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**SEWER UTILITY TARIFF
FOR**

Gaines Bend Utilities, Inc.
(Utility Name)

1 Gibson Drive
(Business Address)

Graford, Texas 76449-4548
(City, State, Zip Code)

(940) 779-2400
(Area Code/Telephone)

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

21042

This tariff is effective in the following county:

Palo Pinto

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

None

This tariff is effective in the following subdivisions or systems:

Gaines Bend: WQ No. 0014511001

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 SCHEDULE.....	2
SECTION 2.0 -- SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES	4
SECTION 2.20 -- SPECIFIC SERVICE RULES AND POLICIES	8
SECTION 3.0 -- EXTENSION POLICY	13
SECTION 3.01 -- STANDARD EXTENSION REQUIREMENTS.....	14
SECTION 3.20 -- SPECIFIC EXTENSION POLICY.....	15

APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT

SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE

Section 1.01 - Rates

MONTHLY FLAT RATE TO ALL CUSTOMERS\$70.00

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 PAYMENTS MADE USING MORE THAN \$1.00 IN SMALL COINS. A WRITTEN RECEIPT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CASH PAYMENTS.

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

Section 1.02 - Miscellaneous Fees

TAP FEE\$3,000.00
TAP FEE COVERS THE UTILITY'S COSTS FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR TO INSTALL A STANDARD RESIDENTIAL CONNECTION. AN ADDITIONAL FEE TO COVER UNIQUE COSTS IS PERMITTED IF LISTED ON THIS TARIFF.

TAP FEE (Large Connection Tap)Actual Cost
TAP FEE IS THE UTILITY'S ACTUAL COST FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR TAP SIZE INSTALLED.

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\$40.00

TRANSFER FEE\$25.00
THE TRANSFER FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR CHANGING AN ACCOUNT NAME AT THE SAME SERVICE LOCATION WHEN THE SERVICE IS NOT DISCONNECTED

LATE CHARGE 10%
A ONE-TIME PENALTY MAY BE MADE ON DELINQUENT BILLS BUT MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO ANY BALANCE TO WHICH THE PENALTY WAS APPLIED IN A PREVIOUS BILLING.

RETURNED CHECK CHARGE\$25.00
RETURNED CHECK CHARGES MUST BE BASED ON THE UTILITY'S DOCUMENTABLE COST.

RATES LISTED ARE EFFECTIVE ONLY IF
THIS PAGE HAS TCEQ APPROVAL STAMP

Utility Name

SECTION 1.0 - RATE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT RESIDENTIAL (Maximum \$50).....\$50.00

COMMERCIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL DEPOSIT..... 1/6TH OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BILL

GOVERNMENTAL TESTING, INSPECTION AND COSTS SURCHARGE.....Actual Cost

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)]

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.

RATES LISTED ARE EFFECTIVE ONLY IF
THIS PAGE HAS TCEQ APPROVAL STAMP

TEXAS COMM. ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
36372-C, CCN 21042, NOVEMBER 4, 2009
APPROVED TARIFF BY JH

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 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) 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.

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 will be responsible for furnishing and laying the necessary customer service pipe from the connection location to the place of use.

Section 2.03--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 TCEQ 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 2.04--Customer Deposits

If a residential applicant cannot establish credit to the satisfaction of the utility, the applicant will 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 TCEQ Rules.

SECTION 2.0--SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

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.

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.

Refund of deposit. - 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 or industrial facility in accordance with the TCEQ Rules.

Section 2.06--Billing

Bills from the utility will be mailed monthly unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. The due date of the bills for utility service will be at least twenty (20) 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. 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. 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 TCEQ Rules. For each of the systems it operates, the utility will maintain and note on the monthly billing 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 2.0--SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

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. 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 30 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 2.08--Reconnection of Service

Service will be reconnected within 24 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.

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 2.0--SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT.)

Section 2.10--Quality of Service

The utility will plan, furnish, and maintain and operate a treatment and collection facility of sufficient size and capacity to provide a continuous and adequate service for all reasonable consumer uses and to treat sewage and discharge the effluent at the quality required by its discharge permit issued by the Commission. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, 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 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

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 the 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 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.

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 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 sewer systems not required by TCEQ rule to have auxiliary power supplies, or (4) termination of sewer service pursuant to the utility's tariff and the TCEQ's rules.

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.

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

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 sewer collection, treatment, pumping and discharge.

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.

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

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 sewer mains or other equipment used in connection with its provision of sewer 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 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 shall result in criminal prosecution.

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

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.

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 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 waste water treatment plant within the parameters of the utility's state and federal waste water 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.**

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

Pursuant to TCEQ Rule 291.87(n), 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 clean up 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 291.86(b)(3)(A) and (B), the customer's service line and appurtenances shall be construed 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 TCEQ's executive director, 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.

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 waste water 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 waste-water discharge permits.

RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY GRINDER / SEWAGE STATIONS

Prior to the installation of a grinder / 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 TCEQ.

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

After the utility has approved the proposed grinder / sewage station, the construction may begin. Once the work has been completed, the utility will do an inspection of the grinder / sewage station to ensure the complete installation was as specified.

The customer will retain ownership of receiving tanks or lift stations on the customer's property, and all maintenance, repairs and replacement are the customer's responsibility. The repairs 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, to insure proper and efficient operation of the sewer system.

MULTI-FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL RECEIVING TANK / LIFT STATIONS

Prior to the installation of a grinder / sewage station, the utility must be given a complete listing of all materials and equipment that will be used, along with the storage for that development.

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 proposed grinder / sewage station, the construction may begin. Once the work has been completed, the utility will do an inspection of the grinder / sewage station to ensure the complete installation was as specified.

Prior to acceptance of an existing receiving tank or lift station that is being used as an interceptor tank for primary treatment, waste water storage or pump tanks prior to discharge into an alternative or conventional sewage system 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 if 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: high flows, one pump out of service, rainfall causing inflow or infiltration, power outages, lack of proper storage capacity, etc.

SECTION 3.20--SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY

This section contains the utility's specific extension policy which 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 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 treatment capacity necessary to meet the service demands anticipated to be created by that property.

Developers will 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's minimum design criteria for facilities used in collecting, treating, transmitting, and discharging of wastewater effluent. For purposes of this subsection, a developer is one who subdivides or requests more than two connections on a piece of property. Commercial, industrial, 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.

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 waste-water 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 to 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 of 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.

SECTION 3.20--SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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 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 291.86(d)(4), for purposes of this section, commercial, industrial, 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, 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 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 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 applications forms will be available for applicant pick up 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.

The Utility shall serve each qualified service applicant within its certificated service area as soon as practical after receiving a completed service application. 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 "qualified service applicant" as defined herein or by TCEQ rules.

The Utility is not required to extend service to any applicant outside of its certificated 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.

SECTION 3.20--SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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, and (4) has executed a customer service application for each location to which service is being requested.

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 is to be made and, if necessary, where the 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 main adjacent to the service applicant's property, the tap or service connection will be made to the Utility's near 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 applicant and the Utility. If no agreement on location can be made, applicant may refer the matter 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, sewage treatment, holding tank sites, lift station sites shall convey with all permanent easements and buffers required by TCEQ rules. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Utility, pipe line 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 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.

SECTION 3.20--SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

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

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) 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.

SECTION 3.20--SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

(5) 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.

(6) 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.

(7) 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.

(8) 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.

Within its certificated area, the Utility shall bear the cost of the first 200 feet of any water main or 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,

SECTION 3.20--SPECIFIC UTILITY EXTENSION POLICY (CONT.)

(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 or 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:

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

Exceptions may be granted by the TCEQ Executive Director if:

- (a) 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;
- (b) larger minimum line sizes are required under subdivision platting requirements or applicable building codes.

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.

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

APPENDIX A -- SAMPLE SERVICE AGREEMENT

From 30 TAC Chapter 290.47(b), Appendix B

SERVICE AGREEMENT

I. PURPOSE. The Gaines Bend Utilities, Inc. is responsible for protecting the drinking water supply from contamination or pollution which could result from improper private water distribution system construction or configuration. The purpose of this service agreement is to notify each customer of the restrictions which are in place to provide this protection. The utility enforces these restrictions to ensure the public health and welfare. Each customer must sign this agreement before the Gaines Bend Utilities, Inc. will begin service. In addition, when service to an existing connection has been suspended or terminated, the sewer system will not re-establish service unless it has a signed copy of this agreement.

II. RESTRICTIONS. The following unacceptable practices are prohibited by State regulations.

- A. No direct connection between the public drinking water supply and a potential source of contamination is permitted. Potential sources of contamination shall be isolated from the public water system by an air-gap or an appropriate backflow prevention device.
- B. No cross-connection between the public drinking water supply and a private water system is permitted. These potential threats to the public drinking water supply shall be eliminated at the service connection by the installation of an air-gap or a reduced pressure-zone backflow prevention device.
- C. No connection which allows water to be returned to the public drinking water supply is permitted.
- D. No pipe or pipe fitting which contains more than 8.0% lead may be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
- E. No solder or flux which contains more than 0.2% lead can be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.

III. SERVICE AGREEMENT. The following are the terms of the service agreement between the Gaines Bend Utilities, Inc. (the Sewer System) and NAME OF CUSTOMER (the Customer).

- A. The Sewer System will maintain a copy of this agreement as long as the Customer and/or the premises is connected to the Sewer System.
- B. The Customer shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross-connections and other potential contamination hazards. These inspections shall be conducted by the Sewer System or its designated agent prior to initiating new water service; when there is reason to believe that cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards exist; or after any major changes to the private water distribution facilities. The inspections shall be conducted during the Sewer System's normal business hours.
- C. The Sewer System shall notify the Customer in writing of any cross-connection or other potential contamination hazard which has been identified during the initial inspection or the periodic reinspection.
- D. The Customer shall immediately remove or adequately isolate any potential cross-connections or other potential contamination hazards on his premises.
- E. The Customer shall, at his expense, properly install, test, and maintain any backflow prevention device required by the Sewer System. Copies of all testing and maintenance records shall be provided to the Sewer System.

IV. ENFORCEMENT. If the Customer fails to comply with the terms of the Service Agreement, the Sewer System shall, at its option, terminate service or properly install, test, and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection. Any expenses associated with the enforcement of this agreement shall be billed to the Customer.

CUSTOMER'S SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____