



Control Number: 48819



Item Number: 149

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# NTA / NPC WATER

Northtown Acres Water Supply  
North Petty Chapel Water Supply  
18770 F. M. 709 N., Dawson, TX  
(254) 578-1622

E- Mail: [ntanpcwater@yahoo.com](mailto:ntanpcwater@yahoo.com)  
Fax: 254-578-3130



Dear Valued Customers,

The Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) in our pending rate case adjusted the interim rates. The gallonage rates have been reduced and the customer charges have been increased for larger meter sizes to comply with SOAH Order No. 4.

Accordingly, the ALJs concluded, that the new interim rate, SOAH ORDER NO. 5 enclosed, has been APPROVED AND ADOPTED, and will become effective on the first billing cycle following the date of the order, and will remain in effect until a final rate determination is made or another interim rate is established in the rate case.

We have also enclosed a copy of the Emergency Interim Rates, which are now in effect, for your comparison, with the enclosed New Interim Rates. These new rates will be on your May water bill.

We hope these new rates will help you and your family cope with some of the daily struggles, in these uncertain and trying times. If Covid-19 has impacted your ability to pay your water bill, please contact us immediately. We will do our best to arrange some form of payment arrangements. We must pay our water bill to the City of Corsicana, so we cannot defer your bill, but we can work on a payment plan. You must ask for assistance.

We have also enclosed some information just for your information and an EPA website.

We are in this with you. Our Family Businesses are Shut Down. We have family that are Higher Risk. So, Believe us we know more than some, what you are going thru!!

*Sincerely,*  
*Roger Shucell Richardson*

**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-20-1674.WS  
PUC DOCKET NO. 48819**

<b>APPLICATION OF NORTHTOWN</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE</b>
<b>ACRES WATER SUPPLY FOR</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>OF</b>
<b>AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS</b>

**SOAH ORDER NO. 5  
ADOPTING REVISED INTERIM RATES**

On March 31, 2020, Northtown Acres Water Supply (Northtown Acres) and staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) proposed revised interim rates in accordance with SOAH Order No. 4.<sup>1</sup> On April 3, 2020, ratepayers Mark Parker and Frank Marx, III filed responses.

Mr. Marx does not dispute that the rates proposed by Northtown Acres and Staff generate the revenues authorized in SOAH Order No. 4, but he instead proposes to reduce the pass-through rate for purchased water per 1,000 gallons from \$1.96 to \$0.96. The Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) rejected this proposal in SOAH Order No. 4 and do not revisit that decision.

Mr. Parker contends the proposed interim rates result in an approximately 33% operating reserve margin over the cost of the City of Corsicana's rates, but that Northtown Acres has not operated at that high of a margin and its 2009 rate increase resulted in an approximately 23% margin. He requests that the revised interim rates not exceed a 23% margin over the cost of the City's water rates. However, SOAH Order No. 4 established the revenues that the interim rates should be designed to recover. Further, Northtown Acres' rates must be set to recover its costs, which will differ from the City's.

Northtown Acres and Staff proposed revised interim rates to recover the revenues that would have been generated by Northtown Acres' February 19, 2020 alternative proposal for interim rates, but that address the structural problems in the existing rate design. The ALJs conclude that the revised interim rates proposed by Northtown Acres and Staff comply with SOAH Order No. 4. Accordingly, the interim rates set out below are **ADOPTED**.

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<sup>1</sup> Northtown Acres and Staff noted that updating the rate design required manually recreating the monthly gallonage usage by tier from the monthly billing registers for the test year and that, in an effort to conserve resources, Northtown Acres and Staff have agreed to use the attached monthly gallonage usage for the test year in setting rates in this case and as a proxy for determining any over- or under-collection balance.


<b>NEW Interim Rates</b>	
Minimum monthly charge (including zero gallons of usage)	
5/8 inch meter	\$18.75
3/4 inch meter	\$28.05
1 inch meter	\$46.75
1 1/2 inch meter	\$93.50
2 inch meter	\$149.60
1,000 - 10,000 gallons	\$3.00
10,001 - 25,000 gallons	\$3.25
25,001+ gallons	\$3.75
Pass-through rate for purchased water	\$1.96

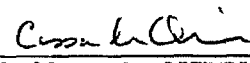
The interim rates will become effective on the first billing cycle following the date of this order and will remain in effect until a final rate determination is made or another interim rate is established. The interim rates are subject to refund or surcharge to the extent they differ from the rates ultimately established.<sup>2</sup>

Northtown Acres **SHALL** provide notice to its customers of the interim rates in compliance with 16 Texas Administrative Code § 24.37(j).

Within ten days of the date of this order, Staff shall provide a clean copy of the approved interim rates to Central Records to be marked *Approved* and filed in the Commission's tariff books.

**SIGNED April 6, 2020.**

  
CHRISTIAAN SIANO  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

  
CASSANDRA QUINN  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

<sup>2</sup> 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.125(e).

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PUBLIC UTILITIES DIVISION

**Public Utility Commission of Texas**

**Memorandum**

TO: Central Records

FROM: Kathryn Eiland, Rate Regulation Division

DATE: November 18, 2019

RE: PUC Docket No. 48819 – Application of Northtown Acres Water Supply for Authority to Change Rates; Tariff for water certificate of convenience and necessity no. 11704

CC: Sheroll Richardson

The attached water tariff is filed in accordance with Order No. 7, issued by the Commission's Administrative Law Judge on November 6, 2019, approving interim rates for Northtown Acres Water Supply effective on the first billing cycle following the date of the order. A copy of the attached tariff is provided to be stamped *Approved* and placed in the Commission's tariff book. The rates contained in the attached tariff will be in effect until the Commission issues a final decision on the requested rate change or until another interim rate is established.

Northtown Acres Water Company  
Tariff No. 11704

Water Utility Tariff Page No. 2

*Emergency Rates* SECTION 1.0 – RATE SCHEDULE

Section 1.01 – Rates

The presiding officer has established the following interim rates to be in effect until another interim rate is established or a final rate determination is made in Docket No. 48819.

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Monthly Minimum Charge</u>	<u>Gallage Charge</u>
5/8" or 3/4"	\$18.70 (Includes 2,000 gallons)	\$3.88 per 1,000 gallons, 2001-10,000 gallons \$4.03 per 1,000 gallons, 10,001-25,000 gallons \$4.13 per 1,000 gallons, over 25,000 gallons

\*Pass-through fee

\*In addition to the gallage charge, the City of Corsicana purchased water fee of \$4.13 per 1,000 gallons will be applied.

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following form(s) of payment:

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

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

REGULATORY ASSESSMENT..... 1.0%  
PUC RULES REQUIRE THE UTILITY TO COLLECT A FEE OF ONE PERCENT OF THE RETAIL MONTHLY

# Is drinking tap water safe?

EPA recommends that Americans continue to use and drink tap water as usual. The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that the, “presence of the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies and based on current evidence the risk to water supplies is low.”<sup>1</sup> Additionally, according to the CDC, COVID-19 is mainly thought to spread between people who are in close contact with one another. Read more from the CDC about transmission of COVID-19. Further, EPA’s drinking water regulations require treatment at public water systems to remove or kill pathogens, including viruses.

# Do I need to boil my drinking water?

Boiling your water is not required as a precaution against COVID-19.

# Do I need to buy bottled water or store drinking water?

EPA recommends that citizens continue to use and drink tap water as usual. At this time, there are no indications that COVID-19 is in the drinking water supply or will affect the reliable supply of water.

EPA is providing information on drinking water and wastewater to provide clarity to the public. The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies. Based on current evidence, the risk to water supplies is low.

**This Information is from [epa.gov/coronavirus](https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus)**