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02-1123

**WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT BETWEEN
THE CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS AND
THE NORTH HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY**

THIS WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT ("Contract") is made by and between the CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS ("Houston") and the NORTH HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY ("Authority").

WITNESSETH:

Recitals

Houston is a municipal corporation and home-rule city, principally located in Harris County, Texas. Houston owns a water treatment and distribution system and desires to sell water to the Authority.

The Authority is a Texas conservation and reclamation district organized and operating under the provisions of House Bill No. 2965, Seventy-Sixth Legislature, Regular Session (1999), as amended by House Bill 1110, Senate Bill 1444 and Senate Bill 2, Seventy-Seventh Legislature (2001), and the Texas Water Code, as amended. The Authority desires to purchase potable treated surface water from Houston for distribution and use for domestic, commercial, and other purposes.

Houston is authorized to enter into this Contract pursuant to its Home Rule Charter and Section 402.021 of the Texas Local Government Code.

The Authority is authorized to enter into this Contract pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Water Code, as amended.

Houston, as the regional water supplier and principal owner of surface water in Harris County, desires to provide potable treated surface water to the unincorporated area of Harris County to meet the Harris-Galveston Coastal Subsidence District ("HGCSA") requirements for Area Three as defined by the HGCSA's 1999 District Regulatory Plan, as amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the parties hereto do mutually agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

Definitions

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms as used in this Contract shall have meanings as follows:

"Advisory Committee" is defined in Section 8.17.

"Annual Audit" is defined in Section 4.06.

"Annual Interest Payment" is defined in Section 3.03.

"Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment" is defined in Section 3.02(c).

"Annual O&M Budget" is defined in Section 4.03.

"Annual Outstanding Debt Service" means the amount of debt service (principal and interest) actually owed by Houston during a Houston fiscal year on any and all bonds, notes, or other obligations for construction and acquisition of New Untreated Water Facilities.

"Authority System" shall mean all facilities owned and operated by the Authority to enable the Authority to receive Water from the Houston System, including without limitation, transmission lines, inter-connection lines, storage facilities, booster pumps, meter vaults, casings, air gap or other backflow prevention controls, valves and flow control devices.

"Commencement of Delivery of Water" shall mean commencement of delivery of Water for consumption and shall not mean delivery of Water for line testing or flushing purposes.

"Existing Untreated Water Facilities" means those facilities listed in Exhibit "A".

"GRP" is defined in Section 8.18.

"Houston System" shall mean all of Houston's Water production, treatment and distribution facilities, including all treatment plants, mains, distribution lines, booster pumps, storage tanks and meter facilities.

"Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation" is defined in Section 3.02(a).

"Interest Rate" means the 20 City Municipal Bond Index on the first day of the Houston fiscal year during which the Contract is executed, which the parties hereby agree equals 5.10%.

"Major Rehabilitations" are major capital projects required to maintain and operate the Plant Facilities and Transmission Facilities at their current capacity or as required by applicable regulatory requirements and estimated to cost in excess of \$500,000.

"MGD" shall mean million of gallons per day of Water.

"New Untreated Water Facilities" means any untreated surface water canals, reservoirs, lakes, water rights, or other untreated surface water facilities not listed in Exhibit "A" that are hereafter constructed or acquired by Houston pursuant to Section 3.02(c).

"O&M Expenses" are defined in Section 4.02.

"O&M Reserve" is 25% of the then-current Annual O&M Budget.

"Outstanding Debt" means the amount of principal owed by Houston on any and all bonds, notes, or other obligations for construction and acquisition of Existing Untreated Water Facilities.

"Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities" is defined in Sections 3.02 (a), (b), and (c), as applicable.

"Payment for Untreated Water Facilities Costs Avoided" is defined in Section 3.02(c).

"Plant Facilities" means those facilities listed in Exhibit "B".

"Point(s) of Delivery" shall mean the output flanges of the tap(s) on Houston's System that will serve the Authority under the provisions of this Contract, as more particularly identified and described on Exhibit "C" attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes.

"Point(s) of Measurement" shall mean the location of the meter(s) at which the Authority's consumption of Water is measured, as more particularly described on Exhibit "C" attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes. All Point(s) of Measurement shall be at the Point(s) of Delivery, unless mutually agreed to in writing by the Utility Official and the Authority.

"Reservation" means a written request from the Authority, at the Authority's option, that is approved in writing by the Utility Official, seeking the Utility Official's approval to increase the Authority's then-current Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation and/or its Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation.

"Ten Year Period" is defined in Section 3.02(c).

"Transmission Facilities" are those transmission lines and facilities described and shown on Exhibit "D".

"Treated Water Facilities" is defined in Section 3.03.

"Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution" is defined in Section 3.03.

"Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs" means the actual costs incurred by Houston to construct or acquire the Treated Water Facilities, including engineering, testing services, construction, construction management, right-of-way, legal and auditing expenses, expenses related to contractor claims, and cost for services of employees of Houston for construction of the Treated Water Facilities.

"Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation" is defined in Section 3.03.

"Untreated Water Facilities" means the Existing Untreated Water Facilities plus any New Untreated Water Facilities.

"Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation" is defined in Section 3.02.

"Utility Official" shall mean the Utility Official of the Department of Public Works and Engineering of Houston, or any other person who may hereafter exercise the functions of said Utility Official.

"Water" shall mean potable treated surface water from the Houston System serving its own inhabitants.

"Water Demand Allocation" shall mean the maximum amount of Water the Authority is entitled to take pursuant to the terms of this Contract and pursuant to the Authority's then current Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation.

ARTICLE II

Construction of Facilities

Section 2.01 Construction by Houston

Houston shall be responsible for the design, construction, ownership, maintenance and operation of the Untreated Water Facilities and the Treated Water Facilities, which facilities are upstream from the Point(s) of Delivery.

Section 2.02 Construction by the Authority of Certain Facilities

The Authority shall be responsible for the design, construction, ownership, maintenance and operation of all facilities located downstream of the Point(s) of Delivery necessary to enable it to receive Water at the Point(s) of Delivery. The Authority shall obtain the Utility Official's approval of all plans and specifications of the Authority facilities in the Authority System, which approval shall not be unreasonably delayed or withheld.

Section 2.03 Time of Completion

If not already constructed, Houston agrees to proceed with due diligence to construct the facilities described in this Article in order to provide the quantities of Water to the Authority required by this Contract.

Section 2.04 Point(s) of Delivery

The Point(s) of Delivery for Water sold under this Contract shall be located at the physical point(s) of connection between the Houston System and the Authority System shown on Exhibit "C". Additional Point(s) of Delivery and Point(s) of Measurement may be added from time to time, by mutual agreement of the Authority and the Utility Official.

ARTICLE III

Sale and Delivery of Water

Section 3.01 Delivery of Water

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Contract, beginning January 1, 2010, and continuing thereafter, Houston shall deliver and make available to the Authority at the Point(s) of Delivery the amount of Water that equals the Water Demand Allocation. If for any reason the Authority takes more Water than its Water Demand Allocation during any given day, the

Authority shall pay Houston for operation and maintenance charges associated with such excess Water pursuant to Article IV of this Contract but will not be deemed to have increased its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation or Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation.

The Authority may, but is not obligated to, purchase Water from Houston in order to satisfy the Authority's year 2020 and year 2030 HGCSO conversion requirements. Currently, the Authority's total Water need is projected to be 31 MGD for the year 2010, 89 MGD for the year 2020 and 90 MGD for the year 2030. In the event the Authority purchases such Water from Houston by increasing its Water Demand Allocation by Reservation, the cost sharing formulas and methods of calculating payments by the Authority to Houston that are provided in this Article III shall apply.

The Utility Official shall send the Authority written approval of any Authority Reservation request within ninety (90) days of receipt of same if Houston at the time of the Reservation request has sufficient capacity to serve the increase requested by the Authority. If Houston does not at that time have sufficient capacity to serve the increase requested by the Authority, the Utility Official shall send a written rejection of such Reservation request to the Authority within ninety (90) days of receipt of same, which rejection shall also advise the Authority of what new facilities are necessary to serve the requested Reservation. Unless the Utility Official agrees to a lesser period, the Authority shall provide a Reservation request at least five (5) years prior to the date the Authority requires the increase of its then-current Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation and/or its Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation. The Utility Official shall provide the Authority with a copy of any Reservation request submitted by the West Harris County Regional Water Authority within twenty (20) days of the Utility Official's receipt of same.

Section 3.02 Untreated Water Capital Costs.

Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation shall mean 31 MGD; provided, however, that in the event the Authority increases its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation pursuant to the terms of this Contract, then Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation shall mean such total increased amount.

Section 3.02(a) Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation.

On no more than three (3) occasions prior to the year 2010, the Authority may, at its option, purchase any portion(s) of its 31 MGD Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation (the "Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation") by payment to Houston of the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities pursuant to this Section 3.02(a). The Authority

shall be obligated to purchase all of its Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation no later than December 31, 2009, by payment to Houston of the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities pursuant to this Section 3.02(a). The Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities under this Section 3.02(a) shall be calculated as follows:

Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities = (A/B)C

Where: "A" is the portion (in MGD) of the Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation to be purchased.

"B" is the total amount of untreated surface water (in MGD) sold to Houston's water customers during Houston's fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, including such untreated surface water received at Houston's water treatment plants as well as the billable quantity (including any take-or-pay amounts) taken by Houston's untreated surface water customers, but excluding untreated surface water loss by evaporation or leakage.

"C" is the Outstanding Debt for all Existing Untreated Water Facilities listed in Exhibit "A".

The Authority shall make the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities to Houston for the Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation, according to the above formula, upon the Authority's receipt of written notice from Houston showing the amount of such payment and the calculation therefor, but no earlier than the date of commencement of delivery of such Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation. Effective immediately upon the Authority's payment for the Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation, the Authority shall be entitled to take such Water.

In the event the Authority, as indicated by a written notice from the Authority to Houston, seeks to pay Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities over a maximum period of fifteen (15) years (with interest) in lieu of a lump sum payment, the Authority and the Utility Official shall in good faith negotiate a separate written agreement providing for such payment terms. If the Authority and the Utility Official are unable to enter into a separate written agreement upon terms mutually agreeable to both parties, then the Authority shall be required to pay the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities to Houston as a lump sum payment.

In the event Houston constructs or acquires New Untreated Water Facilities for any reason, the Authority shall, in addition to the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities paid under this Section 3.02(a), owe Houston the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment, as provided in Section 3.02(c) (2).

Exhibit "E" hereto includes: (i) the Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation to be purchased by the Authority, (ii) the Outstanding Debt (as of June 30, 2001); and (iii) the total amount (in MGD) of factor "B" for the calculation of the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities under this Section 3.02(a).

Section 3.02(b) Reservation Not Requiring Construction of New Untreated Water Facilities.

In the event the Authority submits a Reservation request on or after January 1, 2010, to the Utility Official for an increase in its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation and Houston then has capacity available in the Existing Untreated Water Facilities to serve such increase, the Utility Official shall, within ninety (90) days of the Authority's request for the Reservation, send written approval of such Reservation request to the Authority. For the approved Reservation, the Authority shall owe Houston a Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities under this Section 3.02(b), calculated as follows:

Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities = (A/B)C

Where: "A" is the amount (in MGD) of the increase of the Authority's Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation pursuant to a Reservation under this Section 3.02(b).

"B" is the total amount of untreated surface water (in MGD) sold to Houston's water customers during Houston's fiscal year that precedes the fiscal year during which the Authority's Reservation request is approved in writing by the Utility Official, including such untreated surface water received at Houston's water treatment plants as well as billable quantity (including any take-or-pay amounts) taken by Houston's untreated surface water customers, but excluding untreated surface water loss by evaporation or leakage.

"C" is the Outstanding Debt for all Existing Untreated Water Facilities listed in Exhibit "A" as of the first day of Houston's fiscal year in which the Authority's Reservation request is approved in writing by the Utility Official.

If the Authority submits a Reservation request to the Utility Official prior to January 1, 2010, and Houston then has capacity available in the Existing Untreated Water Facilities to serve such increase, then, for purposes of calculating the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities under this Section 3.02(b) for such Reservation only, factors "B" and "C" of Section 3.02(a) shall be used instead of factors "B" and "C" of this Section 3.02(b).

The Authority shall pay Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities under this Section 3.02(b) no later than sixty (60) days after the Authority sends written notice to Houston that the Authority requires Water from its Reservation made pursuant to this Section

3.02(b). The Authority shall send notice to Houston that the Authority requires Water from its Reservation no later than five (5) years after the date of the Utility Official's written approval of the Reservation.

In the event the Authority, as indicated by a written notice from the Authority to Houston, seeks to pay Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities over a maximum period of fifteen (15) years (with interest) in lieu of a lump sum payment, the Authority and the Utility Official shall in good faith negotiate a separate written agreement providing for such payment terms. If the Authority and the Utility Official are unable to enter into a separate written agreement upon terms mutually agreeable to both parties, then the Authority shall be required to pay the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities to Houston as a lump sum payment.

In the event Houston constructs or acquires New Untreated Water Facilities for any reason, the Authority shall, in addition to the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities, if any, paid under this Section 3.02(b), owe Houston the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment, as provided in Section 3.02(c)(2).

Section 3.02(c) New Untreated Water Facilities.

In the event the Authority sends a Reservation request to the Utility Official for an increase in its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation and Houston does not then have capacity available in the Existing Untreated Water Facilities to serve such increase, the Utility Official shall send a written rejection of such Reservation request to the Authority within ninety (90) days of the Utility Official's receipt of such Reservation request, which rejection shall also advise the Authority of what New Untreated Water Facilities are necessary to serve the requested Reservation. If the Authority thereafter seeks to increase its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation, it shall send written notice to the Utility Official of the Authority's need for New Untreated Water Facilities and the amount (in MGD) of its requested Reservation. After receipt of such Authority notice, Houston shall promptly construct or acquire New Untreated Water Facilities and the Authority shall owe Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities plus the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment under this Section 3.02(c). Upon completion of the New Untreated Water Facilities necessary to serve the Authority's requested Reservation, the Authority's Reservation request shall be deemed approved by the Utility Official.

In the event Houston constructs or acquires New Untreated Water Facilities for any reason but the Authority does not desire capacity in the New Untreated Water Facilities and accordingly does not make a Reservation request under this Section 3.02(c), the Authority shall owe Houston the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment under Section 3.02(c)(2) (based on the Authority's then-current Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation), but the Authority shall not owe Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities under Section 3.02(c)(1).

The Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities and the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment under this Section 3.02(c) shall be calculated based on the formula:

$$(A/B)C + (D/E)F$$

and shall be calculated as follows:

(1) Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities = $(A/B)C$

Where: "A" is the amount (in MGD) of the increase of the Authority's Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation pursuant to a Reservation under this Section 3.02(c).

"B" is the total amount of untreated surface water (in MGD) sold to Houston's water customers during Houston's fiscal year that precedes the fiscal year during which the Utility Official's written statement regarding lack of available capacity is issued, including such untreated surface water received at Houston's water treatment plants as well as billable quantity (including any take-or-pay amounts) taken by Houston's untreated surface water customers, but excluding untreated surface water loss by evaporation or leakage.

"C" is the Outstanding Debt for all Existing Untreated Water Facilities listed in Exhibit "A" as of the first day of Houston's fiscal year in which the Utility Official's written statement regarding lack of available capacity is issued.

(2) Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment = $(D/E)F$

Where: "D" is the then-current Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation, plus the amount, if any, (in MGD) that the Authority seeks to increase its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation upon completion of the New Untreated Water Facilities, as identified in the applicable Authority Reservation request, if any, pursuant to this Section 3.02(c).

"E" is the total amount of untreated surface water (in MGD) sold to Houston's water customers during the Houston fiscal year that precedes the date Houston calculates the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment, including such untreated surface water received at Houston's water treatment plants as well as the billable quantity (including any take-or-pay amounts) taken by Houston's

untreated surface water customers, but excluding untreated surface water loss by evaporation or leakage.

"F" is the Annual Outstanding Debt Service for all New Untreated Water Facilities as of the first day of the Houston fiscal year in which Houston calculates the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment.

The Authority shall pay Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities, if due under this Section 3.02(c), no later than sixty (60) days after the Authority receives written certification from the Utility Official that construction of the New Untreated Water Facilities necessary to serve the Authority's requested Reservation is complete.

In the event the Authority, as indicated by a written notice from the Authority to Houston, seeks to pay Houston the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities over a maximum period of fifteen (15) years (with interest) in lieu of a lump sum payment, the Authority and the Utility Official shall in good faith negotiate a separate written agreement providing for such payment terms. If the Authority and the Utility Official are unable to enter into a separate written agreement upon terms mutually agreeable to both parties, then the Authority shall be required to pay the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities to Houston as a lump sum payment.

Within ninety (90) days after Houston's first issuance of bonds, notes, or other obligations to finance any New Untreated Water Facilities pursuant to this Section 3.02(c), Houston shall calculate the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment according to the formula above and send written notice to the Authority of Houston's calculation and the amount of the payment due from the Authority for the fiscal year in which Houston issues such bonds, notes or other obligations. For each Houston fiscal year thereafter, Houston shall calculate the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment according to the above formula and send written notice to the Authority of Houston's calculation and the amount of the payment due from the Authority within ninety (90) days of the last day of the previous Houston fiscal year. Each year, the Authority shall pay Houston the Annual Untreated Water Facilities Payment within sixty (60) days of its receipt of such notice from Houston. The Authority shall owe Houston the Annual Untreated Water Facilities Payment each year during the life of the Houston bonds, notes or other obligations used to finance the New Untreated Water Facilities or until this Contract is no longer in effect, whichever occurs first. To assist the Authority in its financial planning, Houston shall, prior to the last day of each Houston fiscal year, send a written statement to the Authority

of Houston's reasonable estimate of the Annual Outstanding Debt Service for the following three (3) Houston fiscal years.

Houston shall maintain each Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment in an interest-bearing account, which interest shall be credited to the account of the Authority. Houston shall use the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payments, and interest accrued thereon, only for the purpose of paying Annual Outstanding Debt Service. Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the last day of each Houston fiscal year, Houston shall prepare an accounting of the Annual Outstanding Debt Service actually paid by Houston on the New Untreated Water Facilities during such fiscal year. Houston shall engage an independent certified public accounting firm to audit such accounting. Houston and the Authority agree to "true-up" the Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payment made by the Authority such that if the Authority has underpaid, taking into account interest accrued, it will pay Houston such shortfall within sixty (60) days of receiving the final audit, and Houston agrees to refund to the Authority any overpayment, taking into account interest accrued, within sixty (60) days of Houston receiving the final audit if the Authority overpaid.

In the event Houston intends to construct or acquire New Untreated Water Facilities for any reason, Houston shall send written notice to the Authority of such intent at least one hundred eighty (180) days before Houston's first issuance of bonds, notes or other obligations to finance such New Untreated Water Facilities. If the Authority desires to increase its Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation, it shall submit a Reservation request pursuant to this Section 3.02(c) within ninety (90) days after receipt of such notice of intent from Houston.

If the Authority's Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation is increased pursuant to a Reservation under this Section 3.02(c), then the payment for all subsequent Reservations of the Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation (regardless of whether or not they require construction of New Untreated Water Facilities) shall be calculated and made pursuant to the hereinbefore formulas of this Section 3.02(c) and not Sections 3.02(a) or (b). If within ten (10) years after Houston's first issuance of bonds, notes, or other obligations to finance New Untreated Water Facilities pursuant to this Section 3.02(c) (the "Ten Year Period"), the Authority submits a Reservation request that does not require the construction of New Untreated Water Facilities, the Authority shall pay Houston the Payment for Untreated Water Facilities Costs Avoided. The Payment for Untreated Water Facilities Costs Avoided shall equal the total dollar

amount, without interest or penalty, of the Payment for Existing Untreated Water Facilities and the total accrued Annual New Untreated Water Facilities Payments which would have been paid by the Authority, according to the hereinbefore formulas of this Section 3.02(c), had the Authority made a Reservation request for such increase prior to Houston's first issuance of bonds, notes, or other obligations to finance the New Untreated Water Facilities. The Payment for Untreated Water Facilities Costs Avoided shall be made to Houston within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Authority's receipt of the Utility Official's approval of such later Reservation request. The Authority shall not owe Houston the Payment for Untreated Water Facilities Costs Avoided if: (i) the Authority submits a Reservation request within the Ten Year Period that requires the construction of New Untreated Water Facilities; or (ii) the Authority submits a Reservation request, regardless of whether or not it requires construction of New Untreated Water Facilities, after the Ten Year Period.

Section 3.03 Treated Water Capital Costs.

Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation shall mean 31 MGD; provided, however, that in the event the Authority increases its Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation pursuant to the terms of this Contract, then Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation shall mean such total increased amount.

Except as provided elsewhere in this Section 3.03, the Authority shall pay Houston its pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for the Plant Facilities and the Transmission Facilities (collectively, the "Treated Water Facilities") as follows: (i) for Treated Water Facilities constructed prior to the effective date of this Contract or those Treated Water Facilities listed in Exhibits "B" and "D", upon the later of (A) ninety (90) days after the effective date of this Contract or (B) the date that the Authority's GRP is certified by the HGCSO, but in no event later than July 1, 2003; (ii) for Treated Water Facilities constructed prior to the date of the Utility Official's written consent of any Reservation request from the Authority, no later than sixty (60) days after the Authority receives the Utility Official's written consent for the Authority to increase its Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation; and (iii) for Treated Water Facilities not constructed prior to the date of the Utility Official's written consent of any Reservation request from the Authority, sixty (60) days after receipt of the Utility Official's reasonable estimate of the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution.

The cost for any Reservation of Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation shall be in accordance with the formulas set forth in this Section 3.03. Upon request from the Authority,

Houston shall promptly provide the Authority with Houston's cost calculation, in accordance with the cost formulas in this Section 3.03, for any Reservation of the Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation, that at that time may be under consideration by the Authority. Any Authority written request for such a Reservation shall include Houston's cost calculation. The Utility Official shall either approve or reject, in writing, the Authority's Reservation request within ninety (90) days after receipt of such request. If the Utility Official fails to approve such request within such ninety (90)-day period, the Reservation request shall be deemed rejected. A Reservation for Treated Water Facilities not constructed prior to the date of the Reservation request must be approved by the Board of Directors for the Authority before Houston will commence design and construction of the designated Treated Water Facilities.

- (1) For Treated Water Facilities that are in service before the effective date of the Contract or the date of any Reservation request, the Authority's pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution is based on the formula:

$$\text{Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution} = (A - B) \times (C/D)$$

- (2) For Treated Water Facilities that are not in service before the effective date of any Reservation request, the Authority's pro-rata Capital Contribution is based on the formula:

$$\text{Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution} = A \times (C/D)$$

Where: "A" is the Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs of the Treated Water Facilities.

"B" is the amount of depreciation calculated by applying the 50-year straight line depreciation method for the period of time running between the in-service date of the facilities and the effective date of the Contract, or for any Reservation made by the Authority, the date of such Reservation request (i.e. 2% of Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs per year).

"C" is the Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation in MGD to be purchased.

"D" is the capacity in MGD of the particular facility. The capacity for transmission lines shall be calculated at a flow rate of 5 feet per second.

The Authority may defer payment of the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for the initial 31 MGD Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation for the period of time running from the date payment is due pursuant to this Section 3.03 to the date payment is made, but no later than commencement of the delivery of Water, by annually paying Houston an annual interest payment ("Annual Interest Payment"). The Annual Interest Payment shall be calculated by multiplying the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution times the Interest Rate. If the Authority does not pay Houston the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution on the date payment is due pursuant to this Section 3.03, then the Authority shall pay Houston the Annual Interest Payment on such date and, thereafter, on the anniversary date of such payment until the Authority has paid Houston the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution. Because the Annual Interest Payment constitutes the payment of annual interest in advance, in the event the Authority pays Houston the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution prior to the anniversary date of any Annual Interest Payment made by the Authority, Houston shall, within sixty (60) days of its receipt of the Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution, refund to the Authority, with interest at the Interest Rate, the pro-rated portion of such Annual Interest Payment based on the amount of days remaining in such annual period. Houston shall not be required to deliver Water to the Authority until the Authority has paid Houston its Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for the Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation of 31 MGD, plus any interest costs due from the Authority to Houston pursuant to this paragraph.

In the event there is no final design and construction for the Treated Water Facilities on the date that any Reservation request is submitted by the Authority to the Utility Official, the pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution shall be paid in two (2) increments:

(i) For the pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for design engineering services, including surveys, soils boring and testing, as well as design services, the Utility Official must provide the Authority a reasonable estimate of the pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for such services based on Houston's contract with the design engineer. The Authority shall deposit with Houston the amount of the Utility Official's reasonable estimate within sixty (60) days of its receipt of such estimate.

(ii) For the pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for the cost of construction of the Treated Water Facilities, the Utility Official must provide the Authority a reasonable estimate of the pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution for the

construction based on the lowest responsible bid received plus estimated costs for construction management, engineering, testing services and a 15% contingency. The Authority shall deposit with Houston the amount of the Utility Official's reasonable estimate within sixty (60) days of its receipt of such estimate.

All Authority pro-rata Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution deposits shall be kept by Houston in an account. Houston shall spend money from the account only for Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs and/or debt service.

Within ninety (90) days of the acceptance of the completed construction of the subject Treated Water Facilities, Houston shall cause an accounting to be made of the Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs. Houston shall engage an independent certified public accounting firm to audit its accounting. As soon as the firm has completed the audit, Houston shall submit the audited accounting to the Authority. The accounting shall state the difference between the estimated Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs that were paid by the Authority and the actual Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs.

If the actual Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs, as determined by the audited accounting, are less than the estimated Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs paid by the Authority, resulting in an overpayment by the Authority of its pro-rata share, Houston shall refund such difference with actual interest accrued, within ninety (90) days of the date of the receipt of the accounting by the Authority.

If the actual Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs, as determined by the accounting, are more than the estimated Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs paid by the Authority, resulting in an underpayment by the Authority of its pro-rata share, the Authority shall pay Houston, within ninety (90) days of the date of the receipt of the accounting by the Authority, such difference with interest calculated at the actual interest rate of the debt incurred by Houston in order to pay for such difference, running from the time Houston paid for the Authority's pro-rata share of Treated Water Facilities Capital Costs (resulting from such Authority underpayment) to the time such underpayment is paid to Houston by the Authority.

The Treated Water Facilities applicable to the Authority and the corresponding Treated Water Facilities Capital Contribution calculations for such Treated Water Facilities are shown on Exhibit "F" hereto.

ARTICLE IV

Operation and Maintenance Charges

Section 4.01 In General

It is expressly understood by the Authority that it shall directly reimburse Houston on a periodic basis for the expenses incurred in producing and treating the Water delivered to the Authority. The Authority pledges to enact rates and fees for its customers sufficient to pay the O&M Expenses.

Section 4.02 O&M Expenses Calculation

For the purposes of this Contract, the yearly O&M Expenses for the Authority are computed according to the following formula:

$$(A/B \times C) + (A/E \times D) + F$$

Where: "A" is the amount of Water (in millions of gallons) taken by the Authority at the Point(s) of Delivery, as measured by the measuring equipment pursuant to Article VII, during the given year.

"B" is the total amount (in millions of gallons) of Water produced by the Plant Facilities during the given year.

"C" means all costs and expenses incurred by Houston (whether incurred by Houston through its own staff or independent contractors) for the maintenance and operation of the Plant Facilities, including (i) chemicals, labor, power, testing, permits, insurance, and other related costs, necessary for the efficient maintenance and operation of the Plant Facilities in full compliance with this Contract and all applicable regulatory requirements and the preparation costs of the Annual Audit; (ii) necessary repairs and replacements to the Plant Facilities; and (iii) improvements and betterments to maintain the Plant Facilities in proper operation and to comply with this Contract and all applicable regulatory requirements. The above costs and expenses include a proportionate share of administrative costs for management and support, resource management, planning and operations, the Office of the Director of Public Works as well as other indirect costs in the allocation percentage included in Houston's most recent finalized independent rate study. (The portion of such study showing such allocation percentage is attached hereto as Exhibit "G".) At the time of execution of this Contract, this allocation is 27%. Except as provided herein, no cost of Houston's government not directly related to the maintenance and operation of the Plant Facilities shall be included in the factor "C".

"D" means all costs and expenses incurred by Houston (whether incurred by Houston through its own staff or by independent contractors) for the maintenance and operation of the Untreated Water Facilities, including, (i) chemicals, labor, power, testing, permits, insurance, and other related costs, necessary for the efficient maintenance and operation of the Untreated Water Facilities in full compliance with this Contract and all applicable regulatory requirements and the

preparation of costs of the Annual Audit; (ii) necessary repairs and replacements to the Untreated Water Facilities; and (iii) improvements and betterments to maintain the Untreated Water Facilities in proper operation and to comply with this Contract and all applicable regulatory requirements. No cost of Houston's government not directly related to the maintenance and operation of the Untreated Water Facilities shall be included in the factor "D".

"E" is the total amount of untreated surface water (in millions of gallons) sold to Houston's water customers during the given year, including such untreated surface water received at Houston's water treatment plants as well as the billable quantity (including any take-or-pay amounts) taken by Houston's untreated surface water customers, but excluding untreated surface water loss by evaporation or leakage.

"F" is the Authority's pro rata share of the cost of (i) Major Rehabilitations and (ii) the repair and/or replacement of any portion of the Transmission Facilities. As used in this definition, the ratio for determining the share of the cost borne by the Authority is a fraction, the numerator of which is the Authority's then-current Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation (in MGD) and the denominator of which is the total capacity (in MGD) of the entire facility subject to the Major Rehabilitation, repair, or replacement. The reasonable cost for such repairs, replacements and/or rehabilitations includes the same classes of costs identified in factor "C" above. Except as provided herein, no cost of Houston's government not directly related to the Major Rehabilitations or the repair and/or replacement of any portion of the Transmission Facilities shall be included in the factor "F". The capacities (in MGD) of the Plant Facilities and Transmission Facilities are shown in Exhibit "H".

Section 4.03 Annual O&M Budget.

Ninety (90) days prior to the commencement of delivery of Water under this Contract, and ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of each Houston fiscal year thereafter, Houston shall provide the Authority for its review and comment the proposed Annual O&M Budget showing (i) an estimate of the Authority's O&M Expenses for the coming fiscal year, (ii) the proposed monthly payments to be paid by the Authority for the fiscal year (1/12 of the Annual O&M Budget), and (iii) the amount of the O&M Reserve. Houston will also include in the proposed and final Annual O&M Budget the estimated water production by the Plant Facilities and the Untreated Water Facilities as well as the anticipated amount of Water to be sold to the Authority.

The Authority will have sixty (60) days to review and comment on the proposed Annual O&M Budget, and Houston agrees to provide such records and cost documents in its possession as the Authority may reasonably require. At the end of the 60-day period Houston will consider the Authority's comments and issue the final Annual O&M Budget ("Annual O&M Budget") and invoice.

Section 4.04 Payments of Authority O&M Expenses.

Within thirty (30) days of its receipt of Houston's invoice and final Annual O&M Budget, the Authority shall pay Houston the O&M Reserve and the first monthly payment of O&M Expenses. Each month thereafter, the Authority shall make monthly payments to Houston in such equal amounts as required in the applicable Annual O&M Budget. Payments shall be due on the first of each month, and any payment more than thirty (30) days late shall bear interest at the rate applicable under Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code. Houston shall maintain the O&M Reserve in an interest-bearing account, which interest shall be credited to the account of the Authority. Any portion of a monthly O&M Expenses payment made by the Authority in excess of the actual monthly O&M Expenses incurred by Houston shall be credited to the account of the Authority in the O&M Reserve.

Houston may use funds from the O&M Reserve only for O&M Expenses. Houston will use the funds out of the O&M Reserve to pay O&M Expenses only if the monthly O&M Expenses payment made by the Authority is less than the actual monthly O&M Expenses incurred by Houston or if the payment of the monthly O&M Expenses is not timely made to Houston by the Authority. Houston may invoice the Authority for any shortfall in the O&M Reserve in order for the O&M Reserve to equal the amount established in the Annual O&M Budget, provided that any such invoice must include an accounting to justify the additional payment to the O&M Reserve. The Authority shall pay such invoices within sixty (60) days of its receipt of Houston's accounting and invoice for replenishment of the O&M Reserve.

Section 4.05 Major Rehabilitations.

Houston shall perform such Major Rehabilitations as necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Plant Facilities and Transmission Facilities. Except for emergencies involving health or safety, Houston shall submit plans and specifications for such Major Rehabilitations to the Authority for review and comment at least sixty (60) days prior to Houston advertising the project for bids. Costs for Major Rehabilitations shall be paid by the Authority in the ratio of its Treated Water Facilities Demand Allocation to the capacity of the facility requiring the Major Rehabilitation, as applicable. Provided, however, the Authority shall never be required to pay for any portion of replacements, additions or improvements to facilities that provide capacity or Water solely to other customers.

Section 4.06 Annual Audit.

Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the close of each Houston fiscal year, Houston shall prepare an accounting of the O&M Expenses ("Annual Audit"). Houston shall engage an

independent certified public accounting firm to audit the accounting of costs of the O&M Expenses. As soon as the firm has completed the audit, Houston shall submit the audited accounting to the Authority. Houston and the Authority agree to "true-up" the previous payments made for O&M Expenses during the fiscal year such that if the Authority has underpaid it will make timely payment of all O&M Expenses owed in the next monthly billing following the audit, and Houston agrees to give credit to the Authority if it has overpaid O&M Expenses for the fiscal year, such credit, including any interest accrued in the O&M Reserve on such overpayments, shall be given on the next monthly billing(s) following the audit.

Houston agrees to provide both the independent auditor and the Authority all expenses, meter readings and cost data required for the audit. The audit must include an itemization for the Authority of all costs and meter recordings used to compute the O&M Expenses.

ARTICLE V

Term Provision

This Contract shall be in force and effect from and after the execution hereof by the Houston Controller and shall expire at noon on the fortieth (40th) anniversary of the date of countersignature by Houston's Controller. To the extent authorized by law, as amended, Houston agrees, if requested in writing by the Authority, to execute a written extension of the term of this Contract for an additional twenty (20) years beyond such forty (40) year term. The Houston Mayor shall be authorized to execute such written extension. At such time as this Contract is no longer in force and effect, if requested in writing by the Authority, Houston agrees to continue to provide water services to the Authority upon the payment of reasonable rates and charges therefor which take into account the capital payments paid by the Authority to Houston pursuant to this Contract and subject to the availability of Water. The immediately preceding sentence shall survive the expiration or termination of this Contract.

ARTICLE VI

Performance by the Parties

Section 6.01 Construction and Maintenance of Certain Facilities between the Point(s) of Delivery and Point(s) of Measurement.

With respect to any Water handling facilities located between the Point(s) of Delivery and the Point(s) of Measurement shown in Exhibit "C", the Authority and Houston specifically agree:

- (1) That all such facilities, other than the measurement equipment itself, shall be and remain the property of the Authority.

- (2) That the Authority shall take all responsible steps to maintain such facilities and to prevent leaks or discharges from such facilities and shall not suffer, permit, cause or allow any water to be taken or used from such facilities, except through the measuring equipment.
- (3) That the Authority shall repair any such leak or discharge at once upon receiving notice thereof and pay Houston the cost of any Water lost by reason of such a leak or discharge. The Authority shall make payment to Houston for such Water only by Houston including the amount of such Water in the factor "A" defined in Section 4.02. Calculation of the amount of Water lost by reason of such leak shall be estimated on a basis mutually agreed to between the Authority and the Utility Official.
- (4) That the Authority shall correct or repair any damage caused by any such leak or discharge.

Section 6.02 Tap and Meter.

The Authority shall construct, at its sole cost, water connection taps at the Point(s) of Delivery and set the water meter(s) at the Point(s) of Measurement under the mutual approval and inspection of the Utility Official and the Authority. The Authority also agrees to provide a telephone and electronic connection accessible at the Point(s) of Measurement and allow Houston to connect remote meter reading equipment to such telephone line.

Before any connection, the Authority System shall be chlorinated in accordance with requirements approved by the Utility Official.

Section 6.03 Delivery Limitations.

The Authority shall not be guaranteed any specific quantity or pressure of Water whenever Houston's water supply is limited or when Houston's equipment may become inoperative due to unforeseen breakdown or scheduled maintenance and repairs. Should delivery of Water be limited as a result of scheduled maintenance or repairs, Houston shall provide written notification of such scheduled maintenance or repairs at least 30 days prior to same. Houston is in no case to be held to any liability for failure to furnish any specific amount or pressure of Water; provided, however, that Houston shall use reasonable efforts to deliver the Water required by this Contract and to maintain sufficient pressure at the Point(s) of Delivery in order for the Authority to receive the Water it is entitled to under this Contract. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Section 6.03, Houston may reduce the supply of Water only in

accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, particularly Section 11.039(a) of the Texas Water Code, as may be amended from time to time.

Section 6.04 Backflow Requirements.

On or before the commencement of delivery of Water to the Authority pursuant to this Contract, the Authority shall have installed an air gap or backflow prevention device, in accordance with the specifications approved by the Utility Official, at either: (i) each Point of Delivery; or (ii) at each location where the Authority System connects to the water system of an Authority customer. The Authority and the Utility Official shall agree in writing as to the location of all air gaps or backflow prevention devices installed by the Authority.

Section 6.05 Water Conservation

The Authority shall approve and implement a water conservation program as required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality pursuant to 30 T.A.C. § 288, as may be amended from time to time.

Section 6.06 Inspections.

The Authority agrees that Houston may conduct inspections from time to time to determine that no conditions exist in the Authority System and connections to its customers' premises which would or might adversely affect the Houston System. Houston shall notify the Authority should such condition exist. Such notification shall be provided in writing and shall be made within forty-eight (48) hours of discovering any such condition.

Section 6.07 Inspection of Records.

With reasonable notice, either party shall allow the other the opportunity to examine records from the other party for the purpose of evaluating the costs for which payments are requested or required hereunder.

Section 6.08 Payment.

In the event the Authority fails to timely tender payment of any amount within the periods established herein, and such failure continues for sixty (60) days after the notice to the Authority of such default, Houston may suspend delivery of Water, but the exercise of such right shall be in addition to any other remedy available to Houston.

Section 6.09 Title to and Responsibility for Water.

Title to, possession, and control of Water shall remain with Houston until it passes through the Point(s) of Delivery, where title to, possession, and control of the Water shall pass from Houston to the Authority.

ARTICLE VII

Measuring Equipment

Section 7.01 In General

At the Authority's own cost and expense, the Authority shall provide for installation at the Point(s) of Measurement, measuring equipment, properly equipped with meters and devices of standard type for measuring accurately the quantity of Water delivered under this Contract, with ability to measure the quantity of Water delivered within the accuracy tolerance of two percent (2%). Such measuring equipment shall be approved by the Authority and the Utility Official, but shall become the property of Houston after installation.

Section 7.02 Access

During any reasonable hours, Houston and the Authority shall have access to all measuring equipment. The Authority shall have access to all records pertinent to determining the measurement and quantity of Water actually delivered, but the reading of the meters for purposes of the calculation of any payment required from the Authority under this Contract shall be done by Houston.

Section 7.03 Testing of Meter

Houston shall maintain the measuring equipment within the accuracy tolerance specified in Section 7.04 by periodic tests. Houston shall conduct such tests at least once every twelve (12) months and shall notify the Authority at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the time and location at which such tests are to be made. If the Authority requests an additional test within twelve (12) months, Houston shall charge the Authority an amount equal to Houston's cost to perform such test, unless the test reveals that the equipment registers greater than one hundred and two percent (102%) for a given flow rate. In addition, the Authority shall have the right to independently check, at its own cost, said measuring equipment at any time upon forty-eight (48) hours written notification to the Utility Official, providing the opportunity for the Utility Official to witness such tests.

Section 7.04 Results of Tests

Should the test of the measuring equipment in question show that the equipment registers either more than one hundred two percent (102%) or less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the Water delivered for a given flow rate, the total quantity of Water delivered to the Authority will be deemed to be the average daily consumption as measured by the measuring equipment when in working order, and the meter shall be calibrated to the manufacturer's specifications (in the case of Venturi meters) or the AWWA specifications (for all other types of meters) for the given

rate of flow, or replaced by Houston with accurate measuring equipment that is tested before it is placed in service. This adjustment shall be for a period extending back to the time when the inaccuracy began, if such time is ascertainable; and if such time is not ascertainable, for a period extending back to the last test of the measuring equipment or one hundred twenty (120) days, whichever is shorter.

As used in this paragraph, the expression "given rate of flow" means one of the following selected by the Utility Official for each calibration or test:

- (1) the total quantity of Water delivered during the preceding period (usually a calendar month) as reflected by the totalizer, converted to gallons per minute;
- (2) high, low, and intermediate rates of flow in the flow range, as reflected by the flow recording devices; or
- (3) AWWA-specified test flow rates for that size and type of meter.

Section 7.05 Disputes as to Testing.

In the event of a dispute between Houston and the Authority as to the accuracy of the testing equipment used by Houston to conduct the accuracy test, an independent check may be mutually agreed upon between the Authority and the Utility Official to be conducted by an independent measuring equipment company suitable to both the Authority and the Utility Official. The cost of such test will be at the Authority's sole expense.

The Utility Official shall accept the test results of the independent measuring equipment company, provided that the calibration procedure and test equipment are mutually agreeable to the Authority and to the Utility Official.

Section 7.06 Check Meters.

The Authority may install, at its own cost and expense, such check meters in the Authority's pipeline; but Houston shall have the right of ingress and egress to such check meters during all reasonable hours; provided, however, that billing computations shall be on the basis of the results of the measuring equipment set forth above.

ARTICLE VIII

Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 8.01 Quality of Water.

Houston shall provide Water meeting all applicable Texas and Federal regulations regarding water quality, including the Safe Drinking Water Act, as same may be amended from time to time.

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 6.03 AND 8.01, HOUSTON MAKES NO WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, REGARDING THE QUALITY OR DELIVERY PRESSURE OF THE WATER, INCLUDING THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

THE AUTHORITY HEREBY RELEASES AND DISCHARGES HOUSTON FROM ANY AND ALL FINES, DEMANDS, JUDGMENTS, LIABILITIES OR CLAIMS ARISING BY REASON OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE DELIVERY OF WATER WHICH MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 6.03 AND 8.01.

Section 8.02 Ingress and Egress.

During the term of this Contract, and upon the giving of prior notification to the Authority, Houston shall have the right of ingress and egress in, upon, under and over any and all land, easements and rights-of-way of the Authority on which Houston, with the Authority's consent, constructs facilities to deliver Water to the Authority.

Section 8.03 Assignments.

This Contract shall bind and benefit the respective parties and their legal successors, but shall not otherwise be assignable, in whole or in part, by either party without first obtaining written consent of the other. "Assignment" as used herein means assignment in law or otherwise.

Section 8.04 Subject to Law.

This Contract shall be subject to all present and future valid laws, orders, rules and regulations of the United States of America, the State of Texas, any regulatory body having jurisdiction and the Charter and Ordinances (to the extent the Ordinances are not inconsistent with this Contract) of the City of Houston, Texas. In order to protect the Houston System it is specifically agreed that the Authority System shall be constructed and operated to comply with the rules promulgated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or any successor agency, the Houston Plumbing Code, and the policy of requirements of the Utility Official regarding backflow prevention and cross connections. Should a condition in violation of these requirements be discovered, the Authority shall promptly cure same.

Section 8.05 No Additional Waiver Implied.

The failure of either party hereto to insist, in any one or more instances, upon performance of any of the terms, covenants or conditions of this Contract, shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of the future performance of any such term, covenant or condition

by the other party hereto, but the obligation of such other party with respect to such future performance shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 8.06 Merger.

This instrument contains all the agreements made between the parties.

Section 8.07 Notices.

Until the Authority is otherwise notified in writing by Houston, the address of Houston is and shall remain as follows:

City of Houston
Utility Official of Public Works and Engineering Department
P.O. Box 1560
Houston, Texas 77251-1560

Until Houston is otherwise notified in writing by the Authority, the address of the Authority is and shall remain as follows:

North Harris County Regional Water Authority
c/o General Manager
3648 FM 1960 West, Suite 110
Houston, Texas 77068

All written notices, statements and payments required or permitted to be given under this Contract from one party to the other shall be deemed given by the deposit in a United States Postal Service mailbox or receptacle of certified or registered mail, with proper postage affixed thereto, addressed to the respective other party at the address set forth above or at such other address as the parties respectively shall designate by written notice.

Section 8.08 Authorship.

The parties agree that this Contract shall not be construed in favor of or against either party on the basis that the party did or did not authorize this Contract.

Section 8.09 Parties in Interest.

This Contract shall be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the parties hereto and shall not be construed to confer any rights upon any third party. Houston shall never be subject to any liability in damages to any customer of the Authority for any failure to perform under this Contract.

Section 8.10 Sale of Water Outside Boundaries.

In entering into this Contract the parties contemplate that the Authority will sell the water to inhabitants and commercial customers within the Authority. Therefore, the Authority may sell Water purchased hereunder outside its boundaries only if such sale is approved in writing by the

Utility Official. The Utility Official shall grant any such request if the area is outside Houston's city limits and is not then provided Water service by Houston.

Section 8.11 Captions.

The captions appearing at the first of each numbered section in this Contract are inserted and included solely for convenience and shall never be considered or given any effect in construing this Contract, or any provisions hereof, or in connection with the duties, obligations, or liabilities of the respective parties hereto or in ascertaining intent, if any questions of intent should arise.

Section 8.12 Enforcement.

The City Attorney or his or her designee shall have the right to enforce all legal rights and obligations under this Contract without further authorization.

Section 8.13 Approvals.

Unless otherwise provided for herein, any consent or approval of the parties shall be made by the governing body of each party.

Section 8.14 Force Majeure.

In the event either party is rendered unable, wholly or in part, by Force Majeure, to carry out any of its obligations under this Contract, it is agreed that upon such party's giving notice and full particulars of such Force Majeure in writing to the other party as soon as possible after the occurrence of the Force Majeure, the obligations of the party giving such notice, to the extent it is affected by Force Majeure and to the extent that due diligence is being used to resume performance, shall be suspended for the duration of the Force Majeure. Such cause shall, as far as possible, be remedied with all reasonable dispatch.

Section 8.15 Force Majeure Defined.

The term "Force Majeure," as used herein, shall include, but not be limited to, acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other industrial disturbances, acts of the public enemy, war, blockades, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightning, earthquakes, fires, storms, floods, washouts, droughts, tornadoes, hurricanes, arrests and restraints of government and people, explosions, breakage or damage to machinery, pipelines or canals, and any other inability of either party, whether similar to those enumerated or otherwise, and not within the control of the party claiming such inability, which by the exercise of due diligence and care such party could not have avoided.

Section 8.16 Default and Remedies.

Default shall occur only in the event either party fails to adhere to its respective obligations hereunder. In such event, the non-defaulting party shall give the defaulting party: (i) written notice describing such default and the necessary cure therefor; and (ii) the opportunity to cure such default within no less than thirty (30) days of receipt of such notice. If the default is cured within the specified time period to the satisfaction of the non-defaulting party, then no further action shall be taken by the non-defaulting party. If the default is not cured within the specified time period to the satisfaction of the non-defaulting party, the non-defaulting party may pursue any available remedies existing at law or in equity. This Section 8.16 shall not be considered as specifying the exclusive remedy or procedure for remedy for any default, and all remedies existing at law and in equity are to be available to either party; provided, however, that the parties may submit their dispute in good faith to non-binding mediation, the costs of which will be shared equally by the parties, prior to either party filing suit for any default under this Contract.

Section 8.17 Advisory Committee.

Houston shall establish an Advisory Committee comprised of: (i) one (1) representative of Houston, selected by the Utility Official; (ii) one (1) representative of the Authority, selected by the Authority; and (iii) one (1) representative of the West Harris County Regional Water Authority. Such representatives may be members of the governing bodies of such entities or such other persons as such entities may designate. The function of the Advisory Committee shall be to inform and consult with Houston concerning: (i) Annual O&M Budget matters, (ii) surface water system operational issues, (iii) upcoming or ongoing surface water projects, (iv) long-term surface water planning issues, and (v) other surface water related issues. The Advisory Committee shall make reasonable efforts to meet at least once per calendar year.

Section 8.18 Responsibility for Groundwater Reduction Plan.

The Authority shall be responsible for adopting, obtaining HGCSO approval of and administering its Groundwater Reduction Plan (the "GRP"). Houston shall be responsible for adopting, obtaining HGCSO approval of and administering its GRP.

Section 8.19 Payment Dates.

If the Authority and the Utility Official mutually agree in writing, the due dates of any payments due under this Contract within any particular calendar year may be modified such that such payments become due on the same date within each calendar year.

Section 8.20 Severability.

The provisions of this Contract are severable, and if any provision or part of this Contract 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 Contract and the application of such provision or part of this Contract to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

[EXECUTION PAGE FOLLOWS]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Contract in multiple copies, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, effective on the date of countersignature indicated below.

"Houston"

"Authority"

CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

NORTH HARRIS COUNTY
REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

By: Joe P. Brown
Mayor Jh. [Signature]

By: [Signature]
President, Board of Directors

Executed for and on behalf of City pursuant to authority granted by the City Council Ordinance No. 2002-112, passed Dec 11, 2002, a copy of which is attached hereto for reference.



By: [Signature]
Secretary, Board of Directors

DATE APPROVED: 12-02-02

ATTEST/SEAL

[Signature]
City Secretary

APPROVED:

By: [Signature]
General Manager of the Authority

APPROVED:

[Signature]
Director, Department of Public Works and Engineering

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: [Signature]
General Counsel to the Authority

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Sr. Assistant City Attorney
L.D. File No. 80-99041-01

[Signature]
City Controller

DATE COUNTERSIGNED: 12/16/02

EXHIBIT A: Houston's Existing Untreated Water Facilities

- 1 Coastal Water Authority (General)
- 2 Trinity/Lynchburg Pump Stations
- 3 Conveyance System

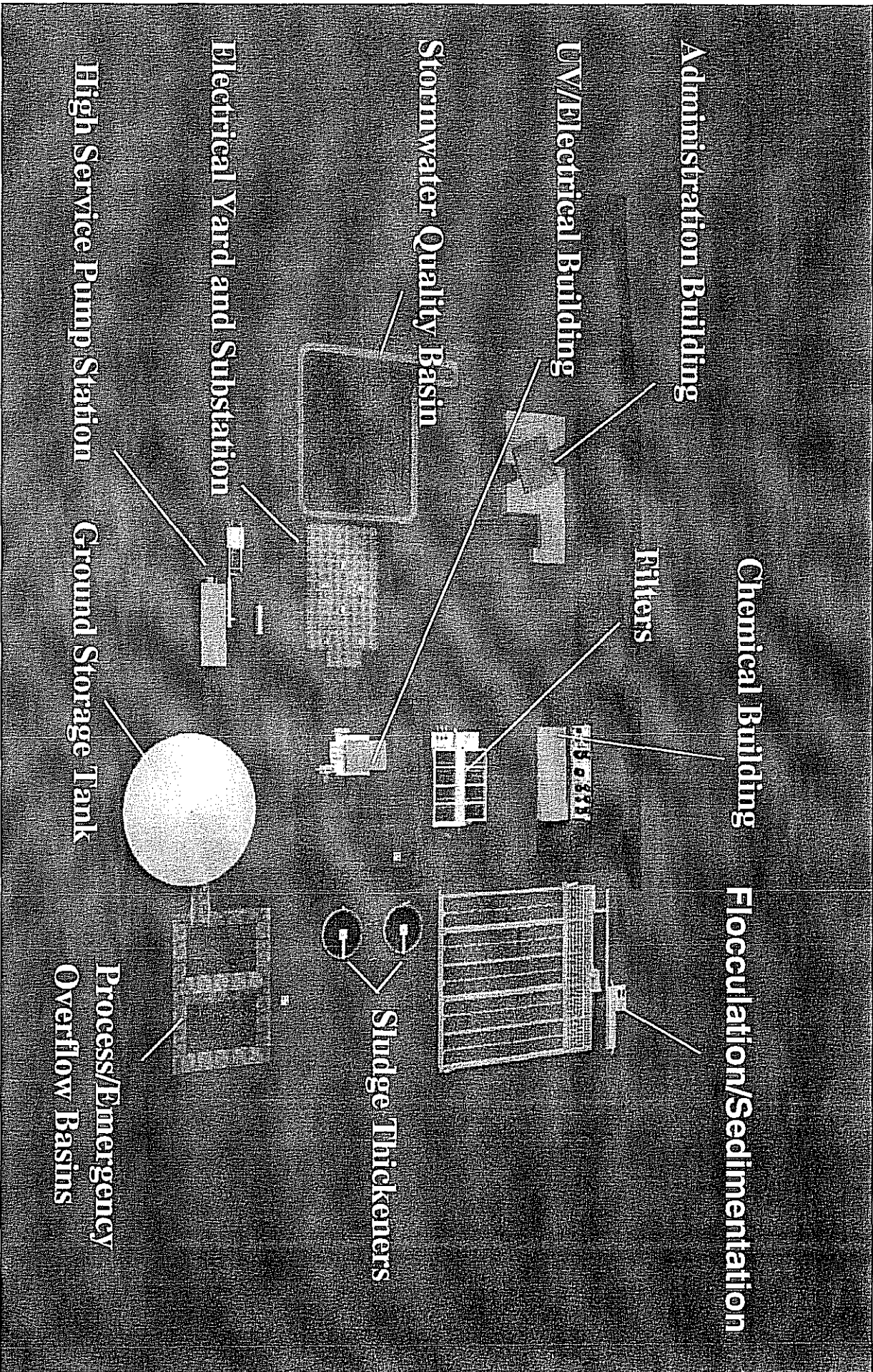
- 4 Trinity River Authority (General)
- 5 Lake Livingston Improvements

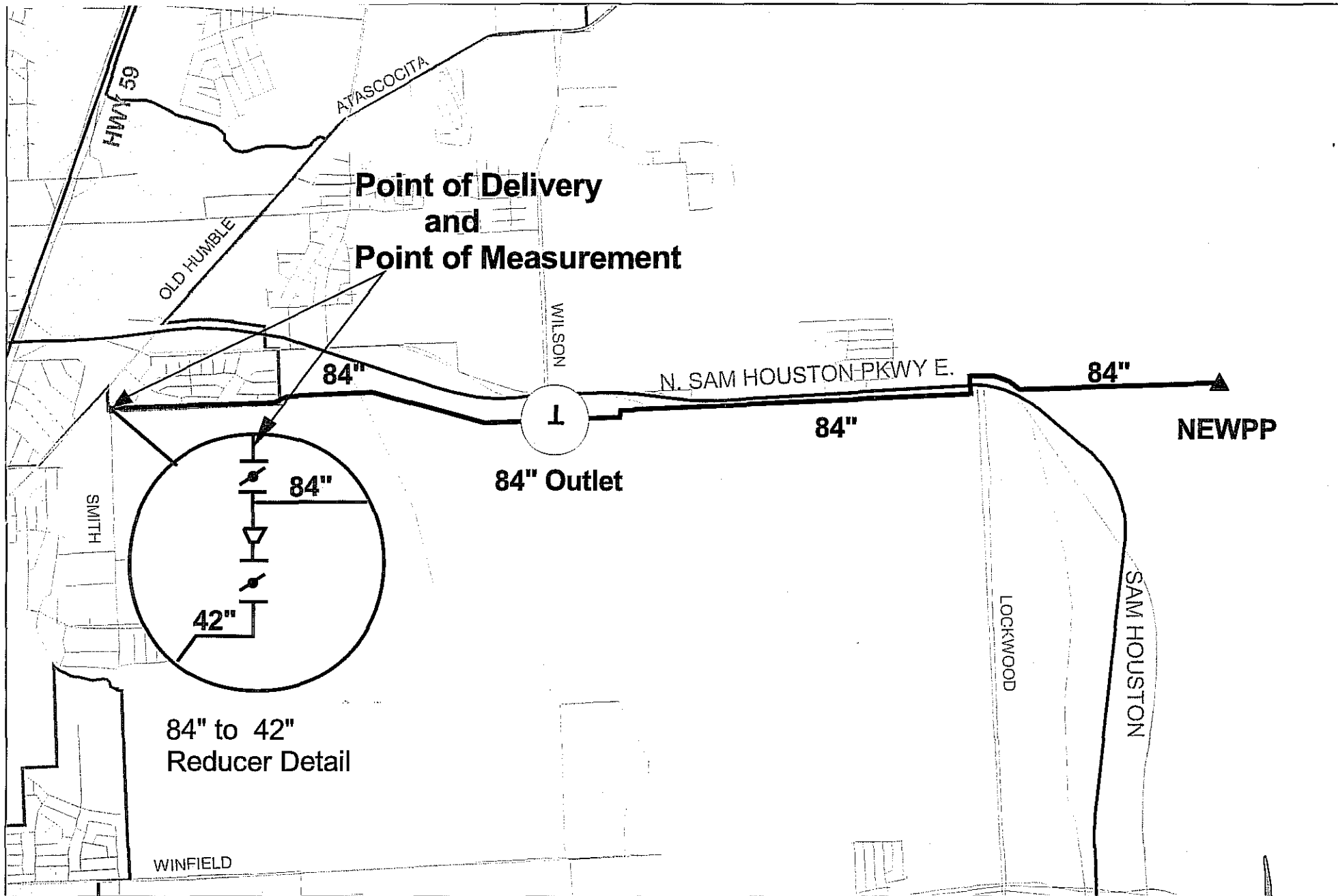
- 6 Lake Houston Dam/Reservoir

- 7 Wallisville Lake Project
- 8 Dayton Canal
- 9 Allens Creek Reservoir Land Purchase

- 10 Water Rights

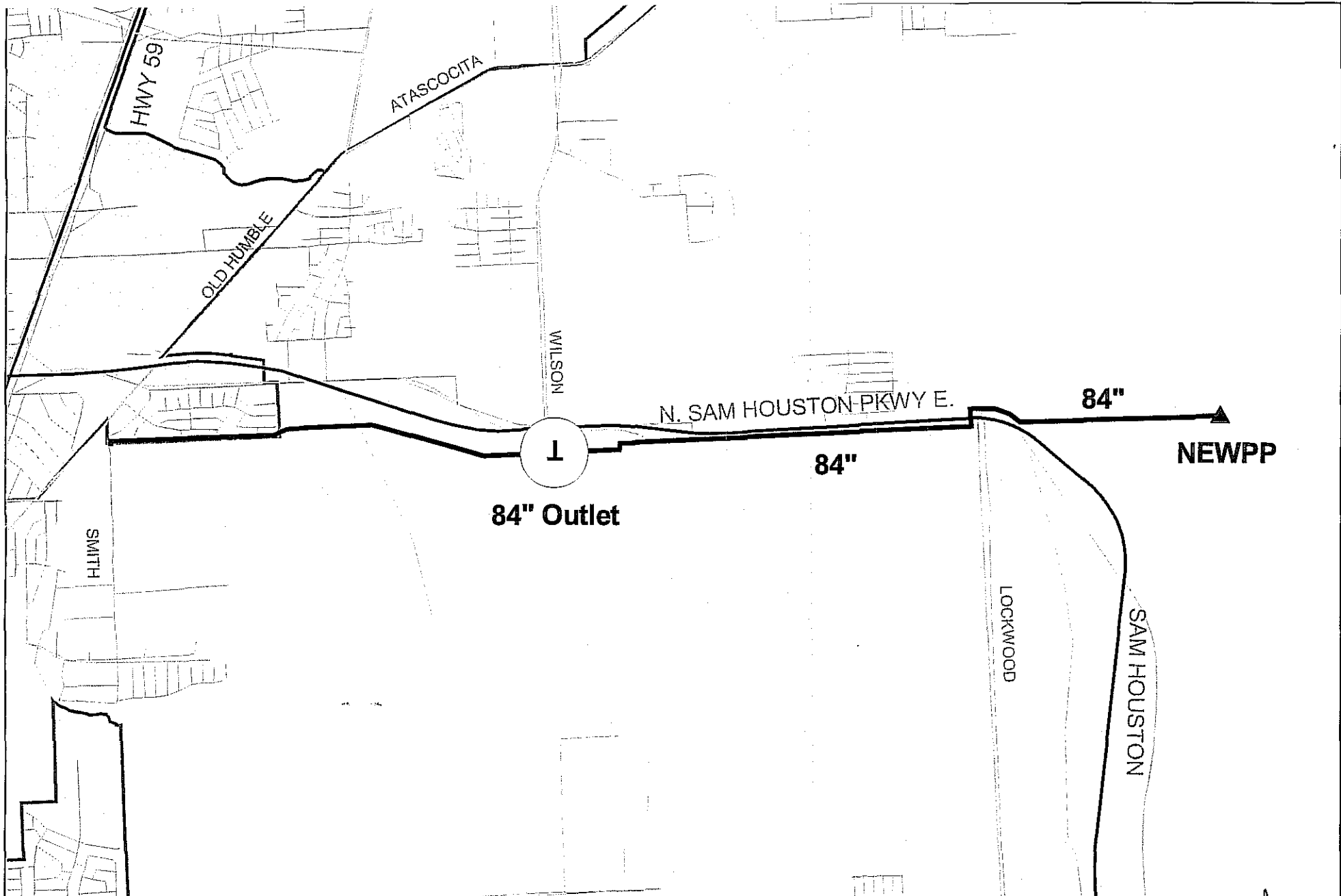
EXHIBIT B : PLANT FACILITIES - NORTHEAST WATER PURIFICATION PLANT





-  Houston city limits
-  NEWPP transmission lines
-  Minor streets
-  Highway

Exhibit C Point (s) of Delivery and Point (s) of Measurement
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING
 PUBLIC UTILITIES DIVISION



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|--------------------------|
|  | Houston city limits |  | NEWPP transmission lines |
|  | Minor streets |  | Highway |

Exhibit D Transmission Facilities

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING
PUBLIC UTILITIES DIVISION

EXHIBIT E: Initial Untreated Water Facilities Demand Allocation to be purchased by the Authority, The Outstanding Debt, and the total amount (in MGD) of Factor "B"

NHCRWA's Prorata Share of Houston's Untreated Water Facilities Current Outstanding Debt For Initial Demand Allocation (A/B)C = \$23,071,783

Where

Factor A = Initial Demand Allocation for the Authority	
Year	Demand Allocation (MGD)
2010	31

Factor B = Surface Water - Average Daily Production (MGD):	
Untreated Water Sold to Customers in 2001 (MGD):	235.51
Water Production at SEWTP in 2001 (MGD):	68.55
Water Production at EWTP in 2001 (MGD):	215.92
Surface Water - Average Daily Production (MGD):	519.98

Factor C = Houston's Untreated Water Facilities Outstanding Debt	
Facility Component	Outstanding Debt
1 Coastal Water Authority (General)	\$254,187,160
2 Trinity River Authority (General)	\$13,000,000
Total Contract Debt:	\$267,187,160
3 Coastal Water Authority (Proposed TRINITY/Lynchburg Pump Station Upgrade)General)	\$55,000,000
4 TRA - Current Lake Livingston Improvements	\$15,481,000
5 Allens Creek Land Purchase:	\$16,754,709
6 Lake Houston Dam/Reservoir Improvements:	\$17,016,400
7 Wallisville Lake Project :	\$10,406,400
8 Dayton Canal	\$5,150,000
Total Outstanding Debt (Factor C):	\$386,995,669

Note: Item 1 and 2 represents "Outstanding Debt" as of June 30, 2001. Item 3 through 8 represents estimated cost. Factor "C" will be revised per "actual" costs of all Untreated Water Facilities. Authority and Houston will "true-up" final untreated water cost payment per actual incurred costs of facilities shown in Exhibit A.

Exhibit F Treated Water Facilities Applicable to North Harris County Regional Water Authority

Page 1 of 2 Northeast Water Purification Plant

Description	cost	
Phase I Construction Cost		
Total	\$92,206,000	
84-inch	\$14,000,000	
42-inch	\$6,338,000	6.87%
Plant Construction Cost	\$71,868,000	
Phase I Non-construction Cost	\$16,581,586	
Items subject to revision		
Owner's Representative	\$4,427,841	
Diversity Consultant	\$495,000	
General Engineering Consultant	\$1,497,740	
Project Contingency/Change Orders	\$5,000,000	
Total:	\$11,420,581	
Adjusted amount at 6.87%	(\$785,021)	
Adjusted Plant Non-construction Cost	\$15,796,565	
Phase I total	\$87,664,565	
Phase II total	\$32,526,000	
Total Plant Cost	\$120,190,565	

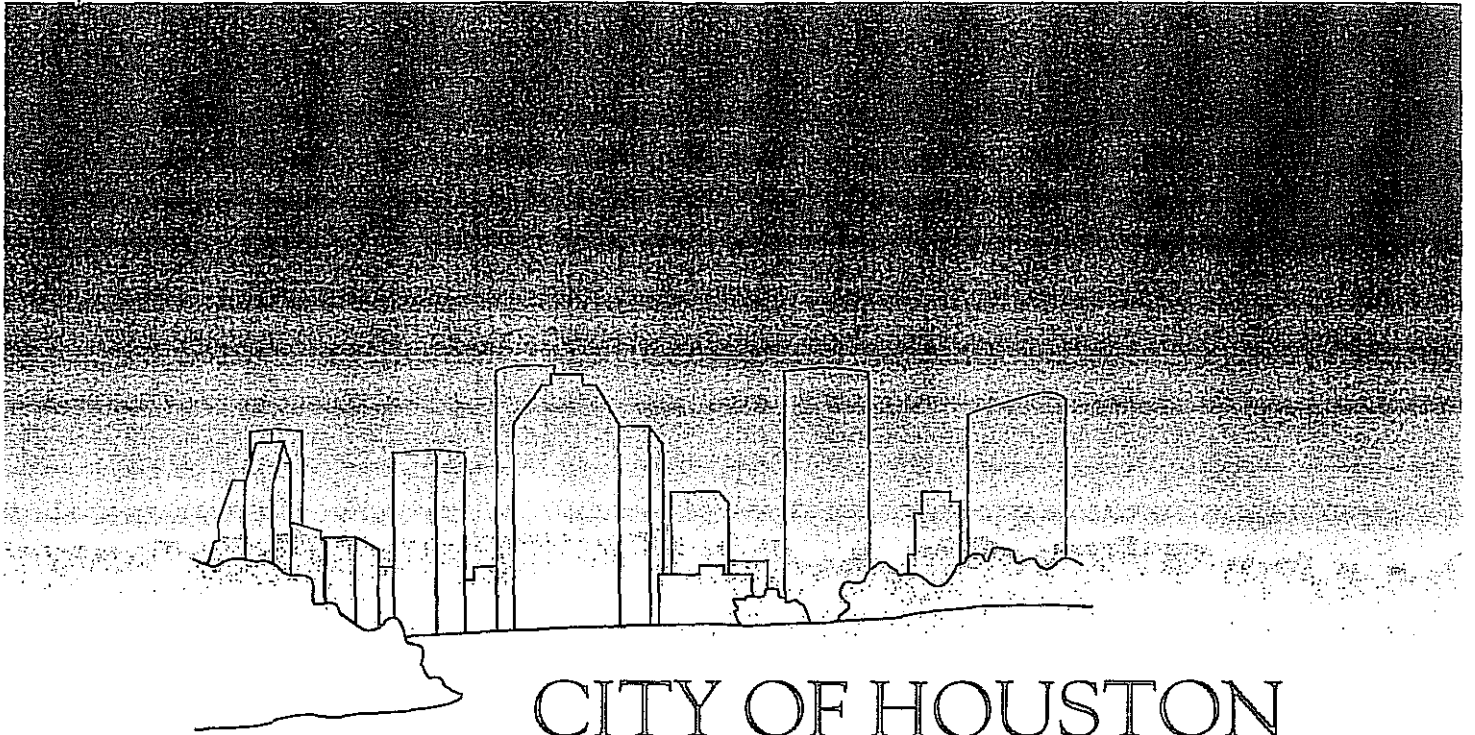
Total Plant Cost	\$120,190,565
Capacity (Gallons / day)	80,000,000
Cost per Gallon / Day	\$1.50
Authority Pro-Rata Capacity (Gal/day)	31,000,000
Authority Pro-Rata Cost	\$46,573,844

Exhibit F Treated Water Facilities Applicable to North Harris County Regional Water Authority

Page 2 of 2 84-inch Transmission Line

Total Cost	Component	Length (ft)	Size (in)	Demand Allocation (MGD)*	Full Flow @ 5 ft/sec (MGD)	Authority Pro-Rata Cost
\$14,000,000	Transmission Line	31,000	84	31.0	124.0	\$3,500,000
\$4,161,532	Transmission Easements					\$1,040,000
\$1,514,407	Condemnation Attorney					\$379,000
Authority Pro-Rata Cost						\$4,919,000

* From Exhibit E



CITY OF HOUSTON
Water and Sewer Rate Study

———— April 1999 ————

BLACK & VEATCH

Table W-9

Water Utility
Allocation of Maintenance & Operation Expenses
2000 Test Year
Thousands of Dollars

Line NO.	Description	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
		M&O Expenses	Common to Surface Water	Common to All		Common to Treated Water			Common to Retail			Direct SE Plant Participants
				Meters	Utility Billing	Base	Extra Capacity Max Day Max Hour		Base	Extra Capacity Max Day Max Hour		
1	Source of Supply - Surface Water	42,080	37,766									4,315
2	Resource Management	42,080	37,766									4,315
3	Meter Maintenance	4,523		4,523								
4	Other Customer Service	12,229			12,229							
5	Customer Service	16,752		4,523	12,229							
6	SE Plant Participants	4,315										4,315
7	Ground Water	982				717	265					
8	Pumping	20,951				10,203	3,771	6,977				
9	Treatment	10,803				7,886	2,917					
10	Water Production	37,050				18,806	6,953	6,977				4,315
11	Distribution Water Storage Water Pipe	2,673				1,302	481	890				
12	Transmission	8,280				6,044	2,236					
13	Distribution	8,046							3,918	1,448	2,680	
14	Water Services	207		207								
15	Water Meters	122		122								
16	Utilities Maintenance	19,328		329		7,346	2,717	890	3,918	1,448	2,680	
17	Management & Support	6,912										
18	Planning & Operations	4,849										
19	Office of the Director	715										
20	Inventory Support	3,655										
21	Resource Management	16,365										
22	Non-capitalized Equipment	1,356										
23	General & Administrative	33,852	12,846	1,481	3,733	7,983	2,952	2,401	1,196	442	818	8,629
24	Total M&O Expenses	149,062	50,612	6,333	15,962	34,135	12,622	10,268	5,114	1,890	3,498	8,629
25	Total M&O Cost of Service	159,992	54,551	6,826	17,204	36,792	13,604	11,067	5,512	2,037	3,770	8,629

Exhibit G Page 3 of 3

Calculation of General and Administrative Cost per 1999 Black & Veatch Rate Study Water Utility

(1) General and Administrative	\$ 33,852
(2) Total M & O Cost of Service	\$ 159,992
(3) Total M & O excluding General & Administrative Cost	\$ 126,140
(4) % of General & Administrative to Total M & O excluding General & Administrative Cost	26.84%

Exhibit H**Plant and Transmission Facility Capacities**

Facilities	Capacity (MGD)	
Plant	NEWPP *	80
Transmission	84"	124 **

* NEWPP - North East Water Purification Plant, ** Full Flow at 5 ft/sec