

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-O-103

AMENDING CITY OF LAREDO CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 31, ARTICLE III, SECTION 31-115 TO INTRODUCE DETAILED DEFINITIONS, HAZARD CLASSIFICATIONS (E.G., HEALTH VS. NON-HEALTH HAZARDS), TEST AND MAINTENANCE REPORT SUBMISSION FEES, AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES. THIS ORDINANCE ALSO SETS REQUIREMENTS FOR TESTING FREQUENCY BY CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS, DIGITAL REPORTING, AND SPECIFIC RULES FOR FIRE SYSTEMS, MOBILE UNITS, AND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ALIGNING WITH CURRENT TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ) AND UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (USC) STANDARDS. THESE CHANGES WILL GO INTO EFFECT ON JULY 18, 2025; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Laredo is committed to deterring the introduction of hazardous contaminants into the utilities system; and

WHEREAS, cross connections and backflow events present a significant risk of contamination and pollution to the City's water distribution system through the undesirable reversal of flow of water, mixtures, or substances; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Administrative Code, including but not limited to Title 30, Chapters 217, 290, and 344, mandates the establishment of backflow prevention and cross connection control programs to ensure the continued protection of public water systems; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the necessity of a comprehensive ordinance to define responsibilities, establish requirements, and set enforcement measures for all persons and premises connected to the City of Laredo Utilities System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS:

The city of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 31, Utilities, Article III, Section 31-115 is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 31-115. Cross connections control and back flow prevention.

Pursuant to Chapter 31, Article III, Division 1, of the Laredo Code of Ordinance, it is the responsibility of the City of Laredo to protect the Utilities System from pollution and contamination by instituting and enforcing a cross connection control program.

31.115.01 Purpose

5/15/2025

The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the water supply and distribution system of the City of Laredo from contamination and pollution due to any existing or potential cross connections and to comply with the Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Chapters 217, 290, and 344.

31.115.02 *Definitions.* For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning. If a word or term used in this Ordinance is not contained in the following list, its definition, or other technical terms used, shall have the meanings or definitions listed in the most recent edition of the Manual of Cross Connection Control published by the Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research, University of Southern California ("USC").

- 1) "APPROVED BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY" or "BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY" or "ASSEMBLY" means a testable assembly to counteract backpressure and/or prevent back-siphonage. This assembly must appear on the list of approved assemblies per Appendix A.
- 2) "AUXILIARY SUPPLY" means any water source or system other than the City of Laredo Utilities System
- 3) "BACKFLOW" the undesirable reversal of flow of water or mixtures of water and other liquids, gases, or other substances into the distribution pipes of the potable supply of water from any source or sources.
- 4) "CERTIFIED BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY TESTER" shall mean a person who has successfully completed and maintains all requirements as established by the State of Texas to be a backflow prevention assembly tester in the state.
- 5) "CERTIFIED CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL INSPECTOR" shall mean a person who has successfully completed and maintains all requirements as established by the State of Texas to be a Customer Service Inspector in the state.
- 6) "CITY" shall mean the City of Laredo.
- 7) "CONTAMINATION" means the entry into or presence in a public water supply system of any substance which may be deleterious to health and/or potability of the water.
- 8) "CROSS-CONNECTION" means any physical arrangement where a potable water supply is connected, directly or indirectly, with any other non-drinkable Utilities System or auxiliary system, sewer, drain conduit, swimming pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture, swamp coolers or any other device which contains, or may contain, contaminated water, sewage or other liquid of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the Utilities System as a result of backflow. Bypass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or changeover devices or other temporary or permanent devices through which or because of which backflow may occur, are considered to be cross-connections.
- 9) "DEGREE OF HAZARD" means the NON-HEALTH HAZARD or HEALTH HAZARD classification that shall be assigned to all actual or potential cross-connections.
- 10) "DOUBLE CHECK VALVE BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY", "DOUBLE CHECK ASSEMBLY", "DOUBLE CHECK" or "DCVA" means an assembly which consists of two (2) independently-

operating check valves which are spring-loaded or weighted. The assembly comes complete with a resilient seated shut-off valve on each side of the checks, as well as test cocks to test the checks for tightness.

- 11) "DOUBLE CHECK VALVE ASSEMBLY" or "DCDA" means an assembly which consists of two independently operating check valves which are spring-loaded or weighted. The assembly comes complete with a shut-off valve on each side of the checks, as well as test cocks to test the checks for tightness. It shall also be provided with a factory bypass arrangement with a meter and a minimum of an approved double check assembly. This is primarily used for fire line application.
- 12) "HEALTH HAZARD" means an actual or potential threat of contamination of a physical, chemical, or biological nature to the public potable Utilities System that would be a danger to health or has a high probability of causing such effects if introduced into the Utilities System.
- 13) "IN-PREMISES PROTECTION" means the appropriate backflow prevention within the consumer's plumbing at or near the point at which the actual or potential cross connection exists.
- 14) "INSPECTOR" means a TCEQ-certified Cross-Connection Inspector, either employed by or contracted by the City of Laredo.
- 15) "MOBILE UNITS" shall mean units that are temporary in nature, connecting to the Utilities System through a legally-permitted hydrant, hose bibb, or other appurtenance of a permanent nature that is part of the City of Laredo Utilities System. Examples can include but are not limited to the following: water trucks, pesticide applicator vehicles, chemical mixing units or tanks, waste hauler's trucks or units, sewer cleaning equipment, carpet or steam cleaning equipment other than homeowner use, or any other mobile equipment or vessel that poses a threat of backflow in the City of Laredo Utilities System. Uses that are excluded from this definition are recreational vehicles at assigned sites or parked in accordance with other City of Laredo policies pertaining to recreational vehicles and homeowner devices that are used by the property owner in accordance with other provisions of this, or other, City of Laredo policies pertaining to provision of water service to a premise.
- 16) "NON-HEALTH HAZARD" shall mean the classification assigned to an actual or potential cross connection that could allow a substance that may be aesthetically objectionable, but not hazardous to one's health, to backflow into the potable water supply.
- 17) "PERSON(S)" shall mean a natural person (individual), corporation, company, city, partnership, firm, Limited Liability Company, Joint Venture Company, and other such entity.
- 18) "PREMISES" means any piece of property to which water service is provided, including, but not limited to, all improvements, mobile structures and other structures located upon it.
- 19) "PREMISES ISOLATION" means the appropriate backflow prevention at the service connection between the Utilities System and the premises. This location will be at or near the property line and downstream from the service connection meter.
- 20) "REDUCED PRESSURE PRINCIPLE BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY" or "REDUCED PRESSURE PRINCIPLE ASSEMBLY" or "RPBA" shall mean an assembly containing two independently-acting

approved check valves together with a hydraulically-operated, mechanically-independent pressure differential relief valve located between the check valves, and at the same time, below the first check valve. The assembly shall include properly located test cocks and two tightly closing shut-off valves.

- 21) "REDUCED PRESSURE DETECTOR ASSEMBLY" or "RPDA" shall mean an approved assembly consisting of two approved reduced pressure backflow assemblies, set in parallel, equipped with a meter on the bypass line to detect small amounts of water leakage or use. The assembly should include properly-located test cocks and two tightly closing shut off valves. This is primarily used for fire line application.
- 22) "RESIDENT" means a person or persons living within the area(s) served by the City of Laredo Utilities System.
- 23) "SOP Manual" shall mean the Utilities Department Standard Operating Procedures and Guidance Manual.
- 24) "SUPERVISOR" shall mean the Utilities Supervisor or his/her designee.
- 25) "TAC" shall mean Texas Administrative Code.
- 26) "TCEQ" shall mean Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- 27) "THERMAL EXPANSION" means the pressure created by the expansion of heated water.
- 28) "UTILITIES SYSTEM" shall refer to the geographical area that receives drinking water from the City of Laredo water system, regardless of city limits. This also includes wells, treatment mechanisms or processes, pumping stations, reservoirs, supply trunk or feeder lines, service lines, meters and all other appurtenances, device lines and items necessary for the operation of the system and to supply potable water service to individual property or premises.

31.115.03 Application and Responsibilities

This Ordinance applies throughout the City of Laredo Utilities System and to every premises and property served by the City of Laredo Utilities System. It applies to all premises, regardless of date of connection to the City of Laredo Utilities System. Every owner, occupant, or person in control of any concerned premises is responsible for the terms and provisions contained in this Ordinance.

31.115.04 Cross Connections Regulated

- a) No cross-connections shall be created, installed, used or maintained within the area(s) served by the City of Laredo Utilities System, except in accordance with this Ordinance.
- b) The Cross-connection Inspector shall carry out or cause surveys to be carried out to determine if any actual or potential cross connection exists.
- c) The owner of any given premises is responsible for all cross-connection control within the premises.

- d) All premises listed in Figure 30 of 30 TAC 290.47(f) (see Appendix A), including hotels, motels, and colonias, must install either a Reduced Pressure Backflow Assembly at the service connection or have an air gap between the water supply line and the drain line.
- e) It is the responsibility of the owner to purchase, install, test, repair, and maintain all backflow assemblies.
- f) If there is a change in ownership of any and all property within the City's Utilities System, it shall be the responsibility of the new owner to determine that all assemblies are complying with this Ordinance.

31.115.05 Backflow Prevention Assembly Requirements

- a) An Inspector employed by or under contract with the City of Laredo, shall determine the type of backflow assemblies to be installed to protect the City of Laredo Utilities System. All assemblies shall be installed at the service connection unless it is determined by the Inspector and approved by the Supervisor that in-premises protection would be adequate. An approved assembly shall be required in each of the following circumstances, but the Inspector is in no way limited to the following circumstances:
 - 1) In the case of any premises where there is any material dangerous to health which is handled in such a fashion as to permit entry into potable Utilities System, the potable premises shall be protected by an approved air gap separation or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly.
 - 2) When the nature and extent of any activity at a premise, or the materials used in connection with any activity at premises, or materials stored at a premise, could contaminate or pollute the utilities system.
 - 3) When a premise has one (1) or more cross-connections.
 - 4) When internal cross-connections are present that are not correctable.
 - 5) When intricate plumbing arrangements are present making it impractical to ascertain whether cross-connections exist.
 - 6) When the premises has a repeated history of cross-connections being established or re-established.
 - 7) When entry to the premises is restricted so that inspections for cross-connections cannot be made with sufficient frequency to assure cross connections do not exist.
 - 8) When materials are being used such that, if backflow should occur, a health hazard could contaminate the potable water supply.
 - 9) A fire sprinkler system on the premises is connected to the City's utilities system.
 - 10) Any and all used water return systems.

- 11) If an in-premises assembly has not been tested or repaired as required by this Ordinance, the installation of a reduced pressure principle assembly will be required at the service connection. Any expenses associated with the enforcement of this agreement will be billed to the customer.
- 12) There is piping or equipment for conveying liquids other than potable City of Laredo water and that piping or other equipment is under pressure and installed and operated in a manner that could cause or potentially cause a cross-connection.
- 13) When installation of an approved backflow prevention assembly is deemed by the Utilities Department to be necessary to accomplish the purpose of this Ordinance.
- 14) The use of any type of chemical spray attachment connected to the premises plumbing, including garden hose fertilizers and pesticide applicators, is not allowed within the City of Laredo Utilities System without proper protection from the potential of backflow occurring.
- 15) Wherever reclaimed water or separate irrigation water is used on premises.
- 16) On all multistory buildings or any building with a booster pump or elevated storage tank.
- 17) When there is a premise with an auxiliary water supply which is interconnected to the City of Laredo Water Service or supply system.
- 18) If an Inspector determines that additions or rearrangements have been made to the plumbing system of a premises without the proper permits as required by the Plumbing Code, premises containment may be required.

31.115.06 Residential Service Connections

- (a) Any person who owns or controls any residential property which has been determined to have an actual or potential cross-connection shall eliminate the actual or potential cross-connection or have an approved backflow assembly installed in accordance with this ordinance.
- (b) All external faucets and hose bibbs shall be protected by a hose bibb vacuum breaker regardless of location. No permit or inspection is required for installation of hose bibb vacuum breakers.

31.115.07 New Construction

- (a) On all new non-residential construction, the Director has the authority to require an approved backflow assembly to be installed at the service connection. The type of the assembly will be commensurate with the degree of hazard as determined by the requirements of 30 Texas Administrative Code 290.47(f) – (See Appendix A).

- (b) When a building is constructed on commercial premises, and the end use of the building is not determined or could change, a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly shall be installed at the service connection to provide protection of the public water supply in the event of the most hazardous use of the building. The use of a backflow prevention assembly at the service connection shall be considered as additional backflow protection and shall not negate the use of backflow protection on internal hazards as determined by the cross-connection inspector or the City of Laredo Utilities Department.

31.115.08 Lawn Irrigation Systems

- (a) All irrigation systems shall have a backflow prevention assembly in accordance with the guidelines of this ordinance and are classified as non-health hazards. If any system is equipped with an injector system, a reduced pressure principle assembly (RPBA) will be required at the service connection, and the irrigation system will be classified a health hazard.
- (b) For all lawn irrigation system installations, a permit shall be required. Such permits shall be issued by the designated city department. Installation requirements must comply with the current plumbing code and/or guidelines for the appropriate backflow assembly found in this ordinance. Interconnections of the potable water supply with an alternate water source is prohibited.

31.115.09 Air Gap Separation

Air gaps provide maximum protection from backflow hazards and should be utilized when possible at all locations where health hazardous substances are at risk of entering the potable utilities system.

- (a) An air gap separation shall be at least twice the diameter of the supply pipeline measured vertically above the top rim of the receiving vessel and in no case less than 1 inch. If splashing is a problem, tubular screens may be attached, or the supply line may be cut at a 45-degree angle. The air gap distance is measured from the bottom of the angle. Hoses are not allowed.
- (b) Air gap separations shall not be altered in any way without prior approval from the Utilities Department and must be available for inspection at all reasonable times.
- (c) Side walls, ribs or similar obstructions do not affect air gaps when spaced from the inside edge of the spout opening a distance greater than three times the diameter of the effective opening for a single, or a distance greater than four times the effective opening for two intersecting walls.

31.115.10 Thermal Expansion

If a closed system has been created by the installation of a backflow prevention assembly, or other appurtenances, it is the responsibility of the customer who owns or controls the property to eliminate the possibility of damage from thermal expansion.

31.115.11 Multiple Connections

Any premises requiring multiple service connections for adequacy of supply and/or fire protection will be required to install a backflow assembly on each of the additional service lines to the premises. The type of assembly will be determined by the degree of hazard that could occur in the event of an interconnect between any of the buildings on the premises.

31.115.12 Mobile Units

- (a) The connection of a mobile unit to any potable utilities system is prohibited unless such connection is protected by an air gap, or an approved backflow prevention assembly mounted on the mobile unit. Prior approval and annual device testing of any backflow prevention assembly must be received from the Utilities Department before connecting to any potable utilities system.
- (b) Portable power wash units are required to be connected through a hose bibb equipped with a vacuum breaker, however no permit or inspection is required prior to use.

31.115.13 Installation Requirements

All backflow prevention assembly installations shall follow the requirements as stipulated by the City of Laredo Code of Ordinance Chapter 31, Article III, Division 1 and the City's SOP Manual.

If the premises isolation assembly is allowed to be installed at an alternate location, the City of Laredo must have access to the assembly. No connections can be made between the meter and the backflow assembly.

The type of backflow prevention assembly required shall be commensurate with the degree of hazard that exists and must, at all times, meet the standards of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. All backflow prevention assemblies required under this section shall be of a type and model approved by the University of Southern California (USC).

31.115.14 Pressure Loss

Any reduction in water pressure caused by the installation of a backflow assembly shall not be the responsibility of the Utilities Department.

31.115.15 Fire Systems

All new installations of fire suppression systems which utilize the City of Laredo's potable water supply shall have installed an approved backflow prevention device according to the degree of hazard.

An approved double check valve backflow prevention assembly (DCDA) or reduced pressure detector assemblies (RPDA) shall be the minimum protection for fire sprinkler systems using piping material that is not approved for potable water use and/or that does not provide for periodic flow-through during each twenty-four (24) hour period, unless a variance has been issued in writing from the City of Laredo. An RPDA must be installed if any solution other than potable water can be introduced into the sprinkler system.

- (a) It is the responsibility of all property owners to abide by the conditions of this ordinance. In the event of any changes to their plumbing system, it is the responsibility of the property owners to notify the Utilities Department.
- (b) Upon the approved installation of the (DCDA) or (RPDA) device, a cross connection test report completed by a licensed fire-line tester must be sent to the attention of the Utilities Department and include the information required by this ordinance within 30 days.
- (c) Where antifreeze, corrosion inhibitors, or other chemicals are added to a fire protection system supplied from a potable water supply, the potable utilities system shall be protected by an RPDA.

31.115.16 Fire Hydrant Protection

Backflow protection will be required on all temporary meters and hydrant valves before any use. The type of assembly will be commensurate with the degree of hazard and will be determined on a case-by-case basis by a Utilities Department Inspector.

- (a) Only the city's fire hydrant meters with approved backflow prevention assemblies are allowed to be used on the city's utilities system.

31.115.17 Plumbing Code

As a condition of water service, customers shall install, maintain, and operate their piping and plumbing systems in accordance with the current latest adopted International Plumbing Code, or as amended. If there is a conflict between this Ordinance and the Plumbing Code, the more stringent supersedes.

31.115.18 Right-of-way Encroachment

No person shall install or maintain a backflow prevention assembly upon or within any public right-of-way.

31.115.19 Access to Premises

Authorized personnel of the City of Laredo, with proper identification and sufficient notice, shall have access during reasonable hours to all parts of a premises and within the structure to which water is supplied. However, if any owner, occupant or person in control refuses authorized personnel access to a premise, or to the interior of a structure, during these hours for inspection, a reduced pressure principle assembly must be installed at the service connection to that premise at the owner's expense.

31.115.20 Testing and Repairs

- (a) All backflow prevention assemblies installed within the area(s) served by the City of Laredo shall be inspected and tested in each of the following circumstances:
 - (1) Immediately after installations;
 - (2) Whenever the assembly is moved;
 - (3) Scheduled testing frequency;
 - (4) Premises that have been vacated and unoccupied for one year, prior to re-occupancy;
 - (5) Immediately after repairs.
- (b) All assembly testing shall be performed by a state certified backflow prevention assembly tester, approved by the Utilities Department.
- (c) Persons and occupants of premises which are provided water service by the City of Laredo, either directly or indirectly, shall allow the City of Laredo or its representatives ready access at all reasonable times to all parts of the premises for the purposes of inspection, testing, records examination, or in the performance of any of their duties. Where persons or occupants of premises have security measures in force which would require proper identification and clearance before entry into their premises, the persons and occupants of the premises shall make necessary arrangements with their security guards so that upon presentation of suitable identification, personnel from the City of Laredo will be permitted to enter, without delay, for the purposes of performing their specific responsibilities.
- (d) A customer service inspection may be conducted at any commercial or residential establishment that is served by a public water supply or which provides water to the public. Upon determination that the establishment falls under the provisions of this ordinance and requires a backflow prevention assembly, a notice to abate the condition or to install the proper backflow prevention assembly shall be issued.
- (e) The person who owns or controls a property is responsible for ensuring that all health-hazard protection assemblies are tested annually, and all non-health-hazard protection assemblies are tested every three (3) years, in accordance with this ordinance. Assemblies may be required to be tested more frequently if the City of Laredo deems necessary.

- (f) All results from assembly testing by a certified backflow prevention assembly tester shall be submitted through the Utilities Department online portal (SwiftComply) within two (2) calendar days of testing.

31.115.21 Maintenance of Assemblies

Backflow prevention assemblies shall be maintained, tested and repaired in accordance with the requirements set out in this Ordinance, the Utilities SOP Manual, the TCEQ and all applicable State agency's regulations. The assembly owner is responsible for protecting their assembly from freezing and vandalism.

In the event an assembly is not properly tested and repaired, the Utilities Department will terminate water service within two (2) weeks of notification to property owner unless an alternate plan has been approved to remedy the situation.

31.115.22 Responsibilities of Property Owner

(a) It is the responsibility of all property owners to abide by the conditions of this article and to comply with the following:

- (1) Payment of all costs associated with this ordinance including the purchase, installation, testing and repair of backflow prevention assemblies.
- (2) Install and maintain all backflow prevention assemblies in accordance with this ordinance.
- (3) All premises with a testable backflow assembly shall have all the assemblies on their premises tested annually for health hazards and every three years for non-health hazards. Such testing must be conducted by a State certified backflow prevention assembly tester (BPAT) who is registered with the City of Laredo.
- (4) Maintain all backflow prevention assemblies in proper working order at all times, including repair as required.
- (5) All records related to backflow prevention assembly installation, testing and repair shall be maintained on the premises for a minimum of three (3) years.

31.115.23 Responsibilities of Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers

(a) Certified backflow prevention assembly tester - shall comply with the following requirements:

- (1) All backflow assembly testers operating within the City of Laredo Utilities system shall be certified in accordance with all applicable regulations of the TCEQ and must abide by the requirements of this Ordinance.

- (2) Register annually with the City of Laredo and pay the required fee (at cost) to submit test and maintenance reports through our online portal.
- (3) Register and maintain testing equipment in proper working condition/calibration.
- (4) Maintain the design or operation characteristics of an assembly.
- (5) Ensure that devices are tested according to accepted industry practice and TCEQ regulations.
- (6) Enter required testing data, including test gauge serial numbers, on all cross-connection test forms.
- (7) Submit Test & Maintenance reports to the City of Laredo Utilities Department through their online portal within two (2) calendar days of testing. Failure to submit reports within the allotted timeframe may result in denying certified testers from submitting reports in the future and/or disconnection of water service for customers.
- (8) Provide a copy of the completed test report to the property owners and/or persons in charge of any premises.

31.115.24 Customer Service Inspections

- (a) Pursuant to the Utilities Department customer service agreement, a customer service inspection for cross-connection control shall be completed by an inspector prior to providing continuous water service in each of the following circumstances:
 - (1) Water service to a newly constructed facility or previously non-existing premises.
 - (2) After any material improvement to building(s) or premises.
 - (3) Any correction or addition to the plumbing of any facility or premises.
- (b) Permanent water service shall not be supplied to a new construction facility(s) until after the customer service inspection is completed.
- (c) Temporary water service which poses a potential cross-connection threat to the potable water supply shall be protected by an approved backflow prevention assembly.

31.115.25 Recovery of Costs

Any water customer violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance and who causes damage to or impairs the City of Laredo Utilities System, including, but not limited to, allowing contamination, pollution, any other solution or used water to enter the City of Laredo Utilities System, shall be liable to the City of Laredo for any expense, loss or damage caused by such violation. The City of Laredo shall collect from the violator the cost incurred by the City of Laredo for any cleaning, purifying, repair or replacement work or any other expenses caused by the violation. Refusal to pay the assessed costs shall constitute a violation of this Ordinance and shall result in the termination of service. All cost associated

with any disconnect or reconnect fees resulting from the enforcement of this Ordinance are the sole responsibility of the property owner.

31.115.26 Termination of Services

The installation or maintenance of a cross-connection which could endanger the City of Laredo utilities system is unlawful. Failure on the part of any owner, occupant or person in control of the premises to install a required assembly, have it tested and repaired when necessary, and/or to physically separate cross connections in accordance with this Ordinance is sufficient cause for the discontinuance of public water service to the premises. In the case of an extreme emergency or where an immediate threat to life or public health is found to exist, discontinuance or termination of public water service to the premises shall be immediate.

31.115.27 Falsifying Information

Any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, record, report or other document filed or required to be maintained pursuant to this Ordinance, or who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any backflow assembly, device or method required under this Ordinance shall be subject to civil and/or criminal penalties provided by state law and service termination.

31.115.28 Constitutionality and Saving Clause

Should any provision, section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances, are for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid, or for any reason unenforceable, the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, or its application to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected; thereby, it being the intent of the City of Laredo Utilities System in adopting and approving this Ordinance that no portion hereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality or invalidity of any other portion, provision, or regulation.

APPENDIX A