



Mayor
Dan Sullivan

Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility

Finance Division



Board Chair
Timothy M. Sullivan, Sr.

October xx, 2013

Regulatory Commission of Alaska
701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99501-3469

Tariff Advice Letter No. TA xxx-126

Dear Commissioners:

Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU), on behalf of the Anchorage Wastewater Utility (ASU), hereby transmits the tariff filing described below in compliance with AS 42.05.361(a) and 3 AAC 48.200 – 3 AAC 48.430. Attached to this letter are the following revised tariff sheets.

Utility	Sheet Number	Number of Revision	Replaces Revision Number	Schedule Number
ASU	112	First	Original	10.1.A
ASU	113	First	Original	10.1.C

AWWU proposes revisions to ASU tariff Rule 10.1 regarding sewer line extension agreements and professional standards related to the construction of sewer mains.

The proposed revisions in section 10.1.A explain in better detail the criteria for commencing construction as it applies to benefiting neighboring parcels and site the applicable portions of Alaska State Statute and Anchorage Municipal Code. The process to approve the agreement or waive reimbursement is required by Alaska State Statute and Anchorage Municipal Code[AS 42.05 .385(a) through (e)] and (AMC 19.80.010.B). The proposed language is identical to the language in the current tariff for the Anchorage Water Utility (AWU). The proposed revision also changes “their expense” to the “owner’s expense”. While it is implied in ASU’s tariff, it does not explicitly state that the construction of the sewer main would be at the parcel owner’s expense. In correcting the ambiguity of section 10.1.A, the Utility seeks to eliminate the difference between the AWU tariff and ASU tariff and provide greater clarity in tariff.

The proposed revisions to Rule 10.1.A will provide consistency between the AWU and ASU tariffs. The proposed revisions are in line with the utility’s current policies and business practices and will have no impact on customers.



The proposed revision to 10.1.C addresses an inequity between water and sewer customers extending infrastructure by changing the language in ASU's tariff to be consistent with AWU's tariff and Anchorage Municipal Code. In AWU's tariff, Rule 10.1.C states that "the water main extension shall be extended along at least one full side of each parcel served..." while the ASU tariff rule 10.1.C states that "...the sewer line extension shall be extended along the entire frontage of each property served." Anchorage Municipal Code 26.50.160 states that the public sewer system is available to a lot when a public sewer line extends the full frontage of at least one side of the lot. In instances where properties extend both water and sewer service and have multiple sides, such as a corner lot, current ASU tariff requires the construction of more infrastructure than the AWU tariff. This discrepancy creates confusion for potential customers.

Attachment A shows the impact of the difference in Rule 10.1.C of tariff for a new water and sewer customer. The dashed lines in Attachment A depict the required main extension for Lot 4, a corner lot. Per current tariff, the owner of Lot 4 only needs to extend the water main on one side of the lot but the sewer tariff requires the customer continue around the corner and front two sides of the lot in order to provide full frontage.

The revision will benefit property owners extending infrastructure to their parcels in instances where their property is a corner lot. For property owners extending water and sewer infrastructure, the water main extension is required to front only one side of the parcel whereas the sewer main extension must front the entire frontage of the parcel which could be more than one side for corner lots. There is no technical reason for the discrepancy between AWU tariff and ASU tariff. Approximately 3 parcels a year are impacted by the full lot frontage discrepancy. The proposed revision has no financial impact on the utility and will save new sewer customers in this situation construction costs by minimizing the amount of infrastructure required.

In addition, the reference in Rule 10.1.C to design and construction standards of sewer main construction conforming to the Utility's "Design Criteria" has been revised to reflect the name of the manual, The Design and Construction Practices Manual (DCPM).

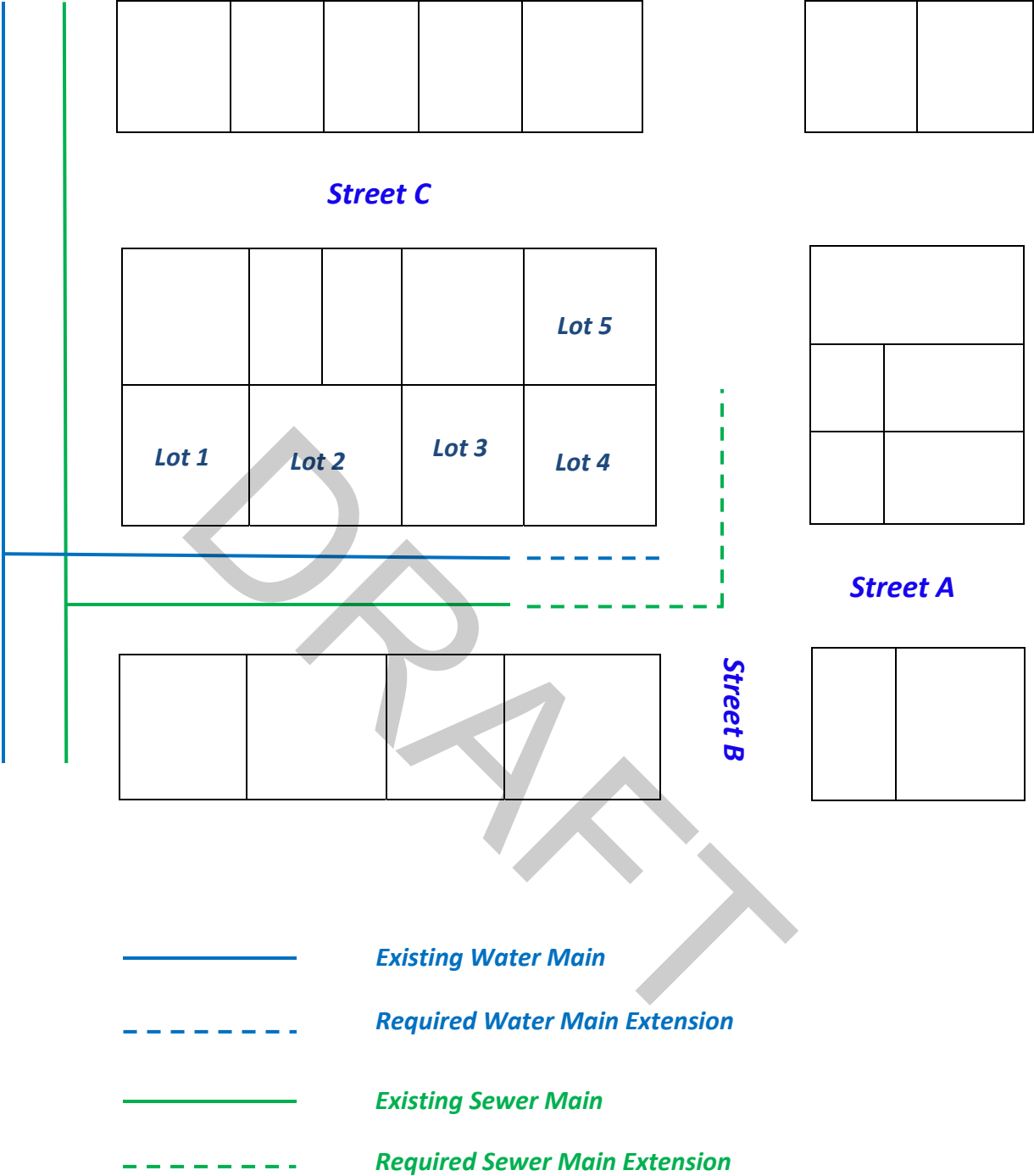
The proposed tariff revisions are in the public interest and would not have an adverse impact on ASU's system or its customers. AWWU requests approval of the attached tariff sheets reflecting the aforementioned revisions. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call me at 786-5507.

Sincerely,

ANCHORAGE WATER & WASTEWATER UTILITY

Karen Bell
Regulatory Affairs Manager





Anchorage Wastewater Utility

10.0 EXTENSION AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

10.1 SEWER LINE EXTENSION AGREEMENTS

A. General

An owner of a parcel not served by sanitary sewer facilities, and which is not included in a lateral improvement district, may obtain service by constructing a sewer line extension at the owner's expense and contributing the main to the Utility. The sewer line shall be constructed in accordance with the terms of a Sanitary Sewer Main Extension Agreement administered by the Utility. Should the sanitary sewer main extension service properties other than the property owner, construction of the sewer main shall not commence until (i) the Municipality, after public hearing, has approved the proposed agreement, or (ii) the property owner waives all reimbursement from other properties for constructing the sanitary sewer main extension [AS 42.05 .385(a) through (e)] and (AMC 19.80.010.B).

B. Cost of Construction

The cost to construct a sewer line extension, under the terms of a Sanitary Sewer Main Extension Agreement as authorized by this Rule, shall be borne entirely by the owner and shall include:

1. Design, inspection and contract administration by a registered, professional engineer.
2. All necessary permits for construction.
3. All costs incurred by the Utility for administration, inspection, plan review, etc., of the project.

The Sanitary Sewer Main Extension Agreement shall specify each party's operation maintenance and warranty responsibilities with respect to the improvements.

Tariff Advice No.

Effective:

Issued by Anchorage Wastewater Utility

By J. Brett Jokela, P.E.

Title: General Manager

RCA No. 126 First Revision Sheet No. 113
Cancelling
Original Sheet No. 113

Anchorage Wastewater Utility

10.0 EXTENSION AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS (continued)

10.1 SEWER LINE EXTENSION AGREEMENTS (continued)

C. Construction Standards

The design and construction of a sewer line extension shall conform to the Design and Construction Practices Manual (DCPM) of the Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility and the construction shall conform to the Standard Construction Specifications. In accordance with 9.3.E, if a parcel is situated such that it could connect to either a lateral or trunk, the connection must be made to the lateral and may involve extending the lateral to effect the connection. The sewer main extension shall be extended along at least one full side of each parcel served, unless, the Utility finds there will be no need to extend the main beyond the last parcel to be served and grants a waiver. The Utility may require a written application for consideration of a waiver. If such a waiver is granted, the sewer line extension shall extend a minimum of ten (10) feet along the frontage of the last property to be served.

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(C)

D. Payment of Assessments

A Sanitary Sewer Main Extension Agreement with a person shall provide for the payment of any trunk or lateral assessments levied before the date of the agreement and/or as a result of the agreement on property owned by the person and to be served by sewer improvements constructed under the agreement. An assessment payable under a Sanitary Sewer Main Extension Agreement (or the first installation of such an assessment that the person elects to pay in installments as provided in Rule 8.2.C), is due no later than ninety (90) days after the later of (i) the date the Utility declares all sanitary sewer main and applicable sanitary sewer service connections constructed under the terms of the Agreement to be substantially complete and available for service extensions and customer service, or (ii) the date of the agreement, or amendment thereto, first setting forth the assessment.

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