



## **TWDB solicits public comments on water loss**

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is hosting a follow-up discussion related to prospective rulemaking for House Bill 3605, 83rd Legislature, which requires retail public utilities receiving financial assistance from TWDB to use part of that assistance to reduce water loss if the utility's water loss meets or exceeds a specific threshold.

Join us to share your ideas and suggestions.

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

1:30 p.m.

Room 170

Stephen F. Austin Building

1700 N. Congress

Austin, Texas

Based on comments received since the last stakeholder meeting in January, TWDB staff has reviewed possible metrics and is considering different metrics than proposed earlier. TWDB staff is considering metrics and thresholds that reduce water loss based on the calculated potential of each utility.

The metric for apparent loss is proposed to be the number of gallons per connection per day regardless of the size or connection density of the utility. The threshold for apparent loss is the minimum allowed apparent loss based on meter accuracy, unauthorized consumption, and systemic data handling errors. This threshold for apparent loss is utility specific.

For real loss, the service size of the utility and connection density influences the appropriate metric. For larger utilities, TWDB staff is considering a metric inspired by the Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI). The ILI is sourced from utility-specific calculations of unavoidable real loss based on the number of connections, miles of distribution lines, and operating pressure.

For smaller utilities the metrics for real loss will be based on industry performance indices: gallons per connection per day for utilities with a service connection density greater than or equal to 32 connections per mile and gallons per mile per day for a service connection density less than 32 connections per mile.

Since smaller systems lack a theoretical unavoidable real loss, staff is considering using a threshold based on three times the median unavoidable real loss for utilities serving greater than 10,000 people.

Additional information will be made available at the May 13<sup>th</sup> stakeholder meeting. For information please contact Mr. John Sutton at (512)463-7988 or [john.sutton@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:john.sutton@twdb.texas.gov).