

**RULE NO.: R161-18.11**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE**

**POSTING DATE: July 10, 2018**

The Director of the Department of Austin Water proposes to adopt the following rule on or after August 11, 2018.

Comments on the proposed rule are requested from the public. Comments should be submitted to Mr. Eric Langhout, P.E.; Austin Water, 3907 S. Industrial Dr., Suite 236, Austin, Texas 78744, 512-972-0073, or via email at [Eric.Langhout@austintexas.gov](mailto:Eric.Langhout@austintexas.gov). To be considered, comments must be submitted before August 11, 2018, the 32nd day after the date this notice is posted. A summary of the written comments received will be included in the notice of rule adoption that must be posted for the rule to become effective.

An affordability impact statement regarding the proposed rule has been obtained and is available for inspection or copying at the address noted in the preceding paragraph.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROPOSED RULE**

A rule proposed in this notice may not become effective before the effective date established by a separate notice of rule adoption. A notice of rule adoption may not be posted before August 11, 2018 (the 32nd day after the date of this notice) or not after September 18, 2018 (the 70th day after the date of this notice).

If a proposed rule is not adopted on or before September 18, 2018, it is automatically withdrawn and cannot be adopted without first posting a new notice of a proposed rule.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE**

A copy of the complete text of the proposed rule is available for public inspection and copying at the following locations. Copies may be purchased at the following locations at a cost of ten cents per page:

Austin Water, located at 3907 S. Industrial Dr., Suite 236, Austin, Texas, 78744. See Mr. Eric Langhout, P.E. and:

Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, located at 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas.

## **BRIEF EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED RULE**

R161-18.11: Proposed revision to the Utility Criteria Manual 2.8

### **Rule 2 – UCM 2.8**

- Section 2.8 – This language is needed to avoid the soil from entering the pipe and causing trench or road failure if left open.

## **AUTHORITY FOR ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RULE**

The authority and procedure for adoption of a rule to assist in the implementation, administration, or enforcement of a provision of the City Code is provided in Chapter 1-2 of the City Code. The authority to regulate construction requirements is established in Section 552.001 and Title 15 of the City Code.

CERTIFICATION BY CITY ATTORNEY

By signing this Notice of Proposed Rule R161-18.11, the City Attorney certifies the City Attorney has reviewed the rule and finds that adoption of the rule is a valid exercise of the Director's administrative authority.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED**

  
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Greg Meszaros, Director  
Austin Water

Date: 6/25/18

  
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Anne L. Morgan  
City Attorney

Date: 7/6/18

# UTILITIES CRITERIA MANUAL

## 2.8.0 - ABANDONMENT OF FACILITIES

If a new project will abandon existing facilities, the plans shall provide for the appropriate abandonment of these facilities. The plans shall include, at a minimum, the location, sequence, details, and methodology for abandoning the facility according to applicable Austin Water (AW) requirements. Abandonment shall be considered permanent. Temporary abandonment must be approved on a case-by-case basis. For qualifying properties related to Ordinance 20141120-006 AW will perform the necessary infrastructure work in the Right of Way. *When the installation of new utilities lines requires a trench to be cut through existing stormlines, waterlines, reclaimed lines, gas lines (if approved by the gas company) or wastewater lines, and the existing lines are confirmed to be abandoned, the abandoned lines shall be cut flush with the sides of the trench and blocked with a plug or cap listed on the SPL, or capped in a manner satisfactory to the Owner's Representative.*

Source: [Rule No. R161-15.07, 9-25-2015](#) ; [Rule No. R161-16.03, 5-25-2016](#) .

### 2.8.1 - Wastewater Mains and Services

- A. Abandonment of wastewater mains shall consist of filling the main with a pumpable grout or slurry and meeting requirements of the current specifications. Plans, drawings and specifications shall include method of abandoning or removing services and all other mains.
- B. If the existing wastewater service line and/or appurtenances are not to be used in the future, the plans shall call out and indicate the wastewater service line(s) to be abandoned and that they shall be cut and plugged at the main.
- C. Abandonment of wastewater force main valves shall be accomplished by removing the valve casing to the top of the subgrade or 24" below the surface, whichever is greater, and filling remaining casing with concrete such that the abandoned valve is not identifiable from the surface. The pavement repair shall match the existing pavement section.

Source: [Rule No. R161-15.07, 9-25-2015](#) ; [Rule No. R161-16.03, 5-25-2016](#) .

### 2.8.2 - Manholes

Abandoned manholes shall be removed to a level not less than four feet below grade, inlets and outlets securely plugged, inlet and outlet pipes cut and plugged outside the manhole, and the structure filled with stabilized sand.

Source: [Rule No. R161-15.07, 9-25-2015](#) .

### 2.8.3 - Lift Stations

Abandonment of lift stations shall consist of removing all pumps, motors, couplings, valves, and controls from the dry well and all appurtenances above finished grade. Both the wet well and dry well shall be cut down five feet below grade, filled with cement stabilized sand, and covered with top soil to grade. The associated force main shall be properly abandoned. This includes cutting and plugging both ends and/or grouting gravity mains as appropriate.

Area shall be re-vegetated. The Lift Station Maintenance Group shall be notified prior to abandonment.

Source: [Rule No. R161-15.07, 9-25-2015](#).

#### 2.8.4 - Water Mains and Service

- A. Abandonment of a water main shall be accomplished by disconnecting the pipe from intersecting pipes that are to remain in service and the installation of a plug on the tee and/or cross at the point of intersection. If the cross and/or tee cannot be securely plugged or is a leaded connection, the cross and/or tee shall be removed. If a valve is located at the tee for the line being abandoned, it shall be removed. In no instance will mains be abandoned by valve closure. Abandonment of water valves located on abandoned mains shall be accomplished by removing the valve casing to the top of the subgrade or 24" below the surface, whichever is greater, and filling remaining casing with concrete such that the abandoned valve is not identifiable from the surface. The pavement repair shall match the existing pavement section.
- B. All water service lines (including fire lines) that are being abandoned and not transferred to a new distribution line should be disconnected at the corporation stop and all other valves and appurtenances, including the water meter, removed. When meters are to be abandoned, the Engineer shall call out the size, type, and use (domestic or irrigation) of all proposed water meters (to include existing water meters to be relocated and/or re-purposed). Water meter numbers will not be required to be placed on the plan sheet. A separate Austin Water Taps Office form will be used by the Applicant/Representative to fill relevant information for the existing water meters to receive appropriate credits. The Applicant/Representative shall have this form directly submitted to AW Taps Office for review and processing.

Source: [Rule No. R161-15.07, 9-25-2015](#) ; [Rule No. R161-16.03, 5-25-2016](#).

#### 2.8.5 - Reclaimed Water Mains and Services

All reclaimed water service lines that are being abandoned and not transferred to a new distribution main shall be disconnected at the corporation stop. All other valves and appurtenances, including the water meter, shall be removed. The drawings shall include a note requiring notification of AW for meter removal.

Source: [Rule No. R161-15.07, 9-25-2015](#).