

SECTION F. DEVELOPER, SUBDIVISION AND NON-STANDARD SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Part I. General Requirements. This section details the requirements for all types of non-standard service requests.

1. **Purpose.** It is the purpose of this Section to define the process by which the specific terms and conditions for service to subdivisions and other kinds of Non-Standard Service are determined, including the Non-Standard Service Applicant's and the Corporation's respective costs.

For purposes of the Section, the term "Applicant" shall refer to the individual or entity that desires to secure Non-Standard Service from the Corporation. The Applicant must be the same person or entity that is authorized to enter into a contract with the Corporation setting for the terms and conditions pursuant to which Non-Standard Service will be furnished to the property. In most cases, the Applicant shall be the owner of real property for which Non-Standard Service is sought. In the event that the Applicant is other than the owner of real property, the Applicant must furnish evidence to the Corporation that it is authorized to request Non-Standard Service on behalf of such owner, or that it otherwise has authority to request Non-Standard Service for the real property.

2. **Application of Rules.** This Section is applicable to subdivisions, additions to subdivisions, developments, or whenever additional service facilities are required for a single tract of property. Examples of non-standard services for a single tract of land can include, but are not limited to, road bores, extensions to the distribution system, service lines exceeding 1" diameter and service lines exceeding 20 feet. Non-residential service applications typically will be considered non-standard. For the purposes of this Tariff, Applications subject to this Section shall be defined as Non-Standard. This Section may be altered or suspended for planned facility expansions when the Corporation extends its indebtedness. The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall interpret on an individual basis whether or not the Applicant's service request shall be subject to all or part of the conditions of this Section.

This Section sets forth the general terms and conditions pursuant, to which the Corporation will process Non-Standard Service Requests. The specific terms and conditions pursuant to which the Corporation will provide non-standard service in response to any request will depend upon the nature of such request and may be set forth in a legally enforceable, contractual agreement to be entered into by the Corporation and the service Applicant. The agreement may not contain any terms or conditions that conflict with this Section.

3. **Non-Standard Service Application.** The Applicant shall meet the following requirements prior to the initiation of a Non-Standard Service Contract by the Corporation:
 - a. The Applicant shall provide the Corporation a completed Service Application And Agreement form. The Applicant shall specify any SPECIAL SERVICE NEEDS, such as large meter size, size of subdivision or multi-use facility

- b. A final plat (see Tariff Definition Section- Final Plat) approved by the Corporation must accompany the Application showing the Applicant's requested service area. The plat must be approved by all governmental authorities exercising jurisdiction over lot sizes, sewage control, drainage, right-of-way, and other service facilities. Plans, specifications, and special requirements of such governmental authorities shall be submitted with the plat. Applicants for single taps involving extension or upsizing of facilities shall be required to submit maps or plans detailing the location of the requested extension and details of demand requirements. **NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the applicant to secure all necessary approvals of the subdivision once an Agreement is in place between the corporation and the Applicant.
 - c. A Non-Standard Service Investigation Fee shall be paid to the Corporation in accordance with the requirements of Section G for purposes of paying initial administrative, legal, and engineering fees. The Corporation shall refund any balance that remains after it has completed its service investigation, and has completed all legal and engineering services associated with processing a request. In the event such a fee is not sufficient to pay all expenses incurred by the Corporation, the Applicant shall pay to the Corporation all remaining expenses that have been, or will be incurred by the Corporation and Corporation shall have no obligation to complete processing of the request until all remaining expenses have been paid.
 - d. If after the service investigation has been completed, the Corporation determines that the Applicant's service request is for property located, in whole or in part, outside the area described in the Corporation's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, service may be extended provided that:
 - 1). The service location is not in an area receiving similar service from another retail utility;
 - 2). The service location is not within another retail utility's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity; and
 - 3) The Corporation's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity shall be amended to include the entirety of Applicant's property for which service is requested. Applicant shall pay all costs incurred by Corporation in amending its CCN, including but not limited to engineering and professional fees. If the service location is contiguous to or within one-fourth (1/4) mile of Corporation's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, Corporation may extend service prior to completing the amendment to its CCN, but will do so only upon Applicant's legally enforceable agreement to fully support such amendment (including but not limited to payment of all professional fees, including legal, surveying and engineering fees incurred by Corporation in securing the amendment).
4. **Design.** The Corporation shall approve the design requirements of the Applicant's required facilities prior to initiation of a Non-Standard Service Contract by adopting the following schedule:
- a. The Corporation's Consulting Engineer shall design, or review and approve plans for, all on-site and off-site service facilities for the Applicant's requested service within the Corporation's specifications, incorporating any applicable municipal or other governmental codes and specifications.

- b. The Consulting Engineer's fees shall be paid out of the Non-Standard Service Investigation Fee under Section 4.
- c. The Consulting Engineer shall submit to the Corporation a set of detailed plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the project.
- d. The Corporation's Engineer shall ensure all facilities for any Applicant to meet the demand for service as platted and/or requested in the plans or plat submitted in application for service. The Corporation reserves the right to upgrade design of service facilities to meet future demands provided however, that the Corporation shall pay the expense of such upgrading in excess of that which is reasonable allocable to the level and manner of service requested by the Applicant.

5. ***Non-Standard Service Contract.*** Applicants requesting or requiring Non-Standard Service may be required to execute a written contract, drawn up by the Corporation's Attorney, in addition to submitting the Corporation's Service Application and Agreement. Said contract shall define the terms of service prior to construction of required service facilities. The service contract may include, but is not limited to:

- a. All costs associated with required administration, design, construction, and inspection of facilities for water/sewer service to the Applicant's service area and terms by which these costs are to be paid.
- b. Procedures by which the Applicant shall accept or deny a contractor's bid, thereby committing to continue or discontinue the project.
- c. Equity Buy-In Fee (Front-end Capital Contributions) required by the Corporation in addition to the other costs required under this Section.
- d. Monthly Reserved Service Charges as applicable to the service request.
- e. Terms by which service capacity shall be reserved for the Applicant and duration of reserved service with respect to the demand which the level and manner of the service will have upon the Corporation's system facilities.
- f. Terms by which the Applicant shall be reimbursed or compensated for fees duplicated in assessments for monthly rates and Equity Buy-In Fees.
- g. Terms by which the Corporation shall administer the Applicant's project with respect to:
 - 1) Design of the Applicant's service facilities;
 - 2) Securing and qualifying bids;
 - 3) Execution of the Service Agreement;
 - 4) Selection of a qualified bidder for construction;
 - 5) Dispensing advanced funds for construction of facilities required for the Applicant's service;
 - 6) Inspecting construction of facilities; and
 - 7) Testing facilities and closing the project.
- h. Terms by which the Applicant shall indemnify the Corporation from all third party claims or lawsuits in connection with the project.
- i. Terms by which the Applicant shall dedicate, assign and convey to the Corporation all constructed facilities and related rights (including contracts, easements, rights-of-way, deeds, warranties, and so forth) by which the Corporation shall assume operation and maintenance responsibility for the Applicant's project. The Applicant shall also provide reproducible as-built drawings of all constructed facilities. The as-built drawings must

verify that all facilities have been properly located within the easements conveyed to the Corporation.

- j. Terms by which the Board of Directors shall review and approve the Service Contract pursuant to current rules, regulations, and bylaws.

6. ***Construction of Facilities by Applicant Prior to Execution of Service Contract*** – The Corporation and the Applicant must execute a Non-Standard Service Contract prior to the purchase of supplies and materials or initiation of construction of facilities by the Applicant. In the event that the Applicant commences construction of any such facilities prior to execution of a Contract with the Corporation, the Corporation may refuse to provide service to the Applicant or, in a subdivision, to any person purchasing a lot or home from the Applicant. Alternatively the Corporation may require full costs of replacing/repairing any facilities constructed without prior execution of a contract from any person buying a lot or home from Applicant. At a minimum, the Corporation will require that all facilities be uncovered by the Applicant for inspection by the Corporation, require that any facilities not approved by the Corporation be replaced, and take any other lawful action determined appropriate by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

7. **Dedication of Water System Extension to WSC.**

- a. Upon proper completion of construction of all on-site and off-site service facilities to meet the level and manner of service requested by the Applicant (the "Facilities"), the Facilities shall become the property of the WSC. The Facilities shall thereafter be owned and maintained by WSC subject to the warranties required of Applicant under Subsection (b). Any connection of individual customers to the Facilities shall be made by the WSC.
- b. Upon transfer of ownership of the Facilities, Applicant shall warrant materials and performance of the Facilities constructed by the Applicant for 12 months following the date of the transfer.

8. ***Property and Right-of-Way Acquisition.*** With regard to construction of facilities, the Corporation shall require private right-of-way easements or private property as per the following conditions:

- a. If the Corporation determines that right-of-way easements or facility sites outside the Applicant's property are required, the Applicant shall secure easements or title to facility sites in behalf of the Corporation. All right-of-way easements and property titles shall be researched, validated, and filed by the Corporation at the expense of the Applicant. (See Sample Application Packet RUS Form 442-8 or 442-9.)
- b. All costs associated with facilities that must be installed in public right-of-ways on behalf of the Applicant, due to the inability of the Applicant to secure private right-of-way easements, shall be paid by the Applicant. Alternatively, Applicant shall pay all costs, including legal and other professional fees, and the condemnation award in the event Corporation secures such private easements or facility sites through eminent domain proceedings.

- c. The Corporation shall require an exclusive dedicated right-of-way on the Applicant's property (as required by the size of the planned facilities and as determined by the Corporation) and title to property required for other on-site and off-site facilities.
 - d. Easements and facilities sites shall be prepared for the construction of the Corporation's pipeline and facility installations in accordance with the Corporation's requirements and at the expense of the Applicant.
9. **Bids For Construction.** The Corporation's Consulting Engineer shall advertise for bids for the construction of the Applicant's proposed facilities in accordance with generally accepted practices. Plans and specifications shall be made available, with or without charge (as per Engineer's determination), to prospective bidders. Although the Corporation reserves the right to reject any bid or contractor, the Corporation shall generally award the contract to the lowest and best bidder in accordance with the following criteria:
- a. The Applicant shall sign the Service Contract noting willingness to proceed with the project and shall pay all costs in advance of construction associated with the project.
 - b. The Contractor shall provide an adequate bid bond under terms acceptable to the Corporation.
 - c. The Contractor shall secure adequate performance and payment bonding for the project under terms acceptable to the Corporation.
 - d. The Contractor shall supply favorable references acceptable to the Corporation.
 - e. The Contractor shall qualify with the Corporation as competent to complete the work; and
 - f. The Contractor shall provide adequate certificates of insurance as required by the Corporation.
10. **Pre-Payment For Construction and Service.** After the Applicant has executed the Service Agreement, the Applicant shall pay to the Corporation all costs necessary for completion of the project prior to construction and in accordance with the terms of the Non-Standard Service Contract.
11. **Construction.**
- a. All roadwork pursuant to state, county and/or municipal standards (as applicable) shall be completed prior to facility construction to avoid future problems resulting from road right-of-way completion and excavation. Subject to approval of the requisite authority, approved road sleeves/casings may be installed prior to road construction to avoid road damage during construction of Applicant's facilities.
 - b. The Corporation shall, at the expense of the Applicant, inspect the facilities to ensure compliance with Corporation standards.
 - c. Construction plans and specifications shall be strictly adhered to, but the Corporation reserves the right to change-order any specifications, due to unforeseen circumstances during the design phase, to better facilitate construction or operation of the Applicant's facility. All change-order amounts shall be charged to the Applicant.

PART II. Request for Service to Subdivided Property

This section applies to applicants that are developers as defined in Section C Definitions.

1. **Sufficient Information** – Applicants shall provide the corporation sufficient information describing the level and manner of service requested and the timeline for initiation of this service. The following is the minimum information needed for an engineering evaluation of the requested service to the property described in the application.
 - a. Completion of requirements described in Section F Part I, including completing the *Non-Standard Service Application*.
 - b. Applicant shall provide the Corporation with details concerning access to the property during evaluation of application.
 - c. Applicant shall be notified in writing by the Corporation or designated representative if service can be extended in accordance with the details described on the Applicant's request for service.

Service within Subdivisions—The Corporation's objective to provide service to any customer located within a subdivision governed by this section is strictly limited to the nonstandard service specified by the Applicant. The Applicant is responsible for paying for all costs necessary for non-standard service to a subdivision as determined by the Corporation under the provisions of this tariff and specifically the provisions of this Section; if the Applicant fails to pay these costs, the Corporation has the right to require payment of these costs by any one or more of the persons purchasing lots within such subdivision before the Corporation is obligated to provide water/sewer service. In addition, Corporation may elect to pursue any remedies provided by the Non-Standard Service Contract. Applicant is advised that purchasers of lots also may have legal recourse to the Applicant under Texas law, including but not limited to Texas Water Code Section 13.257, and the Business and Commerce Code Chapter 17, Subchapter E Deceptive Trade Practices & Consumer Protection Act.

For Service to subdivisions involving tracts of 50 acres or greater, the applicant must provide the following in addition to all other information otherwise required by this Section:

- a. Map and description of the area to be served using map criteria in 30 TAC 291.105(a)(2)(A-G).
- b. Time frame for:
 1. Initiation of service
 2. Service to each additional phase following the initial service
- c. Level of service (quantity and quality) for:
 1. Initial needs
 2. Phased and final needs and the projected land uses that support the requested level of service of each phase.
- d. Manner of service for:

1. Initial Needs
 2. Phased and final needs and the projected land uses that support the requested level of service of each phase.
- e. Any additional information requested by the Corporation necessary to determine the capacity and the costs for providing the requested service.
 - f. Copies of all required approvals, reports and studies done by or for the Applicant to support the viability of the proposed development.

Applicant must provide reasonably sufficient information, in writing, to allow the Corporation to determine whether the level and manner of service specified by the Applicant can be provided within the time frame specified by the Applicant and to generally determine what capital improvements, including expansion of capacity of the Corporation's production, treatment and/or storage facilities and/or general transmission facilities properly allocable directly to the service request are needed. If the Applicant proposes development in phases, the Applicant should specify the level and manner of service and the estimated time frame within which that service must be provided for each phase, and the Applicant must depict the currently estimated location of each phase on the maps required under 30 TAC Section 291.105(a)(2)(A-G). It is important that the Applicant's written request be complete. A complete application by the Applicant should include:

- (a) the proposed improvements to be constructed by the Applicant;
- (b) a map or plat signed and sealed by a licensed surveyor or registered professional engineer;
- (c) the intended land use of the development, including detailed information concerning the types of land uses proposed;
- (d) the projected water and/or sewer demand of the development when fully built out and occupied, the anticipated water/sewer demands for each type of land use, and a projected schedule of built-out;
- (e) a schedule of events leading up to the anticipated date upon which service from the CCN holder will first be needed; and
- (f) a proposed calendar of events, including design, plat approval, construction phasing and initial occupancy.

Applicant must establish that current and projected service demands justify the level and manner of service being requested. In making his/her written request for service, the Applicant must advise the corporation that he/she may request expedited decertification from the TCEQ.

Upon payment of the required fees, the Corporation shall review Applicant's service request. If no additional information is required from the Applicant, the Corporation will prepare a written report on Applicant's service request, subject to any final approval by the Corporation's governing body (if applicable), which must be completed within 90 days from the date of application and payment of the required fees. The Corporation's written report will state whether the requested service will be provided, whether the requested service can be provided within the time frame specified by the Applicant, and the costs for which the Applicant will be responsible (including capital improvements, easements or land acquisition costs, and professional fees).

In the event the Corporation's initial review of the Applicant's service shows that additional information is needed, the Corporation will notify Applicant of the need for such additional information. Notice of the need for additional information will be made in writing within 30 days of the date the Corporation received the Applicant payment of the required fees. Applicant should respond to the Corporation's request for additional information within 15 days of receipt of the Corporation's written request. In any case, the Corporation will provide the written report, including any final approval by the Corporation's Board (if applicable) within 90 days from the date of the **initial** written application and payment of all required fees.

By mutual written agreement, the Corporation and the Applicant may extend the time for review beyond the 90 days provided for expedited petitions to the TCEQ.

4. Final Approval – Upon final approval by the Corporation and the acceptance of proposal for service by the Applicant, a non-standard service contract will be executed and the corporation shall provide service according to the conditions contained in the Non-Standard Service Contract.

NON-STANDARD SERVICE CONTRACT

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ANDERSON

THIS CONTRACT is made and entered into by and between _____, hereinafter referred to as "Applicant", and Walston Springs Water Supply Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "WSC" or "Corporation".

WHEREAS, Applicant is engaged in developing that certain _____ acres of land in Anderson County, Texas, more particularly known as the _____ subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded at Vol. _____, Page _____ of the Plat Records of _____ Anderson County, Texas, said land being hereinafter referred to as "the Property"; and,

WHEREAS, WSC owns and operates a water system which supplies potable water for human consumption and other domestic uses to customers within its service area; and,

WHEREAS, Applicant has requested WSC to provide such water service to the Property through an extension of WSC's water system, such extension being hereinafter referred to as "the Water System Extension"; NOW THEREFORE:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT for and in consideration for the mutual promises hereinafter expressed, and other good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties, Applicant and WSC agree and contract as follows:

1. **Engineering and Design of the Water System Extension.**

- (a) The Water System Extension shall be engineered and designed by a Texas Licensed Professional Engineer in accordance with the applicable specifications of the WSC and all governmental agencies having jurisdiction. All plans and specifications must be reviewed and approved by WSC's consulting engineer or WSC representative prior to the issuance of any request for bids for the construction of the Water System Extension. After such approval of the plans and specifications by the WSC's consulting engineer or WSC representative, the plans and specifications shall become part of this Agreement by reference and shall more particularly define "the Water System Extension".
- (b) The Water System Extension must be sized to provide continuous and adequate water service to the Property based on plans for the development of the provided to WSC by the Developer. WSC may require the Water System Extension to be oversized in anticipation of the needs of other customers of the WSC, subject to the obligation to reimburse the Developer for any such oversizing as provided below.

2. **Required Sites, Easements or Rights-of-Way.**

- (a) Applicant shall be responsible for dedicating or acquiring any easements across privately owned land or sites (including off-site) which are necessary for the construction or operation of the Water System Extension and for obtaining any Governmental approvals necessary to construct the Water System Extension in public right-of-way.
- (b) Any easements acquired by the Applicant shall be in a form approved by the WSC (see Form of Easement, attached to this Contract and made a part hereof) and shall be assigned to WSC upon proper completion of the construction of the Water System Extension.
- (c) The validity of the legal instruments by which the Applicant acquires any such easements and by which Applicant assigns such easements to WSC must be approved by WSC's attorney or a WSC representative.

3. **Construction of the Water System Extension**

- (a) Applicant shall advertise for bids for the construction of the Water System Extension in accordance with generally accepted bidding practices and shall award the contract for the construction of the Water System Extension subject to the approval of the WSC. WSC may reject any bid.
- (b) The Water System Extension shall be constructed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. WSC shall have the right to inspect all phases of the construction of the Water System Extension. Developer must give written notice to WSC of the date on which construction is scheduled to begin so that WSC may assign an inspector. WSC may charge reasonable inspection fees based on the actual costs of labor, travel and incidental expenses of the inspectors, plus 10% overhead.

4. Dedication of Water System Extension to WSC.

- (a) Upon proper completion of construction of the Water System Extension and final inspection thereof by WSC, the Water System Extension shall be dedicated to the WSC by an appropriate legal instrument approved by WSC's Attorney or WSC's representative. The Water System Extension shall thereafter be owned and maintained by WSC subject to the warranties required of Applicant under Subsection (b). Any connection of individual customers to the Water System Extension shall be made by the WSC.
- (b) Upon dedication of the Water System Extension, Applicant shall warrant materials and performance of the Water System Extension constructed by Applicant for 12 months following the date of dedication.

5. Cost of the Water System Extension.

- (a) Applicant pay all costs associated with the Water System Extension as a contribution in aid of construction, including, without limitation, the cost of the following:
 - (1) engineering and design;
 - (2) easement or right -of-way acquisition;
 - (3) construction;
 - (4) inspection;
 - (5) attorneys' fees; and
 - (6) governmental or regulatory approvals required to lawfully provide service.
 - (7) Applicant shall indemnify WSC and hold WSC harmless from all of the foregoing costs.
- (b) Provided, however, nothing herein shall be construed as obligating the Applicant to maintain the Water System Extension subsequent to its dedication and acceptance for maintenance by WSC.
- (c) If WSC has required the Water System Extension to be oversized in anticipation of the needs of the other customers of WSC, WSC shall reimburse Applicant for the additional costs of construction attributable to the oversizing, as determined by the WSC's consulting engineer or WSC's representative, in three annual installments without interest beginning one year after dedication of the Water System Extension to WSC.

6. Service From the Water System Extension.

- (a) After proper completion and dedication of the Water System Extension to WSC, WSC shall provide continuous and adequate water service to the Property, subject to all duly adopted rules and regulations of WSC and the payment of the following:
 - (1) All standard rates, fees and charges as reflected in WSC's approved tariff;
 - (2) Any applicable impact fee adopted by WSC;
 - (3) Any applicable reserved service charge adopted by WSC.
- (b) It is understood and agreed by the parties that the obligation of WSC to provide water service in the manner contemplated by this Contract is subject to the issuance by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and all other governmental agencies having jurisdiction of all permits, certificates or approvals required to lawfully provide such service.
- (c) Unless the prior approval of WSC is obtained, the Developer shall not:
 - (1) construct or install additional water lines or facilities to service areas outside the Property;
 - (2) add any additional lands to the Property for which water service is to be provided pursuant to this Agreement; or
 - (3) connect or serve any person or entity who, in turn, sells water service directly or indirectly to another person or entity.

7. Effect of Force Majeure.

In the event either party is rendered unable by force majeure to carry out any of its obligations under this Contract, in whole or in part, then the obligations of that party, to the extent affected by the force majeure shall be suspended during the continuance of the inability, provided however, that due diligence is exercised to resume performance at the earliest practical time. As soon as reasonably possible after the occurrence of the force majeure relied upon to suspend performance, the party whose contractual obligations are affected thereby shall give notice and full particulars of the force majeure to the other party.

The cause, as far as possible, shall be remedied with all reasonable diligence. The term "force majeure" includes acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other industrial disturbances, acts of the public enemy, orders of the government of the United States or the State of Texas or any civil or military authority, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightning, earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, storms, floods, washouts, droughts, arrests, restraints of government and civil disturbances, explosions, breakage, or accidents to equipment, pipelines, or canals, partial or complete failure of water supply, and any other inability's of either party, whether similar to those enumerated or otherwise, that are not within the control of the party claiming the inability and that could not have been avoided by the exercise of due diligence and care. It is understood and agreed that the settlement of strikes and lockouts shall be entirely within the discretion of the party having the difficulty and that the requirement that any force majeure be remedied with all reasonable dispatch shall not require the settlement of strikes and lockouts by acceding to the demands of the opposing party if the settlement is unfavorable to it in the judgment of the party having the difficulty.

8. **Notices.**

Any notice to be given hereunder by either party to the other party shall be in writing and may be effected by personal delivery or by sending said notices by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address set forth below. Notice shall be deemed given when deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage affixed. Any notice mailed to the WSC shall be addressed:

Any notice mailed to Applicant shall be addressed:

Either party may change the address for notice to it by giving **written** notice of such change in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph

9. **Breach of Contract and Remedies.**

- (a) If either party breaches any term or condition of this Contract, the non-breaching party may, at its sole option, provide the breaching party with a notice of the breach within sixty (60) days of discovery of the breach by the non-breaching party. Upon notice of breach, the breaching party shall have sixty (60) days to cure the breach. If the breaching party does not cure the breach within the sixty (60) days, the non-breaching party, below, shall have all rights at law and in equity including the right to enforce specific performance of this Contract by the breaching party, the right to perform the obligation in question and to seek restitution for all damages incurred in connection therewith.
- (b) In the event of termination of this Contract by a non-breaching party, such action shall not affect any previous conveyance.
- (c) The rights and remedies of the parties provided in this Contract shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law and under this Contract.

10. **Third Parties.**

It is the express intention of the parties that the terms and conditions of this Contract may be enforced by either party but not by any third party or alleged third-party beneficiary.

11. **Captions.**

Captions are included solely for convenience of reference and if there is any conflict between captions and the text of the Contract, the text shall control.

12. **Context.**

Whenever the context requires, the gender of all words herein shall include the masculine, feminine, and neuter, and the number of all words shall include the singular and the plural.

13. **Mediation. [Optional]**

Prior to the institution of legal action by either party related to any dispute arising under this Contract, said dispute shall be referred to mediation by an independent mediator mutually agreed upon by both parties. The cost of the mediator shall be shared equally by both parties.

14. **Litigation Expenses.**

Either party to this Contract who is the prevailing party in any legal proceeding against the other party, brought in relation to this Contract, shall be entitled to recover court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees from the non-prevailing party.

15. **Intent.**

The parties hereto covenant and agree that they shall execute and deliver such other and further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the intent of this Contract.

16. **Multiple Originals.**

This Contract may be executed in multiple originals, any copy of which shall be considered to be an original.

17. **Authority.**

The signatories hereto represent and affirm that they are authorized to execute this Contract on behalf of the respective parties hereto.

18. **Severability.**

The provisions of this Agreement are severable, and if any word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or other part of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall ever be held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement and the application of such word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or other part of this Agreement to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid or unconstitutional portion had never been contained therein.

19. **Entire Agreement.**

This Agreement, including any exhibits attached hereto and made a part hereof, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties relative to the subject matter of this Agreement. All prior agreements, covenants, representations, or warranties, whether oral or in writing, between the parties are merged herein.

20. **Amendment.**

No amendment of this Agreement shall be effective unless and until it is duly approved by each party and reduced to a writing signed by the authorized representatives of the WSC and the Developer, respectively, which amendment shall incorporate this Agreement in every particular not otherwise changed by the amendment.

21. **Governing Law.**

This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and all obligations of the parties are expressly deemed performable in Anderson County, Texas.

22. **Venue.**

Any action at law or in equity brought to enforce or interpret any provision of this Contract shall be brought in a state court of competent jurisdiction with venue in Anderson County, Texas.

23. **Successors and Assigns.**

This Agreement shall be binding on and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, successors and assigns of the parties.

24. **Assignability.**

The rights and obligations of the Applicant hereunder may not be assigned without the prior written consent of the WSC.

25. **Effective Date.**

This Agreement shall be effective from and after the date of due execution by all parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF each of the parties has caused this Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized representative in multiple copies, each of equal dignity, on the date or dates indicated below.

Walston Springs Water Supply Corporation

Applicant

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____