility's sole option, under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to the utility and the applicant and upon extension of the utility's certificated service area boundaries by the Commission. Service applicants may be required to bear the cost of the service area amendment.

A qualified service applicant is an applicant who has: (1) met all of the utility's requirements of service contained in this tariff, Commission rules and/or Commission order, (2) has made all payments for tap fees and extension charges, (3) has provided all necessary easements and rights-of-way necessary to provide service to the requested location, including staking said easements or rights-of-way where necessary, and (4) has executed a customer service application for each location to which service is being requested.

<u>Aqua Texas, Inc. and Aqua Utilities, Inc.</u> <u>dba Aqua Texas - Southeast Region-Gray</u>

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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. The tap request must be accompanied with a plat, map, diagram or written metes and bounds description of precisely where the applicant desires each tap or service connection to be made and, if necessary, where the service connection is to be installed, along the applicant's property line. The actual point of connection must be readily accessible to utility personnel for inspection, servicing and testing while being reasonably secure from damage by vehicles and mowers. If the utility has more than one collection line adjacent to the service applicant's property, the tap or service connection will be made to the utility's' nearest service line with adequate capacity to service 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, applicant may refer the matter to the Commission for resolution. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, the tap or service connection will not be made until the location dispute is resolved.

The utility shall require a developer (as defined by Commission rule) to provide permanent recorded public utility easements as a condition of service to any location within the developer's property. The developer shall be required to obtain all necessary easements and rights-of-way required to extend the utility's existing service facilities from their nearest point with adequate service capacity (as prescribed by Commission rules and local service conditions) to and throughout the developer's property. The easements shall be sufficient to allow the construction, installation, repair, maintenance, testing, and replacement of <u>any and all</u> utility plant necessary to provide continuous and adequate service to each and every potential service location within the property at full occupancy.

Unless otherwise restricted by law, sewage treatment facilities, holding tank sites, lift stations, and disposal sites shall convey with all permanent easements and buffers required by TCEQ rules. Unless otherwise agreed to by the utility, pipeline right-of-way easements must be at least 15 feet wide to allow adequate room to facilitate backhoe and other heavy equipment operation and required service facilities/equipment. Easements must be provided for all sewage treatment facilities, holding tanks, lift stations, and disposal sites which are sufficient to construct and maintain all weather roads as prescribed by TCEQ rules. All easements shall be evidenced, at developer's expense, by recorded county-approved subdivision plat or by specific assignment supported by metes and bounds survey from a surveyor licensed by the State of Texas.

Prior to the extension of utility service to developers (as defined by Commission rules) or new subdivisions, the developer shall comply with the following:

(a) The developer shall make a written request for service to property that is to be subdivided and developed. The developer shall submit to the utility a proposed plat on a scale of one inch (1") to two hundred feet (200') for review and determination of required easements, utility plant, and plant location. If sewer service is requested, the plat must contain elevation data. A reconcilable deposit in an amount set by the utility may be required to cover preliminary engineering, legal and copy cost to be incurred by the utility in reviewing and planning to meet this service request. The plat and/or accompanying information shall identify the type, location and number of houses and other planned structures that will be requiring utility service. If other than residential structures are to be located on the property, all other types of anticipated businesses and their service demands shall be identified with specificity. All areas requiring special irrigation and/or other unique water demands must be identified. To the extent reasonably possible, this information must be precise so that adequate facilities can be designed and constructed to meet all future service demands without hazard to the public, other utility customers and/or the environment.

\$

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

(b) After the requirements of easements and rights-of-way have been determined, a red line copy will be returned by the utility to the developer for final plat preparation.

(c) Copies of all proposed plats and plans must be submitted to the utility prior to their submission to the county for approval to insure that they are compatible with the adequate long-term utility needs of potential service customers. Copies will be returned after review by the utility so that necessary changes may be incorporated into the developer's final submitted plat(s) and plans.

(d) The utility shall be provided with three (3) certified copies of the final plat(s) approved by the County Commissioners Court. At this time, the utility will begin engineering the facilities necessary to serve the property. Plans and specifications will be prepared and submitted to the TCEQ by the utility if required by law. If further plat or plans changes are necessary to accommodate the specific service needs of the property and the anticipated customer demands, the developer will be so notified. Plat amendments must be obtained by the developer. The developer shall be notified when all required TCEQ or other governmental approvals or permits have been received. No construction of utility plant which requires prior TCEQ plans approval shall be commenced until that approval has been received by the utility and any conditions imposed by the TCEQ in association with its approvals have been satisfied.

(e) The Developer shall be required to post bond or escrow the funds necessary to construct all required utility plant, except individual sewer connections, required to serve the property. Construction shall not commence until funds are available. If the construction is to be done in coordination with the phased development of the property, funds must be provided in advance which are sufficient to complete each phase. No phase or facilities for any phase shall be constructed prior to the bonding or escrowing of all funds associated with that phase.

(f) At the sole option of the utility, the developer may be required to execute a Developer Extension Contract setting forth all terms and conditions of extending service to their property, including all contributions-in-aid-of-construction and developer reimbursements, if any.

(g) The utility may require the developer to commence construction of subdivision improvements within three (3) months of utility plans approval or the utility may abate its construction activities until full development construction begins. If the developer stops construction of subdivision improvements for any purpose, the utility may abate its construction for a similar period.

(h) As soon as the roads are rough cut and prior to paving, extension lines will need to be constructed at each road crossing. The developer must notify the utility sufficiently in advance of this development stage to allow for the necessary utility construction without disruption to other service operations of the utility. Failure to provide adequate advance notice and cooperation in the construction of necessary utility plant may result in additional delays in obtaining service to the property. The developer shall be required to pay for all additional costs of road boring or other remedial construction necessary to install adequate utility plant throughout the affected property.

(i) The developer, not the utility, shall insure that developer's employees, agents, contractors and others under its control coordinate their work or construction throughout the property with the utility to insure the orderly and timely construction of all utility plant necessary to serve the public.

ŝ

ţ

SECTION 3.20 - SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

Within its CCN service area, the utility shall bear the cost of the first 200 feet of any sewer collection line necessary to extend service to an individual residential service applicant within a platted subdivision unless the utility can document:

(a) 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; or

(b) that the developer defaulted on the terms and conditions of a written agreement or contract existing between the utility and the developer or the terms of this tariff regarding payment for services, extensions, or other requirements; or in the event the developer declared bankruptcy and was therefore unable to meet obligations; and

(c) that the residential service applicant purchased the property from the developer after the developer was notified of the need to provide facilities to the utility.

A residential service applicant may be charged the remaining costs of extending service to his property; provided, however, that the residential service applicant may only be required to pay the cost equivalent to the cost of extending the nearest wastewater collection line, whether or not that line has adequate capacity to serve that residential service applicant. The following criteria shall be considered to determine the residential service applicant's cost for extending service:

(a) The residential service applicant shall not be required to pay for costs of main extensions greater than 2" diameter for pressure wastewater collection lines and 6" in diameter for gravity wastewater lines.

(b) Exceptions may be granted by the Commission if:

(1) adequate service cannot be provided to the applicant using the maximum line sizes listed due to distance or elevation, in which case, it shall be the utility's burden to justify that a larger diameter pipe is required for adequate service; or

(2) larger minimum line sizes are required under subdivision platting requirements or applicable building codes.

(c) 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 over-sizing 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 CCN area, industrial, other non-residential and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers.

Any applicant for non-residential service is considered a request for nonstandard service.