

**SECTION G.**  
**RATES AND SERVICE FEES**

Unless specifically defined in this Tariff, all fees, rates, and charges as stated shall be non-refundable.

1. ***Service Investigation Fee.*** The Corporation shall conduct a service investigation for each service application submitted at the Corporation office. An initial determination shall be made by the Corporation, without charge, as to whether the service request is Standard or Non-Standard. An investigation shall then be conducted and the results reported under the following terms:
  - a. All Standard Service requests shall be investigated without charge and all applicable costs for providing service shall be quoted in writing to the Applicant within ten (10) working days of application.
  - b. All Non-Standard Service requests shall be subject to a fee, appropriate to each project, of sufficient amount to cover all administrative, legal, and engineering fees associated with investigation of the Corporation's ability to deliver service to the Applicant to;
    - (1) provide cost estimates of the project,
    - (2) to present detailed plans and specifications as per final plat,
    - (3) to advertise and accept bids for the project,
    - (4) to present a Non-Standard Service Contract to the Applicant, and
    - (5) to provide other services as required by the Corporation for such investigation. A Non-Standard Service Contract shall be presented to the Applicant within a suitable amount of time as determined by the complexity of the project. (See Section F.)
2. ***Membership Fee.*** At the time the application for service is approved, a refundable Membership Fee must be paid for each service requested before service shall be provided or reserved for the Applicant by the Corporation.
  - a. The Membership Fee for water service is \$300.00 for each service unit.
  - b. Membership fee for oversized or Master Metered Accounts shall be based on multiples of meter size equivalence.
3. ***Easement Fee.*** When the Corporation determines that private right-of-way easements and/or facilities sites are necessary to provide service to the Applicant, the Applicant shall be required to make good faith efforts to secure easements in behalf of the Corporation and/or pay all costs incurred by the Corporation in validating, clearing, and retaining such right-of-way in addition to tap fees otherwise required pursuant to the provisions of this Tariff. The costs may include all legal fees and expenses necessary to attempt to secure such right-of-way and/or facilities sites in behalf of the Applicant. (See Section E. 3., Section F. 8)
4. ***Installation Fee.*** The Corporation shall charge an installation fee for service as follows:
  - a. **Standard Service** shall include all current labor, materials, engineering, legal, customer service inspection, and administrative costs necessary to provide individual metered water or wastewater service and shall be charged on a per tap basis as computed immediately prior to such time as metered service is requested and installed.
  - b. **Non-Standard Service** shall include any and all construction labor and materials, inspection, administration, legal, and engineering fees, as determined by the Corporation under the rules of Section F of this Tariff.
  - c. Standard and Non-Standard Service Installations shall include all costs of any pipeline relocations as per Section E. 3(e) of this Tariff.

**Equity Buy-In Fee.** In addition to the Membership Fee, each Applicant shall be required to achieve parity with the contributions to the construction of the Corporation's facilities capacity that have been made previously by existing Members. This fee shall be assessed immediately prior to providing or reserving service on a per service unit basis for each property and shall be assigned and restricted to that property for which the service was originally requested. This fee shall be set aside for future capacity improvements such as line upgrades, new tanks, treatment, or production. The formula applied to such fee calculated annually after receipt of the system audit is as follows:

***Sample Calculation:***

Total Contributions and Assets of the Corporation minus (-)  
Accumulated Depreciation minus (-)  
Outstanding Corporation Debt Principle minus (-)  
Developer Contributions minus (-)  
Grants received divided by  
Total Number of Members / Customers equals =  
Average Net Equity Buy-In Fee

a. Water Fee is \$900.00

**5. Monthly Charges.**

a. **Base Rate**

(1) Water Service - The monthly charge for standard metered water service is for a 5/8" by 3/4" meter. The 5/8" X 3/4" meter charge is used as a base multiplier for larger non-standard meters in accordance with the following chart based on American Water Works Association maximum continuous flow specifications:

METER SIZE	5/8" X 3/4" METER EQUIVALENTS	MONTHLY RATE
5/8" X 3/4"	1.0	\$ 36.00
3/4"	1.5	\$ 54.00
1"	2.5	\$ 90.00
1 1/2"	5.0	\$ 180.00
2"	8.0	\$ 288.00
3" DISP.	9.0	\$ 324.00
3" CMPD.	16.0	\$ 576.00
3" TURB.	17.5	\$ 630.00
4" CMPD.	25.0	\$ 900.00
4" TURB.	30.0	\$1,080.00
6" CMPD.	50.0	\$1,800.00
6" TURB.	62.5	\$2,250.00
8" CMPD.	80.0	\$2,880.00

- b. **Gallage Charge** - In addition to the Base Rate, a gallage charge shall be added at the following rates for usage during any one (1) billing period.
- (1) Water - \$ 4.25 per thousand gallons for next 2,000 gallons over minimum 500 gallons.
  - (2) 4.50 per thousand gallons for next 1,500 gallons.
  - (3) 5.25 per thousand gallons for next 2,000 gallons.
  - (4) 6.50 per thousand gallons for next 5,000 gallons.
  - (5) 7.25 per thousand gallons for next 5,000 gallons.
  - (6) 7.75 per thousand gallons for next 5,000 gallons.
  - (7) 8.50 per thousand gallons for remainder gallons.
  - (8) The Corporation shall, as required by Section 5.701, Water Code of the State of Texas, collect from each of its retail customers a regulatory assessment equal to one-half of one percent of the charge for retail water or wastewater service. This charge shall be collected in addition to other charges for utility service. This fee is collected on all charges pertaining to Section G.6. Monthly Charges of this tariff. (30 TAC 291.76 d.)
7. **Assessments** – If at the end of the fiscal year, or in the event of emergency repairs, the Board of Directors determines the total amount derived from the collection of water charges to be insufficient for the payment of all costs incident to the operation of the Corporation's system during the year in which such charges are collected, the Board shall make and levy an assessment against each Member of the Corporation as the Board may determine or as may be required by Rural Development, so that the sum of such assessments and the amount collected from water and other charges is sufficient to fully pay all costs of the operation, maintenance, replacement and repayment on indebtedness for the year's operations. (See Article XVIII of USDA Model Bylaws, Section 1.)
8. **Late Payment Fee.** Once per billing period, a penalty of **\$15.00** shall be applied to delinquent bills. This late payment penalty shall not be applied to any balance to which the penalty was applied in a previous billing, but shall be applied to any unpaid balance during the current billing period.  
**NOTE:** For Political Subdivisions and state agencies the above late payment fee does not apply. Instead a late penalty of 1% shall be assessed for any amount unpaid on the 46<sup>th</sup> day after the bill is received by the state agency or political subdivision and an additional 1% shall be assessed for each month thereafter that the bill remains unpaid. (see Government Code Chapter 2251)
9. **Owner Notification Fee.** The Corporation may, at the expense of the Member, notify said Member of a renter/lessee delinquent account status prior to disconnection of service. The Owner Notification Fee shall be **\$20.00** per notification. (See Miscellaneous Transaction Forms.)
10. **Mortgagee/Guarantor Notification Fee.** The Corporation shall assess a fee of **\$20.00** for each notification to a Membership lien-holder under agreement prior to Membership cancellation. (See Miscellaneous Transaction Forms.)
11. **Returned Check Fee.** In the event a check, draft, or any other similar instrument is given by a person, firm, corporation, or partnership to the Corporation for payment of services provided for in this Tariff, and the instrument is returned by the bank or other similar institution as insufficient or non-negotiable for any reason, the account for which the instrument was issued shall be assessed a return check charge of **\$35.00**. (see Miscellaneous Transaction Forms)
12. **Reconnect Fee.** The Corporation shall charge a fee of **\$45.00** for reconnecting service after the Corporation has previously disconnected the service for any reason provided for in this Tariff except for activation of service under Section E. 6 b.

13. **Seasonal Reconnect Fee – Base Rate** multiplied by the number of months during which service is suspended, not to exceed 9 months during any 12 consecutive months.
14. **Service Trip Fee.** The Corporation shall charge a trip fee of **\$45.00** for any service call or trip to the Member's tap as a result of a request by the Member or resident for response to damage of the Corporation's or another Member's facilities, for customer service inspections due to suspicion of meter tampering, bypass or diversion of service, or for the purpose of disconnecting or collecting payment for services. For any service trip after working hours, the trip fee will be **\$70.00**.
15. **Equipment Damage Fee.** If the Corporation's facilities or equipment have been damaged by tampering, by-passing, installing unauthorized taps, reconnecting service without authority, or other service diversion, a fee shall be charged equal to the actual costs for all labor, material, and equipment necessary for repair, replacement, and other Corporation actions. This fee shall be charged and paid before service is re-established. If the Corporation's equipment has not been damaged, a fee equal to the actual costs for all labor, material, equipment, and other actions necessary to correct service diversions, unauthorized taps, or reconnection of service without authority shall be charged. All components of this fee will be itemized, and a statement shall be provided to the Member. If the Corporation's facilities or equipment have been damaged due to negligence or unauthorized use of the Corporation's equipment, right-of-way, or meter shut-off valve, or due to other acts for which the Corporation incurs losses or damages, the Member shall be liable for all labor and material charges incurred as a result of said acts or negligence.
- 16. Meter Tampering and Diversion Penalty.** In addition to the Equipment Damage Fee, the Corporation may charge a penalty for "Tampering" as defined in Section E. 23. The penalty may only be assessed against the person who committed the Tampering. An owner cannot be assessed for the Tampering committed by their tenant. The penalty shall not exceed six (6) times the Base Rate.
- 17. Customer History Report Fee.** A fee of **\$15.00** shall be charged to provide a copy of the Members record of past water purchases in response to a Member's request for such a record.
- 18. Meter Test Fee.** The Corporation shall test a Member's meter upon written request of the Member. Under the terms of Section E of this Tariff, a charge of **\$90.00** shall be imposed on the affected account.
- 19. Transfer Fee.** An Applicant for service who is a Transferee shall complete all required application forms, etc., and pay a Transfer Fee of **\$80.00**.
- 20. Non-Disclosure Fee.** A fee of **\$15.00** shall be assessed any customer requesting in writing that personal information under the terms of this tariff not be disclosed to the public.
- 21. Information Copy Fee.** A fee for the copying of any public information will be charged to the person requesting that information in compliance with the cost rules of the Government Code Section 552.261 et seq.
- 22. Customer Service Inspection Fee.** A fee of **\$100.00** will be assessed each Applicant before permanent continuous service is provided to new construction.

**23. Regulatory Assessment.** A fee of 0.5% of the amount billed for water service will be assessed each customer; this assessment is required under Texas law and TCEQ regulations. **NOTE:** The regulatory assessment is not to be collected from state agencies, wholesale customers, or buyers of non-potable (not drinkable) water. (Ref. TCEQ RG-199 revised Oct. 2002. TCEQ Section 291.76 (c))

**24. Additional Assessments.** In the event any federal, state or local government imposes on the Corporation a "per meter" fee or an assessment based on a percent of water charges, this fee or assessment will be billed and collected as a "pass through" charge to the customer.

**26. Groundwater District Production Fee.** A fee of **2.5 cents** per thousand gallons of water used by each customer; this fee is collected to pay a portion of the annual fee charged the Corporation by Neches & Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District based on the amount of water pumped from the Corporation's wells located within the boundaries of the District.

**27. Other Fees.** All services outside the normal scope of utility operations that the Corporation may be compelled to provide at the request of a customer or Member shall be charged to the recipient based on the cost of providing such service. **Administration fee** is **\$35.00**, charged on all new Service applications, re-service, and transfers.