

# WATER AGENCIES' STANDARDS

## Design Guidelines for Water and Sewer Facilities

### SECTION 8.3 AGENCY INTERCONNECTIONS

#### 8.2.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to provide an overview and general information regarding Agency Interconnections.

#### 8.2.2 STANDARD TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Whenever technical terms occur in these guidelines or in related documents, the intent and meaning shall be interpreted as described in Standard Terms and Definitions.

A. Definition:

Emergency: Defined as any sudden unexpected occurrence that significantly reduces available water so as to jeopardize the health and/or safety of the public.

Surplus Capacity: Defined as the amount of water available in excess of the amount necessary to satisfy the demand of the supplying party.

Uni-Directional: Benefitting only one Agency.

Bi Directional: Benefitting both Agencies.

Agency Interconnections serve the following functions:

- Pursuant to the terms and conditions of an Agreement approved by both Agencies, the interconnection will provide water in the event of an emergency.
- The interconnections are not to be used to provide a supplemental or additional water supply to meet the growth in demand not already address in the Water Resources Master Plan for either Party.
- The ability to supply water is not guaranteed. Surplus capacity may not be available at the time an emergency situation occurs. To the extent that surplus capacity is available, in the sole discretion of the supplying Party, the receiving Party may utilize the interconnection to the extent of such availability.
- Prior notification of the need for the interconnection must be made together and an estimation of the quantity of water to be delivered and the duration shall be mutually agreed between the Agencies.
- Payment of Water Delivered/CWA Credit.

### 8.2.3 GUIDELINE

It is the responsibility of both Agencies to negotiate an Agreement for Emergency Interconnection between the Agencies. This Agreement will identify which Agencies will benefit from the Agency Interconnection, which Agencies will be responsible for the cost of the design and construction, and who will be responsible for maintenance of the facility once it is built. Refer to Exhibit A for a sample agreement.

General information regarding Agencies Interconnection's follows:

A. Locations of Agency Interconnections:

1. In evaluating the need for an Agency Interconnection, physical or hydraulic barriers, or service from pumped zones should be avoided. If interconnection with a pumped zone is required, an analysis must be done to assure the emergency flows do not overwhelm the capacity of the pumps or the capacity of the pipeline grid.
2. Agency Interconnections shall be constructed in vaults located within Agency owned property, the public right of way or easements granted in perpetuity to the Agency responsible for maintaining the facility. They are not to be located in vehicular corridors or curbside parking areas. The minimum easement area should provide for at least a six foot (6') by six foot (6') vault along with vehicular access from at least one side. If at all possible, access hatches are located away from normal pedestrian paths or behind sidewalks.

B. Configuration and Sizing Criteria:

The Agency Interconnections may be uni-directional connections or bi-directional connections that serve both Agencies.

C. Materials/Appurtenances:

All pressure control valves, piping, isolation valves, hatches, ladders, and other appurtenances associated with an Agency Interconnection must conform to the Water Agencies' Standards, Specifications and Approved Materials List.

For construction of vaults, refer to Section 8.2.

Meters shall be installed and be of the same size as the existing piping.

D. Instrumentation and Control:

Critical Agency Interconnection with pressure control stations must be equipped with telemetry equipment on both the high and low pressure sides of the pressure control valves in accordance with these Guidelines and at the direction of the Engineer. The Engineer must coordinate power supply details and phone modem, if applicable, with utility companies.

E. Agreements:

An Agreement for emergency interconnection between the Agencies involved shall be drafted, approved, and executed prior to construction.

Refer to Exhibit A for a sample agreement.

F. Design and Construction:

The design and construction shall be performed by the lead Agency requiring the interconnections. All costs shall be negotiated through the agreement based on the benefit of the interconnection.

G. Access:

Each Agency shall have complete access to the interconnection vault and instrumentation and control cabinets.

#### 8.2.4 REFERENCE

A. Should the reader have any suggestions or questions concerning the material in this section, contact one of the member agencies listed.

B. The publications listed below form a part of this section to the extent referenced and are referred to in the text by the basic designation only. Reference shall be made to the latest edition of said publications unless otherwise called for. The following list of publications, as directly referenced within the body of this document, has been provided for the user's convenience. It is the responsibility of the user of these documents to make reference to and/or utilize industry standards not otherwise directly referenced within this document.

1. Water Agencies' Standards (WAS):

a. Design Guideline:

1. Standard Terms and Definitions
2. Section 8.2, Vaults

b. Standard Specifications:

c. Approved Materials List:

1. For Potable and Recycled Water Facilities

END OF SECTION