

Control Number: 49176



Item Number: 10

Addendum StartPage: 0

DOCKET NO. 49176

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APPLICATION OF TROY HENRY FOR
TEMPORARY RATES FOR SERVICE
PROVIDED FOR A NONFUNCTIONING
UTILITY



NOTICE OF JOINT PROPOSED NOTICE OF APPROVAL AND MOTION TO ADMIT EVIDENCE

COMES NOW the the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, and on behalf of itself and Troy Henry (Henry), files this Joint Proposed Notice of Approval, and would show the following:

I. NOTICE OF JOINT PROPOSED NOTICE OF APPROVAL

On March 5, 2019, the administrative law judge (ALJ) issued Order No. 2 requiring Staff and Henry to file Joint Proposed Notice of Approval by April 15, 2019. This pleading is therefore timely filed.

II. MOTION TO ADMIT EVIDENCE

Staff and Henry move to admit the following into evidence: (1) Henry's Application filed on February 5, 2019 [AIS Item No. 1]; (2) Commission Staff's final recommendation filed on March 29, 2019 [AIS Item No. 8]; and (3) Henry's tariff, included as Attachment B.

III. CONCLUSION

Staff and Henry request that the Commission grant the motion to admit evidence and enter a Notice of Approval consistent with the Joint Proposed Notice of Approval included with this pleading as Attachment A.

Dated: April 15, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton Division Director

Katherine Lengieza Gross Managing Attorney

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DOCKET NO. 49176

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on April 15, 2019 in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.

Rustin Tawater

ATTACHMENT A

DOCKET NO. 49176

APPLICATION OF TROY HENRY	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FOR TEMPORARY RATES FOR	§	
SERVICES PROVIDED FOR A	§	OF TEXAS
NONFUNCTIONING UTILITY	§	
	§	

JOINT PROPOSED NOTICE OF APPROVAL

This Notice addresses the application of Troy Henry (Henry or Applicant) for a temporary sewer rate increase. Henry requests approval of a rate increase in order provide continuous and adequate service. Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) Staff recommended approval of the application. The application is approved.

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

I. Findings of Fact

Procedural History

- 1. On February 5, 2019, Henry filed with the Commission an application for temporary rates pursuant to Texas Water Code (TWC) § 13.046 and 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.363 (formerly 16 TAC § 24.147).
- 2. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality appointed Henry as temporary manager of Tawakoni Waste, LLC (Utility) for a term of six months beginning on December 21, 2019 and ending June 19, 2019.
- 3. Utility holds sewer CCN No. 21072 for the provision of service in Hunt County, Texas.
- 4. The application requests approval of temporary rates in order to keep the sewer system operating properly within regulatory requirements. In addition, the temporary rate increase will allow for compensation to the temporary manager to make emergency improvements on the system.

- 5. On February 11, 2019, Order No. 1 was issued, requiring Commission Staff to file comments on the administrative completeness of the application and addressing other procedural matters.
- 6. On March 1, 2018, Commission Staff filed comments recommending that the application and notice be found administratively complete and sufficient.
- 7. On March 5, 2019, Order No. 2 was issued, finding the application and notice administratively complete and sufficient, and establishing a procedural schedule.
- 8. On March 15, 2019, Henry filed the supplemental information required under Order No. 2.
- 9. On March 29, 2019, Commission Staff filed its recommendation that the application be approved, that a temporary rate be set at \$85.00 per connection per month, and that the temporary manager be required to provide certain documentation to the Commission on a monthly basis.
- 10. On April 15, 2018, Commission Staff and Henry filed a joint proposed notice of approval and proposed tariff.

Informal Disposition

- 11. Henry and Commission Staff are the only parties to this proceeding.
- 12. More than 15 days have passed since completion of the notice of this docket.
- 13. The Commission received no protests, motions to intervene, or requests for hearing.
- 14. No issues of fact or law remain disputed by any party.

Notice

15. Henry provided proper notice to its customers as required by 16 TAC § 24.147(b).

Reasonableness of Temporary Rates

- 16. Henry's application requested a temporary rate of \$85.00 (composed of a flat rate of \$35.00 and surcharge of \$50.00) per connection per month.
- 17. The proposed temporary rates became effective February 1, 2019, consistent with Henry's notice.

- 18. Henry's application, supplemental information, and Commission Staff's recommendation demonstrate that the sewer system needs approximately \$3,600 per month to operate properly.
- 19. \$85.00 per connection per month is a reasonable rate to allow the sewer system to operate properly. The temporary rate should remain in effect from February 1, 2019 through the end of the current temporary manager's term ending on June 19, 2019 and beginning on June 20, 2019, the temporary rate of \$35.00 shall remain in place until such time as the temporary manager or receiver requests a new rate, the sewer system is sold and a Sale, Transfer, or Merger application is approved, or a permanent rate is approved for the sewer system. The temporary rate should remain in effect even in the event that a new temporary manager or receiver is appointed.

Requirement for Monthly Documentation

- 20. In its March 29, 2019 filing, Commission Staff recommended that Henry be required to provide documentation periodically until the temporary manager's term is completed. This documentation shall include
 - a) Summary of monthly operations including revenues and expenses with detailed list of actual expenses incurred for manager's fees, repairs, chlorine, billing, operator costs, electricity, laboratory fees, sampling costs, etc.;
 - b) Copies of invoices/receipts to support the actual cost of service; and
 - c) Actual number of customers at the beginning and ending of the month

II. Conclusions of Law

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to TWC §§ 13.041 and 13.046.
- 2. Utility is a sewer utility as that term is defined in TWC § 13.002(23).
- 3. Public notice of the application was provided as required by TWC § 13.046 and Commission rules.

- 4. The application was processed in accordance with the requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act, ¹ TWC, and the Commission's rules.
- 5. Henry has demonstrated that a temporary rate of \$85.00 per connection per month is reasonable.
- 6. This docket was processed in accordance with applicable statutes and Commission rules.
- 7. The requirements for informal disposition pursuant to 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 Order:

- 1. Henry's application is approved, consistent with the approved tariff attached to this Notice as Attachment B.
- 2. Henry shall comply with the monthly reporting requirements described above and by Commission Staff in its March 29, 2019 filing.
- 3. Henry shall deposit any amount in excess of the approved rate of \$85.00 per connection per month collected between February 1, 2019 and June 19, 2019 into a special account to pay for any repairs or maintenance to the sewer system. Henry shall submit receipts to prove up the costs when accessing the special account.
- 4. 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.

¹ Administrative Procedure Act, Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2001.001-.902 (West 2008 & Supp. 2015).

SIGNED AT AUSTIN, TEXAS t	he day of April 2019.
	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
Ī	PENE MONTEL ONCO

DIRECTOR, DOCKET MANAGEMENT

ATTACHMENT B



SEWER UTILITY TARIFF Docket Number 49176

Tawakoni Waste, LLC (Utility Name)

10636 Black Bass Road (Business Address)

Quinlan, Texas 75474 (City, State, Zip Code)

Temporary Manager Contact Information

<u>Troy Henry</u> (Temporary Manager Name) P.O. Box 310 (Business Address)

Point, Texas 75472 (City, State, Zip Code)

903/ 598-2216 (Area Code/Telephone)

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

21072

This tariff is effective in the following county: Hunt

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

None

This tariff is effective in the following subdivisions or systems:

Tawakoni WWTP Permit No.: WQ0014297-001

Sunset Shores, Waters Edge, Merchant's Park, Kitsee Knoll, 429 RV Park and Marina

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

SECTION 1.0 RATE SCHEDULE2	
SECTION 2.0 SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES4	
SECTION 3.0 EXTENSION POLICY9	

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE

Temporary Rates (Effective February 1, 2019)

Flat Rate - Monthly Charge \$35.00

The temporary rates effective on February 1, 2019, will remain in effect until Tawakoni Waste, LLC is not under a temporary manager/receivership or until another entity completes transfer of ownership of Tawakoni Waste, LLC and imposes new rates pursuant to its next application for a water rate/tariff change. At the end of this term, the rates will return to the rates listed below "Section 1.01 – Rates" if one of the following has not been put in place:

- 1) System has a new owner, with a finalized Sale Transfer Merger (STM) application and a new permanent rate;
- 2) Temporary manager's term is renewed/extended;
- 3) System is put in receivership.

Monthly Surcharge

\$50.00

The monthly surcharge shall be \$50.00 per connection per month effective February 1, 2019 ending at the earlier of the end of the current temporary management term for Troy Henry (June 19, 2019) or when the full amount of the deficit of \$30,600 has been collected.

Section 1.01 - Rates

Monthly Flat Rate of \$26.00 per connection

Volume charges are determined based on average consumption for winter period which includes the following months: N/A

FORM OF PAYMENT: The utility will accept the following forms 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 PAYME	
MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR C	ASH
PAYMENTS. AT THE CUSTOMER'S OPTION, ANY BILLING TRANSACTION OR COMMUNICATION MAY	Y BE
PERFORMED ON THE INTERNET. THIS INCLUDES THE UTILITY SENDING PAPERLESS BILLS BY EMAI	IL.
REGULATORY ASSESSMENT	.0%

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION (PUC) RULES REQUIRE THE UTILITY TO COLLECT A FEE OF ONE PERCENT OF THE RETAIL MONTHLY BILL AND TO REMIT FEE TO THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ).

SECTION 1.0 -- RATE SCHEDULE (Continued)

Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

TAP FEE TAP FEE IS BASED ON THE AVERAGE OF THE UTILITY'S ACTUAL COST FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR STANDARD RESIDENTIAL CONNECTION OF 5/8" METER PLUS UNIQUE COSTS AS PERMITTED BY PUC RULE AT COST.
TAP FEE (Unique costs)
TAP FEE (Large Connection Tap)
DECONNICCTION FEE
RECONNECTION FEE THE RECONNECT FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE SERVICE CAN BE RESTORED TO A CUSTOMER WHO HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS (OR OTHER REASONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 2.0 OF THIS TARIFF):
a) Non-payment of bill (Maximum \$25.00)\$25.00
b) Customer's request that service be disconnected \$25.00
or other reasons listed under Section 2.0 of this tariff
LATE CHARGE (Either \$5.00 or 10% of the bill)
TD ANGEED FEE
TRANSFER FEE
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE\$30.00
RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S DOCUMENTABLE COST.
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50)
COMMERCIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT 1/6TH ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL
GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE CLAUSE: WHEN AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY THE COMMISSION AND AFTER NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS, THE UTILITY MAY INCREASE RATES TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS FOR INSPECTION FEES AND WATER TESTING. [16 TAC § 24.25(b)(2)]

LINE EXTENSION AND CONSTRUCTION CHARGES:

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

SECTION 2.0 - SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

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

Section 2.01 - Application for Sewer Service

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

Section 2.02 – Refusal of Service

The Utility may decline to serve an applicant until the applicant has complied with the regulations of the regulatory agencies (state and municipal regulations) and for the reasons outlined in the 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 that a complaint may be filed with the Commission.

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

(A) Customer Deposits

If a residential applicant cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the Utility, the applicant may be required to pay a deposit as provided for in Section 1.02 – Miscellaneous Fees of this tariff. The Utility will keep records of the deposit and credit interest in accordance with 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 that accrued within the last two years.

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

<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 residential customer who has paid 18 consecutive billings without being delinquent. Deposits from non-residential customers may be held as long as that customer takes service.

(B) Tap or Reconnect Fees

A new customer requesting service at a location where service has not previously been provided must pay a tap fee as provided in Section 1. A customer requesting service where service has previously been provided must pay a reconnect fee as provided in Section 1. Any applicant or existing customer required to pay for any costs not specifically set forth in the rate schedule pages of this tariff shall be given a written explanation of such costs prior to request for payment and/or commencement of construction. If the applicant or existing customer does not believe that these costs are reasonable or necessary, the applicant or existing customer shall be informed of their right to appeal such costs to the 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.

Fees in addition to the regular tap fee may be charged to cover unique costs not normally incurred as permitted by 16 TAC § 24.163(a)(1)(C) if they are listed on this approved tariff. For example, a road bore for customers outside a subdivision or residential area could be considered a unique cost.

(C) Easement Requirement

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

Section 2.04 - Utility Response to Applications for Service

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

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

Section 2.05 - Customer Responsibility

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

Section 2.06 Access to Customer's Premises

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

Section 2.07 - Billing

(A) Regular Billing

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

(B) Late Fees

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

(C) Information on Bill

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

(D) Prorated Bills

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

Section 2.08 - Payments

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

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

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

Section 2.09 - Service Disconnection

(A) With Notice

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

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

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

(B) Without Notice

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

Section 2.10 - Reconnection of Service

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

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

Section 2.11 - Service Interruptions

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

Section 2.12 - Quality of Service

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

Section 2.13 - Customer Complaints and Disputes

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

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

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 2.14 - Customer Liability

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

SECTION 3.0 - EXTENSION POLICY

Section 3.01 - Standard Extension Requirements

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

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

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

Section 3.02 - Costs Utilities and Service Applicants Shall Bear

Within its certified area, the Utility will pay the cost of the first 200 feet of any 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 in writing of the need to provide facilities to the Utility, the Utility may charge for the first 200 feet. The Utility must also be able to document that the developer of the subdivision refused to provide facilities compatible with the Utility's facilities in accordance with the Utility's approved extension policy after receiving a written request from the Utility.

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

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

Exceptions may be granted by the PUC if

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

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

SECTION 3.0 - EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

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

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

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

Section 3.03 - Contributions in Aid of Construction

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

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

Any service extension to a subdivision (recorded or unrecorded) may be subject to the provisions and restrictions of 16 TAC § 24.163(d). When a developer wishes to extend the system to prepare to service multiple new connections, the charge shall be the cost of such extension, plus a pro-rata charge for facilities which must be committed to such extension compliant with the TCEQ minimum design criteria. As provided by 16 TAC § 24.163(d)(4), for purposes of this section, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customers shall be treated as developers.

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

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

SECTION 3.0 - EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

Section 3.04 - Appealing Connection Costs

The imposition of additional extension costs or charges as provided by Sections 3.0 - Extension Policy of this tariff shall be subject to appeal as provided in this tariff, 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 given a written explanation of such costs prior to payment and/or commencement of construction. If the applicant does not believe that these costs are reasonable or necessary, the applicant shall be informed of the right to appeal such costs to the 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.

Section 3.05 - Applying for Service

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

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

Beyond the initial 200 feet, the customer shall bear only the equivalent cost of extending from the nearest main. If the tap or service connection cannot be made at the applicant's desired location, it will be made at another location mutually acceptable to the applicant and the Utility. If no agreement on location can be made, the applicant may refer the matter to the Commission for resolution.

Section 3.06 - Qualified Service Applicant

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

SECTION 3.0 - EXTENSION POLICY (Continued)

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

Section 3.07 - Developer Requirements

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