

SV-SLB HOA Cross Connection Service Policy
April 27, 2013

Definitions

Unless otherwise defined, all terms used in this Service Policy pertaining to cross-connection control have the same definitions as those contained in WAC 246-290-010 of the Washington State Drinking Water Regulations. This policy shall apply equally to all new and existing customers.

Prevention of Contamination

The customer's plumbing system, starting from the termination of the Association's water service pipe, shall be considered a potential high health hazard requiring the isolation of the customer's premises by an Association-approved, customer installed and maintained reduced pressure backflow assembly (RPBA) or detector derivative thereof. The RBPA shall be located at the end of the Association's water service pipe (i.e., immediately downstream of the meter). Water shall only be supplied to the customer through an Association-approved and customer installed and maintained RPBA.

Notwithstanding the aforesaid, the Association, upon an assessment of the risk of contamination posed by the customer's plumbing system and use of water, may allow:

- a single-family or duplex residential customer to connect directly to the water service pipe without an Association-approved DCVA or RPBA.
- Any customer other than a single-family or duplex residential customer, as a minimum, to be supplied through a DOH-approved, customer-installed and maintained double-check valve assembly (DCVA) or double-check detector assembly (DCDA).

Conditions for Providing Service

Water service is provided based upon the following terms and limitations:

- 1) The customer agrees to take all measures necessary to prevent the contamination of the plumbing system within his premises and the Association's distribution system that may occur from backflow through a cross connection. These measures shall include the prevention of backflow under any back pressure or back siphonage condition, including the disruption of supply from the Association's system that may occur by reason of routine system maintenance or during emergency conditions, such as a water main break.
- 2) The customer agrees to install, operate and maintain at all times his plumbing system in compliance with the current edition of the Plumbing Code having jurisdiction as it pertains to the prevention of contamination, and protection from thermal expansion due to a closed system that could occur with the present or future installation of backflow preventers on the customer's service and/or at plumbing fixtures.
- 3) For cross connection control or other public health related surveys, the customer agrees to provide free access for the employees or agents of the Association to all parts of the premises during reasonable working hours of the day for routine surveys, and at all times during emergencies.

Where agreement for free access for the Association's survey is denied, water service may be supplied by the Association, provided premises isolation is provided through an Association/WA DOH approved RPBA.

- 4) The customer agrees to install all backflow prevention assemblies requested by the Association and to maintain those assemblies in good working order. The assemblies shall be of a type, size, and make approved by DOH and acceptable to the Association. The assemblies shall be installed in accordance with the recommendations given in the most recently published edition of the *Cross Connection Control Manual, Accepted Procedures and Practice*, published by the Pacific Northwest Section, American Water Works Association, or latest edition thereof.
- 5) The customer agrees:
 - To have tested upon installation, annually thereafter or when requested by the Association, after repair and after relocation of his RPBA, DCVA or DCDA installed to protect the Association's distribution system;
 - To have all testing done by an Association-approved and DOH currently certified Backflow Assembly Tester (BAT) with certification as a Cross Connection Control Specialist CCS);
 - To have the RPBA, DCVA or DCDA tested following the procedures approved by WA DOH with the recommended additional procedures in the "Cross Connection Control Manual, Accepted Procedures and Practice," and;
 - To submit to the Association the results of the test(s) on the Association-supplied test report form within the time period specified by the Association.

The customer agrees to bear all costs for the aforementioned installation, testing, repair, maintenance and replacement of the RPBA, DCVA, DCDA or derivative thereof installed to protect the Association's distribution system.

- 6) At the time of application for service, if required by the Association, the customer agrees to submit plumbing plans and/or a cross connection control survey of the premises by an Association-approved and WA DOH-certified Cross Connection Control Specialist.

The survey shall assess the cross connection hazards and list the backflow prevention provided within the premises. The results of the survey shall be submitted prior to the Association turning on water service to a new customer. The cost of the survey shall be borne by the customer.

- 7) Within 30 days of a request by the Association, a customer shall agree to complete and submit to the Association a "Water Use Questionnaire" for the purpose of surveying the health hazard posed by the customer's plumbing system on the Association's distribution system. Further, the customer agrees to provide within 30 days of a request by the Association a cross connection control survey of the premises by an Association-approved and WA DOH-certified Cross Connection Control Specialist.
- 8) The customer agrees to obtain the prior approval from the Association for all changes in water use, and alterations and additions to the plumbing system, and shall comply with any additional requirements imposed by the Association for cross connection control.
- 9) The customer agrees to immediately notify the Association and the local public health inspection jurisdiction of any backflow incident occurring within the premises (i.e., entry into the potable water of any contaminant or pollutant) and shall cooperate fully with the Association to determine the reason for the incident.
- 10) The customer acknowledges the right of the Association to discontinue water supply within 72 hours of giving notice, or a lesser period of time if required to protect the public health, if the customer fails to:

- a. cooperate with the Association survey of premises, in the installation, maintenance, repair, inspection or testing of backflow prevention assemblies or air gaps required by the Association;
- b. cooperate in the Association's effort to contain a contaminant or pollutant that is detected in the customer's system.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, in lieu of discontinuing water service, the Association may install an RPBA on its service pipe to provide premises isolation, and recover all of its costs for the installation and subsequent maintenance and repair of the assembly, appurtenances and enclosure from the customer as fees and charges for water. The failure of the customer to pay these fees and charges may result in termination of service in accordance with the Association's water billing policies.

- 11) Where the Association imposes mandatory premises isolation in compliance with DOH regulations, or agrees to the customer's voluntary premises isolation through the installation of a RPBA immediately downstream of the Association's water meter, the customer acknowledges his obligation to comply with the other cross-connection control regulations having jurisdiction (i.e., Uniform Plumbing Code). Although the Association requirements for installation, testing, and repair of backflow assemblies may be limited to the RPBAs used for premises isolation, the customer agrees to the other terms herein as a condition of allowing a direct connection to the Association's service pipe.
- 12) Where the Association imposes mandatory premises isolation in compliance with DOH regulations, or agrees to the customer's voluntary premises isolation through the installation of a RPBA immediately downstream of the Association's water meter, the customer acknowledges his obligation to comply with the other cross-connection control regulations having jurisdiction (i.e., Uniform Plumbing Code). Although the Association's requirements for installation, testing, and repair of backflow assemblies may be limited to the RPBAs used for premises isolation, the customer agrees to the other terms herein as a condition of allowing a direct connection to the Association's service pipe.
- 13) The customer agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Association for all contamination of the customer's plumbing system or the Association's distribution system that results from an unprotected or inadequately protected cross connection within his premises. This indemnification shall pertain to all backflow conditions that may arise from the Association's suspension of water supply or reduction of water pressure, recognizing that the air gap separation otherwise required would require the customer to provide adequate facilities to collect, store and pump water for his premises.
- 14) The customer agrees that, in the event legal action is required and commenced between the Association and the customer to enforce the terms and conditions herein, the substantially prevailing party shall be entitled to reimbursement of all its costs and expenses including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees as determined by the Court.

It shall not be assumed by the customer, or any regulatory agency, that the Association's survey requirements for the installation of backflow prevention assemblies, lack of requirements for the installation of backflow prevention assemblies, or other actions by the Association's personnel constitutes an approval of the customer's plumbing system, or an assurance to the customer of the absence of cross connections therein.

- 15) The customer acknowledges the right of the Association, in keeping with changes to State regulations, industry standards, or the Association's risk management policies, to impose retroactive requirements for additional cross connection control measures.

The Association shall record the customer's agreement to the above terms for service on an "Application for Water Service," "Application for Change of Water Service," or other such form prepared by the Association and signed for the customer.

Implementation of the Cross-Connection Control Policy

The Association will engage the services of a DOH-certified CCS to develop, implement and be in responsible charge of its cross-connection control program.

The Association, under the direction of the aforementioned CCS, will prepare a written cross-connection control program plan to implement the requirements of this resolution. The written program shall be consistent with this resolution and shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 246-290 WAC (Group A Drinking Water Regulations).

The Association will use the most recently published editions of the following publications as references and technical aids:

1. *Cross-Connection Control Manual, Accepted Procedures and Practice*, published by the Pacific Northwest Section, American Water Works Association, or latest edition thereof.
2. *Manual of Cross-Connection Control*, published by the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research, University of Southern California, or latest edition thereof.
3. *Cross-Connection Control Guidance Manual for Small Water Systems*, published by the DOH Office of Drinking Water.

The Association will incorporate the written program plan into the "*Small Water System Management Program*" and will submit the plan to DOH for approval when requested.

The Association, in consultation with the aforementioned CCS, shall have the authority to make reasonable decisions related to cross connections in cases and situations not provided for in the resolution or written program.

If any provision in this resolution, or in the written cross-connection control program is found to be less stringent than or inconsistent with the Drinking Water Regulations (Chapter 246-290 WAC), or other Washington state statutes or rules, the more stringent state statute, rule, or regulation shall apply.