



May 29, 2000

To: COMMERCIAL WATER CONSUMERS, CITY OF LUFKIN.
RE: BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES.

Under Public Law 99-339 – the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986 – the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION are charged with ensuring that the Public Water Systems in the State of Texas are safe for consumption.

Pursuant to the mandate of the Rules and Regulations of TNRCC, Article 290.44(h), the City of Lufkin Council adopted and approved Ordinance Number 3370 which became effective February 20, 1999.

This mandate states that:

1. The primary responsibility for preventing water from unapproved sources, or any other substances, from entering the public potable water systems rests with the City of Lufkin.
2. **The City of Lufkin must plan and diligently execute a program of Cross Connection Control which either eliminates all cross connections or requires the installation and maintenance of a proper type of approved backflow prevention assembly at the water service connection whenever a potential hazard is determined to exist in the consumer's system and the cost for the same is to be borne by the consumer.**
3. Effective January 1, 1996, all backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested upon installation by a recognized backflow prevention assembly tester and certified to be operating within specifications. Backflow prevention assemblies which are installed to provide protection against high health hazards must also be tested and certified to be operating within specifications at least annually by a recognized backflow prevention device tester.

I am, therefore, requesting your help in establishing a database to monitor compliance by providing the following information, on the premise that you already have back flow prevention device/s on your incoming water line/s, **within sixty (60) days of receipt of this letter**: (Licensed Plumbers or Licensed Irrigators may be able to help you obtain the details required.)

- i) A list identifying the size, type, model number, name of manufacturer and any/all pertinent information regarding all backflow prevention devices used or planned to be used.
- ii) Any/all test and repair records of the above mentioned devices since the original installation or at least for the last two years.
- iii) Names, addresses, telephone numbers, copies of certification through an approval agency and other valid identifications for the testers who performed these tests.
- iv) Also, furnish the name, title, and telephone number of the individual/individuals, within the organization, who has/have the responsibility for your water systems.

Otherwise, an appropriate Back Flow Prevention Assembly must be installed within the time allocated for such work to be done.

The City of Lufkin is required to inform you about Article § 52.99 penalty provision which states that consumers who do not comply shall be subject to a penalty and fine of not more than \$ 500.00 per day for each day of non-compliance and/or disconnection or discontinuance of water services by the City.

Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated. If you have questions please call 633-0298.
