



WEST HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

November 14, 2019

TO: Utility Districts; the Cities of Houston and Katy, Texas; Non-District/Non-City Well Owners within the West Harris County Regional Water Authority

FROM: West Harris County Regional Water Authority (the "Authority")

RE: Notice of Fee Increase and Transition to Authority Invoicing as part of the Automated Meter Reading ("AMR") System Implementation

At the Authority's Board of Directors meeting held on November 13, 2019, at 20111 Saums Road, Katy, Texas 77449, the Authority adopted increased fees in order to fund the massive water supply projects that are needed to meet the Harris Galveston Subsidence District ("HGSD") groundwater reduction regulations and to avoid the \$9.24 per 1,000 gallons fine that the HGSD imposes for non-compliance. The HGSD regulations require reduction of groundwater pumpage in our area to no more than 40% of the total water demand by 2025 and no more than 20% of the total water demand by 2035.

The water supply projects required to achieve compliance with these HGSD regulations include design and construction of: (i) the 320 million gallon per day Northeast Water Purification Plant expansion at Lake Houston in northeast Harris County, (ii) the approximately 40 mile long Surface Water Supply Project transmission line to transport water from Lake Houston to the Authority, and (iii) the approximate 75 miles of internal distribution lines to be constructed within the boundaries of the Authority to deliver this water.

Effective January 1, 2020, the Groundwater Reduction Plan Fee will be \$3.20 per 1,000 gallons of groundwater pumped and the Surface Water Fee will be \$3.60 per 1,000 gallons of water delivered by the Authority. These new fees correspondingly increase the Imported Water Fee.

Effective January 1, 2020, monthly self-reporting will no longer be required for water usage after January 1, 2020. At that time, the Authority will begin reading surface water/well meters through the Authority's AMR System (or manually if necessary) and will send monthly invoices of the fees due the Authority based upon such meter readings. For water usage before January 1, 2020, please continue to self-report your water usage

online at the Authority's website (oprs.whcrwa.com), and make payment for fees due as required by the Authority's Amended Rate Order.

Effective January 1, 2020, if the well owner is not part of the AMR program, the Authority will have to read the well meter manually and will pass through the \$150 fee per well meter charged by its operator to the well owner. The manual meter reading fee will be charged if the owner has not provided the written right-of-entry agreement for the installation of the AMR device by January 1, 2020 (or, for new wells, within three months of the date such well becomes operational). Other fees, charges, or other amounts due to the Authority will also be invoiced by the Authority as appropriate after January 1, 2020.

If you have not already provided a right-of-entry, are uncertain of the status of a right-of-entry, or have any other questions regarding the AMR System, please contact the Authority's Program Manager, Melinda Silva at (713) 527-6427.