



Treasure Island Water System

Water Use Efficiency Committee Report to the Board

Dec. 11th, 2010

WUE Committee Members - Daryl Axelson, Skip Beahm, Rod Wilkinson, Dave Dickinson and Linda Pryor

Supreme Court Ruling – TICC is again considered a Municipal Water Supplier after the Supreme Court Ruling of October 28th, 2010.

An expensive requirement of being back under the Municipal Water Law and the Water Use Efficiency Rule is the need to purchase and install water meters on all of our service connections. The WUE Rule also states we must install a water meter on all new service connections.

The Committee has met several times since the Supreme Court Ruling to determine where we stand with the DOH and what we need to do to make Treasure Island compliant.

Because of the requirement to install a water meter on all new connections, the Committee is looking at water meters as a first priority.

In 2008, the Committee looked at 3 different water meter manufacturers and several different types of systems. The Committee has received updated proposals from these same manufacturers and is again reviewing them.

The goal of the committee is to provide the Board with a recommended manufacturer and system that best fits the needs of Treasure Island.

The second priority will be to set our WUE Goal before the next Annual WUE Report is due in July, 2011. Our public meeting date and our goal should be included in this report.

Some research on a goal was done in 2008 and some new information on goals has been discussed in our most recent 2010 meetings.

Attachments:

WUE Rule Overview

Impacts of Supreme Court Ruling on Municipal Water Law

Water Use Efficiency Rule Overview

Treasure Island Country Club is again considered a Municipal Water Supplier after the Supreme Court Ruling of October 28th, 2010. I contacted the Water Use Efficiency Office and, at the time, the original deadlines for each of the WUE items were not going to be extended. Most of the Deadlines have expired. Below is an overview of what we need to do to comply with and become current with the Water Use Efficiency Rule.

1. Install water meters on all new connections.
 - a. This requirement is effective as of October 28th, 2010.
2. Submit first annual WUE report
 - a. Deadline was July 1, 2009
 - b. We now must submit our first report by July 2011
 - c. Report contains information about our:
 - i. Meter installation progress
 - ii. Production, Consumption and Distribution System Leakage
 - iii. Distribution System Leakage Summary
 - iv. Goal-Setting Information
 - v. What our WUE Goal is
 - vi. Progress on reaching our goal
 - vii. Any additional information about using water efficiently
3. Submit service meter installation schedule
 - a. Until we are fully metered:
 - i. Submit a meter installation schedule with our initial WUE report
 1. A schedule for completing installation on all existing connections by Jan.22, 2017
 2. Documentation showing steady and continuous progress toward complying with the service meter requirements. This may include:
 - a. Percentage of meters that will be installed each year.
 - b. Funding strategy to cover the metering expenses.
 - ii. Implement activities to minimize leakage
 1. Do not submit leakage information until we are fully metered.
 2. Until we are fully metered, there are actions we must take to minimize leakage. These activities may include:
 - a. Leak detection survey
 - b. Leak repair
 - c. Night usage survey
 - d. Planned replacement of leaking mains
 - e. Improved data collection
 - iii. Report status of installing meters and minimizing leakage in our annual WUE report and in any planning documents we submit for approval.
 1. We must report our progress on installing meters in our annual WUE report and WUE program.
 2. Meter installation progress should be consistent with the meter installation schedule provided to the DOH
4. Set our own WUE goal
 - a. Deadline was July 1, 2010
 - b. Hold a Public Meeting to Establish WUE Goals for our Customers.
 - i. Establish a goal based on our source meters for now.
5. Meet distribution leakage standard
 - a. To calculate distribution, we must first install service meters on all existing direct service connections.
 - b. Until that time, we must report our progress towards installing meters and all actions taken to minimize leakage in our annual WUE report.
 - c. Deadline is 3 years after having all service meters installed.
6. Complete installation of all service meters
 - a. Deadline is January 22nd, 2017.



Questions & Answers

Water Use Efficiency Rule

Impacts of Supreme Court Ruling on Municipal Water Law

What does the Supreme Court ruling say?

On October 28, 2010, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the 2003 Municipal Water Law is constitutional. What this means is:

- The definitions of municipal water supplier and municipal water supply purposes as written in the 2003 law are valid.
- Municipal water suppliers may use their existing water rights to expand their service areas to supply water to growing communities.

More information about the [court ruling](#) is available online.



How does the Supreme Court ruling affect my water system?

Any privately owned Group A community water system with 15 or more residential connections, such as homeowners' associations, will see the biggest change. These systems are once again considered municipal water suppliers. They will receive the benefits of the law—they also need to comply with the [water use efficiency \(WUE\) rule](#).

How does the Supreme Court ruling affect my water rights?

If you hold a water right for municipal water supply purposes, you will be able to use those water rights to serve a growing community by expanding your service area. The water rights will also be exempt from relinquishment, which means there is less risk that the state will take those water rights away due to non-use.

Many of the WUE deadlines have passed—what should I do?

If you are a privately owned water system, you need to become familiar with the WUE requirements. Even if you have very little or incomplete information, **you must submit your first annual WUE report by July 1, 2011**. This will let us know you are working to come into compliance with the WUE requirements.

What should I do to prepare for the July 2011 WUE report?

There are three important things you need to do to prepare for the 2011 report:

1. Start collecting metered data from your water source(s) and your customers. Every year, you will need to provide annual data on the amount of water pumped from your sources and what your customers consumed. If your customers' water use isn't metered, develop a plan to have meters completely installed no later than January 22, 2017.



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2. Hold a public meeting to establish water efficiency goals for your customers. If you don't have customer meters, then establish a goal based on your source meter for now. For example, your goal could be "Reduce annual source meter production by five percent by 2015." For help, see our publication [Setting Goals to Use Water Efficiently \(DOH 331-402\)](#).
3. Develop a plan for installing meters for your customers. In the 2011 WUE report, you will need to explain your meter installation plan and any progress you've made so far.

How can I establish a customer goal that fits my water system's budget?

We understand you may need to initially focus your budget on reducing leaks and installing meters; however, you must establish a goal for your customers. Many water systems rely entirely on education and outreach to achieve their customer goal.

Instead of sending your customers the same old "save water" tips, help them understand how installing WaterSense certified fixtures and appliances saves water while saving them money. Check out our latest publication [Stop Water Waste \(DOH 331-450\)](#).

For our small water system management program, what's needed to complete the WUE planning requirement?

You need to complete a comprehensive WUE program within your planning document; however, you don't need to send it to the state unless we request it. Our [Water Use Efficiency Guidebook \(DOH 331-375\)](#) has information to help you meet this requirement. Chapter 5 and Appendix A contain the complete overview of these requirements.

How do I submit my annual WUE report?

We have developed an online reporting form. You must submit your report to us electronically. Visit our [WUE report website](#), enter your water system ID number, and click on "Start."

Where can I get more information about water use efficiency?

Information on our [water use efficiency website](#) can help you develop your WUE program.

You can also contact Mike Dexel, WUE Program Lead, at (360) 236-3154 or e-mail michael.dexel@doh.wa.gov

How can WaterSense help?

EPA's [WaterSense program](#) is a great tool to help you achieve your customer goal without spending a lot of money.

Help your customers make water efficient choices by looking for the WaterSense label.

Products carrying the WaterSense label perform well, save money on utility bills, and lend a hand in achieving your WUE goal.

For more information, contact the WaterSense Helpline by e-mail at watersense@epa.gov or call 866-WTR-SENS (987-7367)

