

SIERRA LAKES COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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Ref: SLCWD Ordinance No. 69
Adopted: 5/17/03
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ORDINANCE NO. 69 GUIDELINES

WHAT IS ORDINANCE NO. 69?

In view of the strong policy of the State to conserve water, the District requires installation of a water meter (pit only if the house was constructed prior to 1992), replacement of stop-and-drain valves and testing of the water service line. The water service line is the pipeline that extends from the District's curb stop at the property line to the premises. This testing program is expected to reduce the loss of treated water through leaking water service lines.

WHEN IS A PROPERTY OWNER REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE ORDINANCE?

Property owners are required to comply with Ordinance No. 69 prior to the sale of property connected to the District's water system.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

1. It is the responsibility of the property owner to request an inspection by the District of the water service line. Such request must be made at least twenty (20) days prior to the scheduled date for the close of escrow. The inspection by the District will include a test of the water line by shutting off the water to the house either at the stop-and-drain valve, or where there is no stop-and-drain valve, at the main water valve to the house, shutting off all faucets inside the house and observing the water meter over a one-hour period to verify that no water is leaking in the system. If the water service line is found to be leaking, the property owner is responsible for making any necessary repairs or replacement prior to the close of escrow, and the costs of repair or replacement shall be borne by the owner. Following any repairs or replacement, the property owner must request a reinspection by the District. A reinspection will include inspection of the repair work and a retest of the water line to verify correction of the water leak.
2. Prior to the close of escrow, the property owner must install a water meter (pit only if the house was constructed prior to 1992) if one does not exist. If the house was constructed prior to 1992, a "jumper" will be installed in place of the meter after the leakage test is completed. All equipment associated with metering including valves, fittings, settings, meter pit, and meter shall be approved and supplied by the District at the owner's expense. Installation of the equipment shall be in accordance with District specifications as described in *INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT FOR WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION*.

3. If the water service line was connected to the District's main water line prior to 1992, the property owner, at his sole expense, must replace any existing stop-and-drain valve with one of the type currently approved by the District, specifically, a Mueller, Model No. H10284. Such replacement must occur prior to the close of escrow. Installation of the stop-and-drain valve shall be in accordance with District specifications as described in *INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT FOR WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION*.

4. **All work must be inspected by an authorized District Inspector.** The property owner must request that the District inspect the installation of the water meter and, if required, replacement of the stop-and-drain valve. Such request must be made at least 24 hours prior to the planned installation and replacement. If an owner fails to request an inspection, the District may require that the installation(s) be uncovered, at the owner's sole expense, in order for the District to inspect the installation(s). The inspection by the District will include a test of the water line as described in paragraph (1) above. The property owner shall be responsible for making any repairs and/or corrective work if the District finds that the installation(s) was defective.

5. In the event that installation of the water meter and stop-and-drain valve, if required, and/or testing of the water line would be required during the period from October 15 to April 15 or during such other periods when the work would be impractical due to weather conditions, the owner shall escrow funds in an amount equal to one hundred twenty-five (125%) percent of the District's estimate of the costs of the water meter and stop and drain valve installations, if required, and replacement of the water line. The property owner or his successor must install the meter and stop-and-drain valve, if required, and request an inspection and test of the water line in accordance with paragraph (4) above by July 1 of the following year. Funds escrowed will be released upon written notification by the District to the Title Company holding such funds.

6. In the event that the water meter and stop-and-drain valve, if required, have not been timely installed, and an inspection timely requested as required by paragraph (5) above, the District may make such installation(s) and conduct such testing and submit a bill for its costs therefor to the Title Company for payment from funds held in escrow. In the event that the District's costs exceed the amount of funds held in escrow, then the District may bill the then owner of the subject property for the excess costs. The bill shall be paid within thirty (30) days after its date. Interest shall accrue on any late payment at the legal rate. In the event that the District is required to bring action to collect any sum in default, the applicant shall pay any and all attorney's fees and other costs incurred by the District to bring such action and enforce compliance with this provision. The District shall not be limited to any one remedy in the event of default, but may avail itself of any remedy or legal procedure available to it in such event.

7. Nothing herein shall constitute a warranty by the District of the soundness or ability of the water service line to accomplish its purpose or remain in compliance with District ordinances.

8. The property owner shall pay the sum of \$50.00 to the District for each inspection conducted pursuant to this Ordinance.