

# Water Audit Requirements for All Retail and Water Utilities in Texas

## DUE MARCH 31, 2011

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### BACKGROUND

In 2003, the Texas Legislature amended Section 16.0121 of the Texas Water Code. This amendment requires each retail public water utility providing potable water to conduct a water loss audit at least every five years, and to report the results of the audit to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). Water loss is the difference between the amount of water a utility purchases or produces and the amount of water it can account for in sales and other known uses for a given period. The water audit will address four main points of water loss:

- Loss from distribution lines;
- Inaccuracies in meters;
- Deficiencies in accounting practices; and
- Theft of water service.

The Legislature charged the TWDB with developing the appropriate methodologies, forms, and submission dates for the water loss audit. The TWDB must also consider differences in population density, source of water supply, and the mean income of the service population for each utility. The TWDB will compile the information from all water loss audits for the Legislature and regional planning groups. These agencies will use the audit information to identify appropriate water management strategies. The next water loss audit required will be conducted using data collected from 2010. A utility may choose to base the audit on either a calendar year or fiscal year, as long as the data submitted represents the 2010 year. The results of the water loss audit must be submitted to the TWDB by March 31, 2011.

### WATER AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

What needs to be submitted by March 31, 2011?

The Water Audit entails compiling and submitting information reporting the following system details:

- Utility identification information;
- Amount of water put into the delivery system;
- Volume of water master meter did not account for;
- Corrected water input volume (master meter adjustment);
- Metered and unmetered water sold;
- Unbilled metered and unmetered water use; and
- Apparent and real water loss.

### REGULATION SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Water Audit Guidelines and Requirements can be accessed at [www.twdb.state.tx.us](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us) with a Water Audit Worksheet available on their Web site.

### WHERE DO I START?

eHT offers water audit services, and assists water utilities in meeting regulatory deadlines. We have engineering and regulatory professionals well trained in water auditing activities. If we can assist you in meeting the March 31 deadline, please contact us at (325) 698-5560.



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