King County Water District #20 William J. Hosko, General Manager Jamie Mann, Office Manager **Dedicated to Excellence in Water Service** 



Commissioner Kathy Keer Tim Da Margaret Mosle

RESOLUTION NO. 547

A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the Water District #20 King County, Washington, adopting policy and procedure concerning backflow prevention devices and cross-connection control.

Be it Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Water District # 20, King County, Washington, as follows:

- 1. The installation or maintenance of any Cross-Connection which would endanger the public water supply of Water District #20 is prohibited. Any such Cross-Connection now existing or hereafter installed is hereby declared subject to immediate termination of water service and any such Cross-Connection shall be abated immediately.
- 2. The control or elimination of Cross-Connections shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC 246-290-490). The policies, procedures, and criteria for determining appropriate levels of protection shall be in accordance with The Accepted Procedure and Practice in Cross-Connection Control Manual-Pacific Northwest Section-American Waterworks Association, Fifth Edition, or any superseding edition.
- 3. Water District # 20 shall deny or discontinue water service to any customer failing to cooperate in the installation, maintenance, testing, or inspection of backflow prevention assemblies required and stated in WAC 246-290-490.
- 4. Whereas, the Board of Commissioners desires to clarify that the installation of backflow prevention assemblies throughout the District is an esential part of the District's regulations and standards and a condition of continued water service to its customers. Now therefore be it resolved the following condition concerning backflow be met.

**Section 1.** As a condition of continued water service, approved backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed and maintained by all customers who:

- a. Are industrial or commercial customers not entitled to an exemption under section 3 below.
- b. Operate fire sprinkler systems connected to their plumbing.
- c. Operate irrigation systems connected to their plumbing and the District's system.
- d. Maintain Cross-Connections of their water system with air conditioning systems, medical apparatuses, or other devices or processes where chemicals or other objectionable substances may be siphoned into the water system.
- Section 2. "An approved backflow prevention assembly" means a backflow prevention assembly model approved by the State of Washington, Department of Health and the Water District # 20. Unless an exemption is granted, the minimum requirement for a backflow prevention assembly shall be that it consist of a double-check valve assembly. A reduced pressure backflow assembly is required whenever toxic materials are present, whenever the District finds the Cross-Connection poses a health hazard or whenever the District finds intricate plumbing arrangements which make it impractical to ascertain whether or not Cross-Connections exist. The reduced pressure backflow assembly shall be installed at the service connection immediately downstream from the water meter prior to any branch connections.
- Section 3. Vacuum breakers may be substituted for other backflow prevention assemblies required under this regulation where the District Manager or his designated staff member determine that the circumstances and good engineering practices allow such substitution without compromising protection of water quality and public health. Where an industrial or commercial customer can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the District Manager that there are no Cross-Connections with the water supply system on his premises and that no health hazard is posed by reason of the presence of toxic materials in the environment, the District Manager or his staff may grant the customer an exemption from the Cross-Connection requirements herein, so long as Cross-Connections are installed. Decisions made under this section shall be made at the sole descretion of the District Manager or such staff member as he designates to carry out the Cross-Connection Control Programs of the District. Exemptions are subject to periodic review and may be revoked whenever a Cross-Connection is made or a risk to public health or water quality is present.

Section 4. The District Manager and such staff members as he may designate are delegated the authority to inspect, approve, and disapprove backflow prevention assemblies; to require corrections, modifications, repairs, or maintenance on backflow prevention assemblies and to inspect all premises of customers where backflow prevention assemblies may be required. A minimum standard for the maintenance and installation of backflow prevention assemblies shall be those set forth in the "Accepted Procedures and Practice in the Cross-Connection Control Manual", May, 1990, Fifth Edition, as published by the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Waterworks Committee and any subsequent edition or amendment of said manual. The District Manager is authorized to establish higher standards for the installation and maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies where he finds that good engineering practice, industry standards or the protection of public health requires such higher standards.

**Section 5.** As a condition of a continued water service, customers shall make their premises, including buildings and structures, to which water is supplied, accessible to district personnel periodically to determine whether backflow prevention assemblies are required or are properly installed and maintained. Testing and inspections will be made annually.

**Section 6.** As a condition of continued water service, it shall further be the responsibility of each customer to maintain and repair backflow prevention assemblies and to upgrade any backflow prevention assembly which does not comply with the requirements of this resolution or the standards established by the District.

**Section 7.** Prior to the installation of irrigation systems and backflow prevention assemblies, the customer shall obtain a permit from the District for such installation.

**Section 8.** Should a customer fail to install, maintain or repair a backflow prevention assembly as directed by the District Manager, water service to the customer shall be terminated upon order of the District Manager or the Board, as directed by WAC 246-290-490.

**Section 9.** The requirements herein for backflow prevention assembly installation shall apply even though local building codes may not require backflow prevention asemblies.

**Section 10.** Water District # 20 strictly prohibit's interconnection of other water supplies with the District's Distribution System. Auxiliary water supplies (private wells, piped irrigation sources, etc.) are a major Cross-Connection Control Hazard and, therefore, must be effectively isolated from the domestic water supply.

Water District # 20, Cross Cronnection Control policies and requirements for customers with private wells are as follows:

- 1. No backflow protection is required if the source is verified to be permanently inactivated. In such cases, formal abandonment in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health should be pursued by the owner.
- 2. If the well remains active and the piping system is verified to be physically separated and permanently disconnected from the Water District's Distribution Main, an approved double check valve assembly is required at the service connection to provide a measure of protection against inadvertent interconnection of the supplies.

New services will be locked OFF until compliance is verified by Water District # 20. Visual inspection of piping is required for premises retaining active well systems.

All Backflow Prevention Assemblies are subject to annual inspection and testing. The cost of annual performance testing and any required maintenance is the responsibility of the Assembly owner.

Effective midnight

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Water District # 20, King County, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof, this

President/Commissioner

Vice President/Commissioner

Secretary/Commissionek

Attest:

Secretary/Commissioner

Approved to form by General Counsel