

Water Loss Thresholds

Water Conservation Advisory Council
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Water Loss Audit Requirements

- All retail public water suppliers report once every 5-years
(HB 3338, 2003, 78th session)
 - Next report for 2015
- Retail public water suppliers with active financial obligations with TWDB or with >3,300 connections report annually
(HB 3090, 2011, 82nd session and HB 857, 2013, 83rd session)



Use of the Data

- Ideally used by each retail public water supplier
 - Track its water loss
 - Identify potential conservation activities
 - Address issues in its water conservation plan
- Provided to the regional water planning groups for their consideration in identifying water management strategies
- Reviewed as part of the TWDB financial application process



HB 3605 – 83rd Legislature

Requires a utility receiving financial assistance from TWDB, whose water loss meets or exceeds the threshold established by TWDB, to use a portion of that assistance to address their water loss.

TWDB is to adopt rules regarding:

- the amount of system water loss (threshold) that requires a utility to take action;
- the use of financial assistance from the board as required to address system water loss.

Process

- Spring 2013 - Passed by the 83rd Legislature
- August 2013 – Water Loss Symposium
- November 2013 – Presentation made to the Board on issues, approach and possible metrics
- January 2014 – Stakeholder Meeting
- July 2014 – Draft rules presented to the Board
- August – September 2014 – Rules available for public comment



Issues

- Flexibility
- Validity
- System Size
- Wholesale Volume

Data Review

- Based on population size and connection density
- Consideration of:
 - Apparent Loss
 - gallons/connection/day
 - Real Loss
 - gallons/connection/day (>32 connections/mile)
 - gallons/mile/day (<32 connections/mile)



Metrics

Based on Best Practices and Industry Performance Indicators

- More than 10,000 population
 - Apparent Loss – based on 95 percent meter accuracy
 - Real Loss – based on a 3 factor of unavoidable loss (Infrastructure Leakage Index)
- Less than 10,000 population
 - Apparent Loss – based on 95 percent meter accuracy
 - Real Loss
 - >32 connections per mile based on gallons per connection
 - <32 connections per mile based on gallons per mile



Additional Metrics

- Independent calculation for a retailer's wholesale volume
 - Entities that provide wholesale water that is delivered through their retail system
 - Based on a percentage of wholesale volume to total water produced



Timeline

- Late 2014 – Final rules to be considered by the Board
- Effective date of January 1, 2014
 - Drinking Water Projects
- State Water Plan Funding Program
 - Draft rules include points for entities that are less than their water loss threshold