

DIABLO WATER DISTRICT

REGULATION NO. 4 WATER METERS

Section 1. Meters Required

All water service connections to the District's water distribution system, except fire water service furnished in accordance with Regulation No. 2, shall be metered by meters owned and maintained by the District.

Section 2. Each Premise to Be Metered Separately

A service connection and meter will be established for each premise to which water service is provided by the District. No more than one premise shall be served through a single connection and meter. As used herein "premise" means a parcel of real property, or any dwelling unit, store or improvement thereon which the District solely and conclusively determines as a separate unit for receiving, using and paying for water service. In making said determination, the District will consider such factors as whether the premise is used for more than one enterprise or contains more than one dwelling unit, whether it is susceptible of subdivision, and the plumbing that would be required if more than one meter were installed.

Section 3. Location of Meters

(a) Meters will normally be installed on a principal boundary of the land to be served that abuts a public street in which there is a District water main of adequate capacity and pressure.

(b) Service lines from the District's main to a meter, meter box and back-flow

prevention device shall be installed in accordance with the District's standard specifications. As far as practical service lines to meters shall be straight and perpendicular to mains.

(c) Meters shall be located near the limit line of the abutting public street and, to the extent practical, at a point designated by the owner of the land to be served. Meters will not be installed in driveways, sidewalks or areas used by heavy equipment.

(d) If the land to be served has no principal boundary abutting a public street a meter may be set at the junction of a public street and roadway easement to the land to be served provided all the following conditions are met: (1) The roadway easement is appurtenant to the land, permanent and recorded; (2) The easement includes the right to install, use and maintain a water pipe; (3) The land is a single premise not susceptible of subdivision; and (4) The District determines it is not necessary or practical to extend a District main to the land.

Section 4. Meter Readings

Each meter will normally be read each month; however, the interval between readings may vary. Meters will also be read between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on the days of commencement or termination of a service and when necessary due to special circumstances.

Section 5. Meter Testings

The District will test the accuracy of any of its meters whenever a customer requests and deposits with the District the District's estimate of the cost of the test. If the test discloses that the meter is registering within 2% more or less than the quantities of water passing through it, the deposit will be forfeited to the District. If the test discloses that the

meter is not registering within 2% more or less than the quantities of water passing through it, the deposit will be refunded and the District will repair or replace the meter.

Section 6. Adjustment for Fast Meters

If the District finds that a meter has been registering fast, i.e. indicating a greater quantity of water than actually went through the meter, the District will credit the customer's account by an amount equal to the total of the four previous monthly bills for the service multiplied by the percentage by which the meter was registering fast. This credit shall be the customer's sole right and remedy against the District for an improperly operating meter.

Section 7. Damage to Disconnected Meters

A water service that has been disconnected by the District and the water meter has been locked shall not be reconnected if the meter has been removed or damaged or the lock thereon has been opened or removed except upon payment to the District of a penalty charge of \$175 plus the cost of repairing or replacing the damaged meter or lock. The penalty charge for locks that have been removed from meters that have yet to be accepted by the District in new housing developments shall be \$500.

Section 8. Charges Due to Water Theft or Property Damage

Any District owned property that is tampered with, for the purpose of avoiding water charges, or any other unlawful purpose, shall be the responsibility of the customer who is signed up for water and shall be subject to the following charges and penalties:

- 1) A tampering charge of \$250, plus two (2) times the amount of stolen water, as estimated by the District, which may be at the highest monthly water bill for the comparable season for that service address;

- 2) Any other associated costs; and
- 3) Any investigative and repair costs.

Notwithstanding the above, the customer or persons involved may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 498 or other applicable statutes.

Section 9. Charges Due to Pulled Meters

Any District owned property that is tampered with, for the purpose of avoiding water charges, or any other unlawful purpose, may be pulled at the discretion of the District, and a charge of \$150 shall be added to the customer's account.