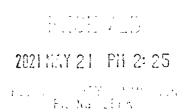


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Addendum StartPage: 0



SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-0246.WS PUC DOCKET NO. 51091

COMPLAINT OF CERTAIN	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
MEMBERS OF RIO ANCHO	§	\mathbf{OF}
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
AGAINST AQUA TEXAS, INC.	§	

DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS

OF

BRIAN R. TOLLE

ON BEHALF OF AQUA TEXAS, INC.

May 21, 2021

DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS OF

BRIAN R. TOLLE

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V. ISSUE N	IOS. 6, 7, and 8: WATER-USE RESTRICTIONS	6
EXHIBITS:		
BT-1	Resume of Brian R. Tolle	
BT-2	Annual Groundwater Production Reports for Permitted Wells for 2017-2020	

1		DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRIAN R. TOLLE
2		ON BEHALF OF
3		AQUA TEXAS, INC.
4		
5		I. INTRODUCTION
6	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
7	A.	My name is Brian R. Tolle. My business address is 1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 400W,
8		Austin, Texas 78723.
9		
10	Q.	What is your present position?
11	A.	I am a Field Supervisor for Aqua Texas, Inc. and its affiliates that operate in Texas
12		as Aqua Texas, including Aqua Texas, Inc. ("Aqua"). I have held this position since
13		2019. Before that I began with Aqua in 2011 as a Field Operator II working out of
14		Aqua's West Austin office.
15		
16	Q.	What are some of the primary services you provide to Aqua as part of your job
17		responsibilities?
18	A.	I am responsible for the supervision of daily operations of water and wastewater
19		facilities and staff for the West Austin area. Some of the duties include overseeing
20		the necessary monthly/annual reports for each system, financial activities for our
	SOAF	H DOCKET NO. 473-21-0246.WS 1 Direct Testimony of Brian R. Tolle

1		budget, and overseeing capital improvement projects that are in progress for my
2		area.
3		
4		II. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE
5	Q.	Please describe your educational and professional background.
6	A.	I graduated from high school and received a high diploma. I have been in the
7		water/wastewater industry since around 2002 having performed operations for Aqua
8		and Lakeway Municipal Utility District. I became a supervisor for Aqua in August
9		2019. I had some previous management experience with Paramount Computer
10		Corporation before getting into the water/wastewater industry. I hold a Class C
11		Wastewater and Class C Surface Water license through Texas Commission of
12		Environmental Quality. A copy of my resume is attached as BT-1.
13		
14	Q.	Have you previously testified as an expert witness in a regulatory or court
15		proceeding?
16	A.	No.
17		
18		III. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY
19	Q.	What is the purpose of your testimony?
20	A.	The purpose of my testimony is to provide information for consideration in this
21		matter in response to certain issues raised by Complainants and included in the

1		issues referred by the PUC Commissioners in their November 5, 2020 Preliminary
2		Order in this docket. Specifically, I will discuss some of my experiences during my
3		time supervising the operation of Aqua's Rio Ancho Subdivision water system
4		(PWS ID No. 0270141) ("Rio Ancho System") that the Commission should
5		consider.
6		
7	Q.	Are you providing any attachments with your testimony?
8	A.	Yes. Attached as BT-1 is a copy of my current resume, and attached as BT-2 are
9		copies of the Annual Groundwater Production Reports for Permitted Wells
10		submitted to the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District for the years
11		2017-2020.
12		
13	Q.	As an employee of Aqua Texas, Inc., are you familiar with the way the
14		documents included in BT-2 were created and maintained?
15	A.	Yes.
16		
17	Q.	Based on Aqua Texas, Inc.'s regular practices was the record made at or near

activity?

18

19

20

21

the time of each act, event, condition, opinion, or diagnosis set forth in the

records, made by, or from information transmitted by, persons with knowledge

of the matters set forth, and kept in the course of regularly conducted business

1 **A.** Yes.

2

- 3 Q. Does BT-2 include exact duplicates of the original records?
- 4 A. Yes.

5

- 6 Q. Please summarize your testimony.
- 7 A. During the time I have been Field Supervisor for Aqua beginning in August 2019, I
- 8 have become familiar with Aqua's Rio Ancho system facilities and operations.
- Aqua reasonably, appropriately, and properly imposed water-use restrictions on Rio
- Ancho System customers in accordance with Aqua's TCEQ-approved drought
- 11 contingency plan that applies to the Rio Ancho System. Aqua continues that
- practice today. Rio Ancho System customers have caused Rio Ancho System
- problems by unreasonable consumption and refusal to adhere to Aqua's water use
- restrictions. Aqua has appropriately responded to those problems and minimized
- service interruptions. In part, that is because of efforts I have led to enforce Aqua's
- water-use restrictions.

17

18

- Q. On what do you base the opinions in your testimony?
- 19 A. I base the opinions expressed in this testimony on my knowledge and experience,
- 20 my personal knowledge of Aqua's Rio Ancho System, my review of documentation
- 21 related to the Rio Ancho System included as exhibits to my testimony and that of

1		other Aqua witnesses, my experience with water system and drought contingency
2		plan issues, interchanges with other members of Aqua's Rio Ancho System
3		operations team, discussions with TCEQ and Central Texas Groundwater
4		Conservation District personnel, my knowledge of Aqua's management of the Rio
5		Ancho System, and my knowledge of the design plans and specifications for the Rio
6		Ancho System facilities. I have also considered the information produced by other
7		parties during discovery and the information included with the Complainants'
8		prefiled direct testimony and exhibits.
9		
10		IV. ISSUE NOS. 4 AND 5: RIO ANCHO SYSTEM WATER SUPPLY
11	Q.	Have you reviewed the map included as SF-2?
12	Α.	Yes.
13		
14	Q.	Does the map included as SF-2 accurately reflect the layout of the Rio Ancho
15		System facilities?
16	A.	Yes.
17		
18	Q.	Which Rio Ancho System facilities did Aqua add during your time as
19		supervisor?

1	A.	During my time as supervisor, Aqua has added one 3,000 gallon hydropneumatic
2		tank, added one 43,000 gallon ground storage tank, and upgraded the booster pump
3		station at the water plant, which increased the size of all three pumps.
4		
5		V. ISSUE NOS. 6, 7, and 8: WATER-USE RESTRICTIONS
6	Q.	What is your understanding of the water-use restrictions Aqua is allowed to
7		implement under its drought contingency plan?
8	A.	The drought contingency plan ("DCP") can be implemented during drought
9		conditions, but it may also be used during periods of abnormally high usage, system
10		contamination, extended reduction in ability to supply water due to equipment
11		failure, or any other situation that results in an emergency. Loss of pressure events
12		and system outages are considered potential emergency situations due to the
13		possibility of contamination.
14		
15	Q.	Did Aqua impose restrictions on water usage by Rio Ancho System customers
16		in the Rio Ancho subdivision during your time as supervisor between August
17		2019 and July 20, 2020?

18

19

Yes.

1	Q.	what restrictions did Aqua impose on water usage by Rio Ancho System
2		customers in the Rio Ancho subdivision between August 2019 and July 20,
3		2020?
4	A.	Stage 3 (August 2019 - May 2020), Stage 1 (May 2020 - July 2020), and Stage 3
5		(July 2020-current). Mr. Foltz's testimony accurately discusses what each stage
6		entails in terms of water-use restrictions and why each stage was implemented.
7		
8	Q.	Were there periods of abnormally high usage between August 2019 and July
9		20, 2020?
10	A.	Yes. As discussed in Mr. Foltz's testimony, Rio Ancho customers' usage on a
11		GPD/connection monthly average basis compared to other Aqua Texas water
12		systems within the region was more than twice the average in August 2019, May -
13		July 2020, and again in October 2020.
14		
15	Q.	What records, if any, does Aqua maintain for its permitted groundwater
16		pumping within the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District?
17	A.	Please see BT-2, which includes Aqua's Annual Groundwater Production Reports
18		for Permitted Wells for 2017-2020. I personally signed those logs.
19		

1	Q.	For each	occasion	or period	that Aqua	imposed	water-use	restrictions	on	Rio
---	----	----------	----------	-----------	-----------	---------	-----------	--------------	----	-----

- 2 Ancho System customers between August 2019 and July 20, 2020, did Aqua
- 3 enforce any penalty or consequence on any Rio Ancho System customer?
- 4 A. No penalties or consequence to any residential customer was imposed during that
- 5 time, but we did provide customers with notice that they were violating Aqua's
- 6 water-use restrictions on several occasions.

7

- 8 Q. What level of customer compliance with Aqua's water-use restrictions did you
- 9 observe between August 2019 and July 20, 2020?
- 10 A. Some customers did not comply with water restrictions at all.

11

- 12 Q. What efforts did Aqua make to try getting Rio Ancho System customers to
- comply with the water-use restrictions Aqua imposed on Rio Ancho System
- customers between August 2019 and July 20, 2020?
- 15 A. Customers were notified about the restrictions and the reasoning by mail. Aqua's
- electronic reading devices were also upgraded to give a daily reading to Aqua. This
- information can help pinpoint over-usage and see if a customer is following water
- restrictions.

19

20 Q. How would you describe the results of those efforts?

1	A.	After sending out the restriction notices, which included the reasons for the
2		restrictions, some customers did not adhere to the water restrictions, and over-usage
3		continued causing low pressure and some water outages in the system.

4

5

6

- Q. Has Aqua applied any different water-use restriction enforcement efforts since July 20, 2020?
- Yes. The operator began patrolling the neighborhood to enforce Aqua's water-use restrictions. If someone was observed not following Aqua's water-use restrictions, a warning was put on the door with a door hangar and another copy of the water-use restrictions.

11

- 12 Q. How would you describe the results of those efforts?
- 13 **A.** Better. After issuing warnings for water-use restrictions for approximately a week,
 14 water outages and low pressure throughout the water system stopped.

15

16 Q. Have you formed an opinion about whether Aqua has "used water-use restrictions in lieu of providing facilities which meet the minimum capacity requirements of 30 TAC §§ 290.38 through 290.275, or reasonable local demand characteristics during normal use periods, or when Aqua Texas is not making all immediate and necessary efforts to repair or replace malfunctioning

1		equipment under 16 TAC § 24.205(2)" as set forth in Preliminary Order Issue
2		No. 7?
3	A.	Yes.
4		
5	Q.	What is your opinion about the question posed in Preliminary Order Issue
6		No. 7?
7	A.	Aqua has upgraded the Rio Ancho System water facilities as the system has grown
8		and those facilities exceed the minimum requirements set forth by 30 TAC \S 290.38.
9		The Rio Ancho System facilities are more than sufficient for "reasonable local
10		demand characteristics during normal use periods." When Rio Ancho System
11		customers have used unreasonable amounts of water on days or times outside
12		Aqua's prescribed watering schedule, that is when we have had trouble.
13		
14	Q.	Have you formed an opinion about whether the PUC should take any action in
15		response to the Complaint at issue in this docket?
16	A.	Yes.
17		
18	Q.	What is your opinion about whether the PUC should take any action in
19		response to the Complaint at issue in this docket?
20	A.	The PUC should take no action in response to the Complaint.
21		

- 1 Q. Does this conclude your prefiled direct testimony?
- 2 A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to supplement my prefiled direct
- 3 testimony with additional information as it may become available.

-h	History	
กท	History	

Job History							
Job/Title	Company	Start Date	End Date	Location	Contact information	Reference	Responsibilities and Achievements
Facility Operator II	Aqua Amenca	09/01/2011		West Austin, tx	512-844-9699	Brent Reeh	Operation of water and wastewater facilities Taking samples and performing lab tests for proper process control Preventative maintenance of equipment at all facilities Performing on call dutes for water and wastewater facilities. Keeping proper parameters for four state permits
Wastewater /Water Operator	Lakeway M U D	07/07/2002	09/01/2011	Lakeway, Tx		Tommy Farrell	Operating wastewater facilities in District Pulling samples and performing lab tests on effluent from facilities Performing on call duties for water and wastewater facilities Keeping facilities in proper parameters of state permit
Shipping/Receiving Lead	Paramount Computer Corporation	05/01/1997	07/01/2002	Austin, "x		Giuliano DeSantis	Shipping and receiving of all equipment. Quality control and inventory of equipment in warehouse. Training new employees and and helping box equipment when needed.

Aqua Texas		2709		OP-13042403 CTGCD Permit # 2017	
	Owner	CTGCD	Well Registration #		
Rio Ancho		13:	249302		
	System	Me	ter Serial #	Year	
Water U	se: Municipal/Public Number of Custom Estimate of Popula () Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation () Other (Describe)				
Place the	e water was used:				
	cho Subdivision				
Amount of any si Month	urface water used. Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water	
anuary	161000	380000	219000	(if measured)	
ebruary	380000	570000	190000		
March	570000	873000	303000		
April	873000	1404000	531000		
May	1404000	2160000	756000		
une	2160000	2920000	760000		
uly	2920000	3737000	817000		
<u>~</u> ∖ugust	3737000	4590000	853000		
September	4590000	5303000	713000		
October	5303000	5892000	589000		
Vovember	5892000	6355000	463000		
December	6355000	6598000	243000		
	Consum	nption for the Year:	6437000		
Mich	QW mal	512-56	3-2509	1/11/18	
() Signature	of Owner, or (Appointed	l Agent	Phone	Date	

Aqua Texas		6202_	OP-13042403	
	Owner	CTGCD V	Well Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
Rio Ancho		260	001089	2017
	System	Met	er Scrial #	Year
Water U	se: Municipal/Public Number of Custom Estimate of Popula () Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation () Other (Describe)			
Place the	e water was used.			
	cho Subdivision			
Amount of any si Month	0 aurface water used. Water Meter Start	water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water
January	8247000	8491000	244000	(if measured)
February	8491000	8735000	244000	
March		 		
	8735000	9120000	385000	
April	9120000	9795000	675000	
May	9795000 10763000	10763000	968000	
June Tuk	 	11736000	973000	· - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
July	11736000	12864000	1128000	
August September	12864000	13918000	1054000	
October	13918000	14834000	916000 749000	
November	15583000	16172000	589000	
December	16172000	16481000	309000	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
December	<u> </u>		003000	
	Consum	option for the Year:	8237000	
Michael	DW.MeQ_	- 512-56		1/11/18
() Signature	of Owner, or 🖊 Appointed	Agent	Phone	Date



Website: www.centraltexasgcd.org

BY:______ ANNUAL GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION REPORT FOR PERMITTED WELLS

Aqua Texas,	Inc			OP-13042403
	Owner	CTGCD W	ell Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
Rio Ancho (Well # 1)	453	324049	2018
	System	Mete	r Serial #	Year
Place the	se: (X) Municipal/Public Number of Custome Estimate of Populat () Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation () Other (Describe) water was used: Rio And	tion Served: 453		
Amount of any su	N/A aurface water used.	nd source		A PARTIE OF THE PROPERTY OF TH
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	6598	6783	185,000	
February	6783	6913	130,000	
March	6913	7708	795,000	
April	7708	8659	951,000	
May	8659	9543	884,000	
June	9543	10476	933,000	
July	10476	11708	1,232,000	
August	11708	12904	1,196,000	
September	12904	13372	468,000	
October	13372	13864	492,000	
November	13864	14396	532,000	
December	14396	14756	360,000	
	Consum	ption for the Year:	8,158,000	
Bru () Signature of	of Owner, or (x) Appointed	512-330 Agent	0-9904 Phone	May 31, 2019 Date





Aqua Texas,	Inc			OP-13042403
	Owner	CTGCD W	/ell Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
Rio Ancho	(Nell #2)	26	2018	
-	System	Mete	er Serial #	Year
	se: (X) Municipal/Public Number of Custome Estimate of Populat () Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation () Other (Describe)	ion Served: 453		
Amount of any su	N/A a:	nd source		
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	16481	16805	324,000	
February	16805	17006	201,000	
March	17006	17907	901,000	
April	17907	19131	1,224,000	
May	19131	20177	1,046,00	
June	21077	21267	1,090,000	
July	21267	22526	1,259,000	-
August	22575	23775	1,200,000	
September	23775	24192	417,000	
October	24192	24534	342,000	
November	24534	24797	263,000	
December	24797	25127	330,000	
	<u> </u>	ption for the Year:	8,646,000	
Signature of	t C-Reluction of Owner, or (X) Appointed		0-9904 Phone	May 31, 2014 Date

Aqua	Texas	2079		OP-13042403
	Owner	CTGCD V	Vell Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
Rio Ar	ncho	13249	302	2019
	System		er Serial #	Year
Place the	water was used: Rio Anch			
of any su	rface water used.	***	The state of the s	valuable & P. S. of the Subject against the State Stat
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	14786000	15109000	323000	
February	15109000	15426000	317000	
March	15426000	16070000	644000	
April	16070000	17124000	1054000	
May	17124000	18002000	1678000	
June	18002000	18925000	923000	
July	18925000	20351000	1426000	
August	20351000	21763000	1412000	
September	21763000	22720000	957000	
October	22720000	23311000	591000	
November	23311000	23840000	529000	
December	23840000	24287000	447000	
	Consum	ption for the Year:	10301000	
B () Signature o	Talle		-9904 Phone	5/7/2020 Date

ANNUAL GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION REPORT FOR PERMITTED WELLS

Aqua	Texas	6202		OP-13042403
	Owner	CTGCD V	Vell Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
Rio A	ncho	26001	089	2019
	System	Met	er Serial #	Year
Place the	() Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation () Other (Describe) water was used: Rio Ancho	ion Served: 468		
	rface water used.			
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	25152000	25449000	297000	
February	25449000	25741000	292000	
March	25741000	26345000	604000	
April	26345000	27775000	1430000	
May	27775000	28234000	459000	
June	28234000	29418000	1184000	
July	29418000	30986000	1568000	
August	30986000	32496000	1510000	
September	32496000	33492000	996000	
October	33492000	34078000	586000	
November	34078000	34587000	509000	
December	34587000	35018000	431000	
	Consum	ption for the Year:	9866000	
B.	Jolo TOwner, or () Appointed		30-9904 Phone	5/7/2020 Date

Annual Production Report 071910

	Aqua Texas		2079	OP-13042403
	Owner	CTGCD W	/ell Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
	Rio Ancho	17:	144076	2020
	System		er Serial #	Year
	Estimate of Populat () Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation	ers Served: 165 ion Served: 495 cho Subdivision		
Amount	0 a	nd source 0		
of any su	ırface water used.			
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	24287000	24767000	480000	
February	24767000	25219000	452000	
March	25219000	25293000	74000	
April	25293000	26065000	772000	
May	26065000	27259000	1194000	
June	27259000	28576000	1317000	
July	28576000	30010000	1434000	
August	30010000	31269000	1259000	
September	31269000	31744000	475000	
October	31744000	32735000	991000	
November	32735000	33515000	780000	
December	33515000	33999000	484000	
	Consum	ption for the Year:	16312000	
R	i 1000	51:	2-330-9904	1/20/2021
() Signature o	of Owner, or (X) Appointed		Phone	Date
SENT Manual Pro-	1/21/2021 BT			4-

Aqua Texas			3202	OP-13042403
	Owner	CTGCD V	Well Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
	Rio Ancho	183	319528	2020
	System	Met	er Serial #	Year
	se: (X) Municipal/Public Number of Custome Estimate of Populat () Domestic () Livestock () Irrigation () Other (Describe)	ion Served: 495		
Amount of any su	0 aurface water used.	nd source 0		
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	35018000	35490000	472000	
February	35490000	35939000	449000	
March	35939000	36785000	846000	
April	36785000	37551000	766000	
May	37551000	38570000	1019000	
June	38570000	39605000	1035000	
July	0	1514000	1514000	Well meter replaced
August	1514000	2759000	1245000	
September	2759000	3746000	987000	
October	3746000	4888000	1142000	
November	4888000	5730000	842000	
December	5730000	6252000	522000	
	Consum	ption for the Year:	10839000	
() Signature of	of Owner, or (X Appointed		12-330-9904 Phone	<u>1/21/2021</u> Date

Owner CTGCD Well Registrate 17144076 System Name if Applicable Meter Serial #		2079	2079	
		CTGCD W	'ell Registration #	CTGCD Permit #
		076	2020	
		Meter	Serial #	Year
Water Use	Number of	Customers Served: 165 Population Served: 495		
Place the	Domestic Livestock Irrigation Other (Describe) water was used:	ncho Subdivision		
Amount _	face water used.	d source 0		
Month	Water Meter Start	Water Meter Stop	Total Gallons Pumped	Depth(feet) to Water (if measured)
January	24287000	24767000	480000	
February	24767000	25219000	452000	
March	25219000	25293000	74000	
April	25293000	26065000	772000	
May	26065000	27259000	1194000	
June	27259000	28576000	1317000	
July	28576000	30010000	1434000	
August	30010000	31269000	1259000	
September	31269000	31744000	475000	
October	31744000	32735000	991000	
November	32735000	33515000	780000	
December	33515000	33999000	484000	
	Consum	ption for the Year:	9712000	
黑江	Lole	512-3	30-9904	5/18/2021
() Signature of	Owner, or Appointed A	Agent	Phone	Date
A 1 D	/ 			
more unum	uction Report 051519			Car