**ORDINANCE NO. 110**

ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT, KERN AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, RESCINDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 87 IN ITS ENTIRETY; AND ADOPTING A POLICY FOR THE CONTROL OF BACKFLOW AND CROSS-CONNECTIONS.

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BE IT ORDAINED, by the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District:

WHEREAS, the California State Water Resources Control Board updated the standards for backflow protection and cross-connection control through the " Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook Standards and Principles for California' s Public Water Systems" (CCCPH); and

WHEREAS, the CCCPH was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on December 19, 2023, and became effective July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Directors' desires to rescind Ordinance Number 87 and provide for an updated policy document entitled "Cross-Connection Control Plan" covering Cross-Connection and Backflow Regulations of the District.

**Section 1. PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to rescind Ordinance No. 87 in its entirety and provide for an updated policy document entitled "Cross-Connection Control Plan" covering Cross-Connection and Backflow Regulations of the District.

**Section 2. REPEAL, RESCISION AND AMENDMENT.**

Ordinance No. 87 is hereby rescinded in its entirety.

**Section 3. CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN ADOPTION.**

The Cross-Connection Control Plan attached hereto is hereby adopted.

**Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance will take effect on July 1st, 2025.

**Section 5. PUBLICATION.**

The Secretary is hereby directed to cause this Ordinance to be published once in full in a newspaper of general circulation, printed, published and circulated in the District.

All the foregoing being on the motion of Director seconded by Director, and authorized by the following vote, namely:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that all the foregoing ordinance is the ordinance of the Indian Wells Valley Water District as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors at a legally convened meeting held on the June 9, 2025.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said Board of Directors this 9th day of June 2025.

David C.H. Saint-Amand
President of the Indian Wells Valley Water District and of the Board of Directors thereof.

ATTEST:

George D. Croll
Secretary of the Indian Wells Valley Water District and of the Board of Directors thereof.

(SEAL)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )
COUNTIES OF KERN )
AND SAN BERNARDINO )

I, GEORGE D. CROLL, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, as follows:

The foregoing Ordinance is a full, true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 110, duly adopted at a Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of said District, duly and held at the regular meeting place of the Board on the 9th day of June, 2025, for which all of the members of said Board of Directors had due notice and at which a majority of the Board of Directors were present. All the foregoing being on the motion of Director seconded by Director, and authorized by the following vote, namely:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I have carefully compared the foregoing with the original Minutes of said meeting on file and of record in my office, and the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original ordinance adopted at said Meeting and entered into said Minutes.

Ordinance No. 110 has not been amended, modified or rescinded since the date of its adoption on June 9th, 2025, and the same is now in full force and effect.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said Board of Directors this 9th day of June 2025.

_____

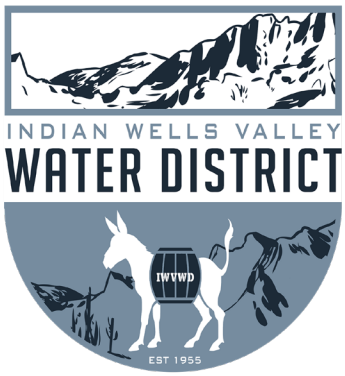
George D. Croll
Secretary of the Indian Wells Valley Water District
and of the Board of Directors thereof.

_____

David C.H. Saint-Amand
President of the Indian Wells Valley Water District
and of the Board of Directors thereof.

(SEAL)

# Indian Wells Valley Water District




# Cross-Connection Control Plan

Adopted: June 9, 2025

Effective: July 1, 2025

## Section 1. CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL - GENERAL POLICY

1.1 The purpose of this ordinance is:

a. To protect the potable water supply of the Indian Wells Valley Water District against actual or potential Backflow and Cross-Connections.

b. To eliminate existing, or the possibility of, connections between drinking water systems and other sources of water that are not approved as safe and potable for human consumption.

c. To eliminate Cross-Connections between drinking water systems and sources of contamination.

d. To prevent the making of Cross-Connections in the future.

1.2 **Protective Regulation**

These regulations are adopted pursuant to State of California Assembly Bill 1671, Chapter 533, and adoption of the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH). Except as otherwise provided and/or permitted herein, and based on federal and state laws and regulations, it is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation at any time to make, maintain or cause any Cross-Connection between District supplied potable water and any other source of water. Furthermore, it is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to maintain any fixture or other appurtenance which by reason of its design, function or construction may cause or allow backflow of water or other substances into the District's water supply system and/or the service of water pipes or fixtures of any consumer of the District.

## Section 2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Air-Gap Separation. The term "air-gap separation" means a physical break between a supply pipe and a receiving vessel. The air-gap shall be at least double the diameter of the supply pipe measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel, in no case less than one inch.

2.2 Approved Backflow Prevention Device. The term "approved backflow prevention device" shall mean devices that have passed laboratory and field evaluation tests performed by a recognized testing organization that has demonstrated its competency to perform such tests

to the California Department of Health Services and the District. These devices must, at a minimum, conform with the standards established by the American Water Works Association.

2.3 Approved Water Supply. The term "approved water supply" means any water supply whose potability is regulated by a State or local health agency.

2.4 Auxiliary Supply. The term "auxiliary supply" means any water supply other than the water supply provided by the District.

2.5 AWWA Standard. The term "AWWA Standard" means an official standard developed and approved by the American Water Works Association (AWWA.)

2.6 Backflow. The term "backflow" shall mean the reversal of flow, caused by a differential in pressure, that permits the flow of water or other liquids, gases, mixtures or substances into the distributing pipes of a potable supply of water from any source or sources other than an approved water supply source. Examples of how backflow is created is back-siphonage and back-pressure .

2.7 Contamination. The term "contamination" means a degradation of the quality of the potable water by any foreign substance that creates a hazard to the public health or that may impair the usefulness or quality of the water.

2.8 Cross-Connection. The term "Cross-Connection" as used in this Ordinance means any unprotected actual or potential connection between a potable water system used to supply water for drinking purposes and any source or system containing unapproved water or a substance that is not or cannot be approved as safe, wholesome, and potable. By-pass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or changeover devices, or other devices through which backflow could occur, shall be considered to be Cross-Connections.

2.9 Direct Cross-Connection. The term “Direct Cross-Connection” shall mean a Cross-Connection which is subject to both backsiphonage and backpressure.

2.10 Double Check Valve Assembly. The term "double check valve assembly" means an assembly of at least two independently acting check valves including tightly closing shut-off valves on each side of the check valve assembly and test cocks available for testing the water tightness of each check valve.

2.11 Health Agency. The term "health agency" means the California Department of Health Services, or the local health officer with respect to a small water system.

2.12 Indirect Cross-Connection. The term “Indirect Cross-Connection” shall mean a Cross-Connection which is subject to backsiphonage only.

2.13 Local Health Agency. The term "local health agency" means the county or city health authority.

2.14 Person. The term "person" means an individual, corporation, company, association, partnership, municipality, public utility, or other entity or public body or institution.

2.15 Premises. The term "premises" means any and all areas on a customer's property which are served or have the potential to be served by the public water system.

2.16 Pressure Vacuum Breaker. The term “pressure vacuum breaker” means a backflow device configured with a spring-loaded float and an independent spring-loaded check valve. The check valve is designed to open by means of an air inlet valve and to close with the aid of a spring when flow stops. It may only be used to protect against backsiphonage. It is not acceptable protection against backpressure.

2.17 Public Water System. The term "public water system" means an Indian Wells Valley Water District (District) owned water supply system supplying an approved water supply to the public for human consumption.

2.18 Reclaimed Water. The term "reclaimed water" means wastewater, which as a result of treatment is suitable for uses other than potable use.

2.19 Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device. The term "reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device" means a device incorporating two or more check valves and an automatically operating differential relief valve located between the two checks, a tightly closing shut-off valve on each side of the check valve assembly, and equipped with necessary test cocks for testing.

2.20 User Connection. The term "user connection" refers to the point of connection of a user's piping to the water supplier's facilities.

2.21 Water - Potable. The term “potable water” means any public water supply that has been investigated and approved by the health agency. The system must be operating under a valid health permit and the District. In determining which constitutes an approved water supply, the health agency and the District have final judgment as to its safety and potability.

2.22 Water - Non-potable. The term “non-potable water” means a water supply that has not been approved for human consumption by the District and the health agency having jurisdiction.

2.23 Water Supplier. The term "water supplier" refers to the Indian Wells Valley Water District, or “District”.

2.24 Water User. The term "water user" means any person obtaining water from an approved water supply system.

## Section 3. ORGANIZATION

### 3.1 Cross-Connection Control Coordinator

The Cross-Connection Control Coordinator of the District is the Field Services Supervisor. The responsibilities of this supervisor are complex but are in place to protect the drinking water system.

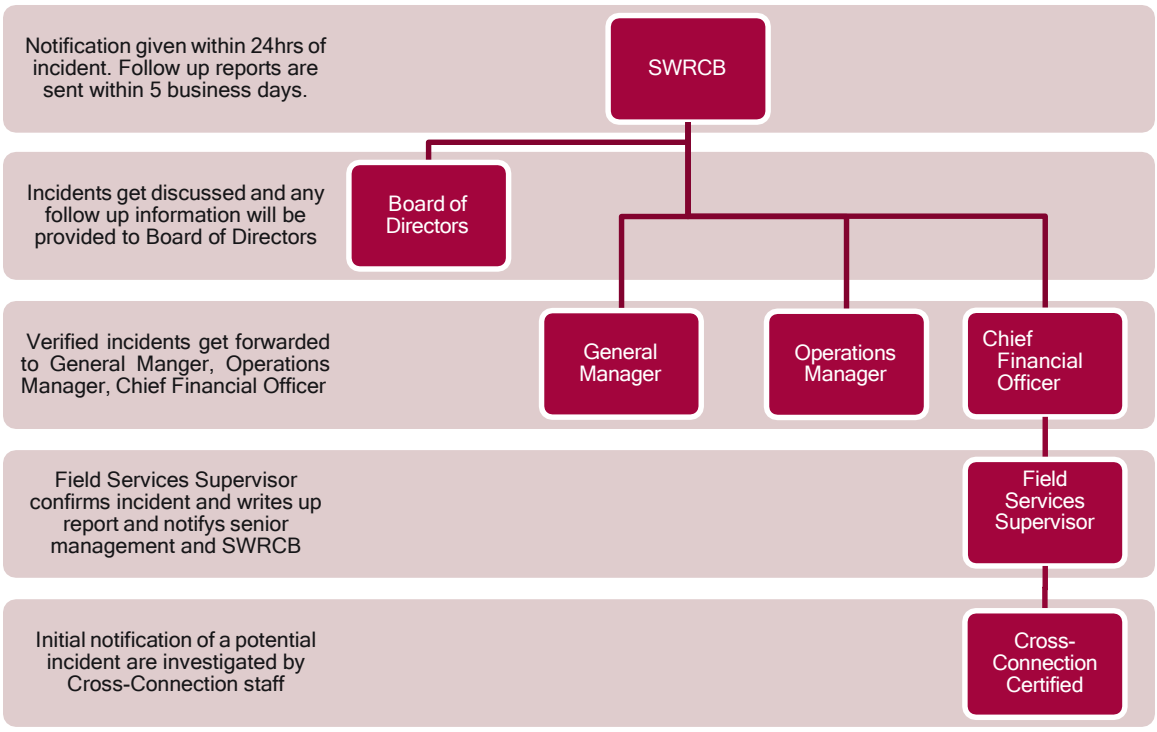
### 3.2 Cross-Connection Control Personnel

The District has 2 staff members within the Field Services that are required to be backflow certified from AWWA. The AWWA certification meets the requirements set forth in the CCCPH.

Personnel that hold these certifications and are assigned to Field Services are the only authorized individuals to perform duties assigned to them by the Cross-Connection Control Coordinator. No one outside the organization is authorized to do any responsibilities of the program unless contracted by the District and has a contracted authorization agreement.

### 3.3 Cross-Connection Incident Chain of Command

In the event of a backflow incident or a cross-connection incident the following personnel and authorities shall be notified immediately. Incidents will be reported to the State Water Resources Control Board within 24 hours.




## Section 3. REQUIREMENTS

### 3.1 Cross-Connection Protection Requirements

#### a. General Provisions.

1. Cross-Connections with the public water supply that are not authorized by the District are prohibited.

2. Whenever backflow protection has been found necessary by the District, the District will require the responsible owner or the water user to install an approved backflow prevention device by and at his/her expense for continued services or before a new service will be granted.

3. Wherever backflow protection has been found necessary by the District on a water supply line entering a water user's premises, then any and all water supply lines from the District's mains entering such premises, buildings, or structures shall be protected by an approved backflow prevention device. The type of device to be installed will be in accordance with the requirements of this Ordinance.

4. Failure by the responsible owner or water user to install an approved backflow prevention device, or to maintain the operational effectiveness of said device, or to comply with annual testing in accordance with the

provisions of this Ordinance, shall subject said owner or user to the administrative procedures detailed in this Ordinance.

b. **Where Protection is Required**.

1. Each user connection from the District water system to premises having an auxiliary water supply shall be protected against backflow of water from the premises into the public water system.

2. Each user connection from the District water system to any premises on which any substance is handled in such fashion as may allow its entry into the District's water system shall be protected against backflow of the water from the premises into the public system. This shall include the handling of water originating from the District water system which have been subjected to deterioration in sanitary quality.

3. Backflow prevention devices shall be installed on the user connection to any premises having:

   (a) internal Cross-Connections that cannot be permanently corrected and/or controlled to the satisfaction of the District, or
   (b) intricate plumbing and piping arrangements or where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes, making it impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not Cross-Connections exist.

4. Any system designed to serve multiple commercial or industrial tenants shall be protected against backflow of water from the premises to the public water system by a backflow prevention assembly of the type required by the District.

5. All portable pressure spray or cleaning units (including water trucks, street sweepers, etc.) that have the capability of connecting to any water supplier's system shall have an air-gap separation or a reduced pressure principle assembly.

6. Any water user who incorporates a booster into his/her home's water distribution system shall have a backflow prevention assembly of the type required by the District.

7. Any other circumstances where, in the reasonable discretion of the District, protection from Backflow or Cross Connections is deemed necessary or desirable.

c. **Type of Protection Required**

1. The type of protection that shall be provided to prevent backflow into the approved water supply shall be commensurate with the degree of hazard that exists on the consumer's premises. The type of protective device that may be required (listed in an increasing level of protection) includes: Double Check Valve Assembly (DC), Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device (RP), Pressure Vacuum Breaker (PVB), and an Air-Gap separation (AG). The water user may choose a higher level of protection than required by the District. The minimum types of backflow protection required to protect the approved water supply, at the user's water connection to premises with varying degrees of hazard are given in Table 1. Situations which are not covered in Table 1 shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and the appropriate backflow protection shall be determined by the District.

**Table 1**
**TYPE OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION REQUIRED**

| Degree of Hazard | Minimum Type of Backflow Prevention |
|---|---|
| (a.) Sewage and Hazardous Substances | |
| 1) Premises where the public water system is used to supplement a reclaimed water supply. | AG |
| 2) Premises where there are wastewater pumping and/or treatment plants and there is no interconnection with the potable water system. This does not include a single family residence that has a sewage lift pump. An RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. | AG |
| 3) Premises where reclaimed water is used and there is no interconnection with the potable water system. An RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. | AG |

**Table 1 - Continued**

**TYPE OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION REQUIRED**

| | Minimum Type of Degree of Hazard Backflow Prevention |
|---|---|
| 4) Premises where hazardous substances are handled in any manner in which the substances may enter a potable water system. This does not include a single-family residence that has a sewage lift pump. An RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. | AG |
| 5) Premises where there are irrigation systems into which fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides are, or can be injected. | RP |
| 6) For landscape only meters into which fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides are not or cannot be injected the District may allow a PVB to be used provided it is installed a minimum of 12" above the highest point of the piping or usage. | PVB |
| (b.) Auxiliary Water Supplies | |
| 1) Premises where there is an unapproved auxiliary water supply which is inter-connected with the public water system. An RP or DC may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the Health Agency and the District. | AG |

**Table 1 - continued**

**TYPE OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION REQUIRED**

| Degree of Hazard | Minimum Type of Backflow Prevention |
|---|---|
| 2) Premises where there is an unapproved auxiliary water supply and there are no interconnections with the public water system. A DC may be provided in lieu of an RP if approved by the Health Agency and the District. | RP |
| 3) No back flow prevention device will be required for premises where there is an abandoned unapproved auxiliary water supply. An unapproved auxiliary water supply will be deemed abandoned by the District when done in accordance with all state and local laws and regulations. The source must be rendered permanently idled and permanently disconnected from the customer's water distribution system to the District's satisfaction. | |
| (c.) Fire Protection Systems | |
| 1) Premises where the fire system is directly supplied from the public water system and there is an unapproved auxiliary water supply on or to the premises (not inter-connected.) | DC |
| 2) Premises where the fire system is supplied from the public water system and inter-connected with an unapproved auxiliary water supply. A RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. | AG |

**Table 1 - continued**
**TYPE OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION REQUIRED**

| | Minimum Type of Degree of Hazard Backflow Prevention |
|---|---|
| 3) Premises where the fire system is supplied from the public water system and where either elevated storage tanks or fire pumps which take suction from the private reservoirs or tanks are used. | DC |
| 4) Premises where the fire system is supplied from the public water system and chemicals or fire retardants are utilized or chemicals are used to prevent freezing. | RP |
| Premises where the fire system is supplied from the public water system and where recycled water is used in a separate piping system. | DC |
| (d.) Recycled Water | |
| 1) Premises where the public water system is used to supplement the recycled water supply. | AG |
| 2) Premises where recycled water is used, other than as allowed in paragraph(3) and there is no interconnection with the potable water system. | RP |

**Table 1 - continued**
**TYPE OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION REQUIRED**

Minimum Type of

| | Degree of Hazard Backflow Prevention |
|---|---|
| 3) Residences using recycled water for landscape irrigation as part of an approved dual plumbed use area established pursuant to sections 22CCR 60313 through 60316 unless the recycled water supplier obtains approval of the District, or the Department if the water supplier is also the supplier of the recycled water, to utilize an alternative backflow protection plan that includes an annual inspection and annual shutdown test of the recycled water and potable water systems pursuant to subsection 22CCR 60316 (a). | DC |
| (e.) Premises where entry is restricted so that inspections for Cross-Connections cannot be made with sufficient frequency or at sufficiently short notice to assure that Cross-Connections do not exist. | RP |
| (f.) Premises where there is a repeated history of Cross-Connections being established or re-established. | RP |
| (g.) Two or more services supplying water from different street mains to the same building, structure, or premises through which an inter-street main flow may occur. | RP |

## Section 4. BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES

### 4.1 Approved Backflow Prevention Devices

All backflow prevention devices or assemblies required herein shall be a make, model and size approved by the District.

| | |
|---|---|
| AWWA/ANSI C510-92 | Standard for Double Check Valve Backflow Prevention Assemblies; |

AWWA/ANSI C511-92 Standard for Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assemblies;

and, have met completely the laboratory and field performance specifications of the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of the University of Southern California (USC FCCCHR) established in:

Specifications of Backflow Prevention Assemblies - Section 10 of the most current edition of the *Manual of Cross-Connection Control.*

Said AWWA and USC FCCCHR standards and specifications have been adopted by the District. Final approval shall be evidenced by a "Certificate of Compliance" for the said AWWA standards; or "Certificate of Approval" for the said USC FCCCHR Specifications; issued by an approved testing laboratory.

The following testing laboratory has been qualified by the District to test and approve backflow prevention assemblies:

Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and
Hydraulic Research
University of Southern California
KAP-200 University Park MC-2531
Los Angeles, California 90089-2531

Testing laboratories other than the laboratory listed above will be added to an approved list as they are qualified by the District.

Backflow preventers which may be subjected to backpressure or backsiphonage that have been fully tested and have been granted a Certificate of Approval by said qualified laboratory and are listed on the laboratory's current list of approved backflow prevention assemblies may be used without further test or qualification.

The District will provide, upon request, to any affected customer, a list of approved backflow prevention devices.

## 4.2 Backflow Prevention Device Installation

a. Backflow prevention devices shall be installed in a manner prescribed in the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH), and as such regulations may from time to time be modified. Location of the devices should be as close as practical to the user's connection. The District shall have the final authority in determining the required location of a backflow prevention device.

1. Air-gap separation (AG). The air-gap separation shall be located on the

user's side of and as close to the user connection as is practical. All piping from the user connection to the receiving tank shall be above grade and be entirely visible. No water use shall be provided from any point between the user connection and the air-gap separation. The water inlet piping shall terminate a distance of at least two (2) pipe diameters from the supply inlet, but in no case less than one (1) inch above the overflow rim of the receiving tank.

2. Reduced pressure principal backflow prevention device (RP). The approved reduced pressure principal backflow prevention device shall be installed on the user's side of and as close to the user connection as is practical. The device shall be installed a minimum of twelve inches (12") above grade and not more than thirty-six inches (36") above grade measured from the bottom of the device and with a minimum of twelve inches (12") side clearance. The device shall be installed so that it is readily accessible for maintenance and testing. Water supplied from any point between the user connection and the RP device shall be protected in a manner approved by the District.

3. Double check valve assembly (DC). The approved double check valve assembly shall be installed on the user's side of and as close to the user connection as is practical. The device shall be installed a minimum of twelve inches (12") above grade and not more than thirty-six inches (36") above grade measured from the bottom of the device and with a minimum of twelve inches (12") side clearance. The device shall be installed so that it is readily accessible for maintenance and testing.

4.3 **Backflow Prevention Device Testing and Maintenance**

a. The owners or water users (both of whom shall be responsible for compliance) of any premises on which, or on account of which backflow prevention devices are installed, shall have the devices tested by a certified tester who has demonstrated to the District or Health Agency his/her competency in testing of these devices. Backflow prevention devices must be tested immediately after installation, relocation, or repair and at least annually. The District may require a more frequent testing schedule if it is determined to be necessary. No device shall be placed back in service unless it is functioning as required. A report in a form acceptable to the District shall be filed with the District each time a device is tested, relocated, or repaired. These devices shall be serviced, overhauled, or replaced whenever they are found to be defective and all costs of testing, repair, and maintenance shall be borne by the water user.

b. The District may supply a list of approved backflow prevention assembly testers to the responsible owner or water user.

c. The District will notify responsible owners or water users by mail when annual

testing of an assembly is required. Any necessary report forms, to be completed and returned to the District, will be provided by the District.

### 4.4 **Backflow Prevention Device Removal**

a. Approval must be obtained from the District before a backflow prevention device is removed, relocated or replaced.

1. Removal: The use of a device may be discontinued and the device removed from service upon presentation of sufficient evidence to the District to verify that a Cross-Connection no longer exists or is not likely to be created in the future.

2. Relocation: A device may be relocated following confirmation by the District that the relocation will continue to provide the required protection and satisfy installation requirements. A retest will be required following the relocation of the device.

3. Repair: A device may be removed for repair, provided the water use is either discontinued until repair is completed and the device is returned to service, or the user connection is equipped with other backflow protection approved by the District. A retest will be required following the repair of the device.

## Section 5. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

### 5.1 **Water System Survey**

a. The District shall review all requests for new services to determine if backflow protection is needed. As a condition of service for new user connections, plans and specifications must be submitted to the District, upon request, for review of possible Cross-Connection hazards. If it is determined that a backflow prevention device is necessary to protect the public water system, the required device must be installed before service will be activated.

b. The District may require an on-premise inspection to evaluate Cross-Connection hazards. The District will transmit a written notice requesting an inspection appointment to each affected water user. Any customer which cannot or will not allow an on-premise inspection of their piping system shall be required to install the backflow prevention device the District considers necessary or the premises shall not be entitled to receive District water.

c. The District may, at its discretion, require a reinspection for Cross-Connection hazards of any premise to which it serves water. The District will transmit a written notice requesting an inspection appointment to each affected water user. Any

customer which cannot or will not allow an on-premise inspection of their piping system shall be required to install the backflow prevention device the District considers necessary or the premises shall not be entitled to receive District water.

5.2 **Customer Notification - Device Installation**

a. The District will notify the water user of the inspection findings, listing corrective action to be taken if required. A period of 60 days will be given to complete all corrective action required including installation of backflow prevention devices. Under circumstances which the District perceives as high risk, immediate installation of an appropriate device or other corrective action shall be required, or water service may be immediately terminated.

b. A second notice will be sent to each water user which does not take the required corrective action prescribed in the first notice within the 60 day period allowed. The second notice will give the water user a two week period to take the required corrective action. If no action is taken within the two week period the District will terminate water service to the affected water user until the required corrective actions are taken.

5.3 **Customer Notification - Testing and Maintenance**

a. The District will notify each affected water user annually that the backflow prevention device installed on his/her user connection must be tested. This written notice shall give the water user 90 days to have the device tested and supply the water user with the necessary form to be completed and submitted to the District.

b. A second notice shall be sent to each water user which does not have his/her backflow prevention device tested as prescribed in the first notice within the 90 day period allowed. The second notice will give the water user a two week period to have his/her backflow prevention device tested. If no action is taken within the two week period the District will terminate water service to the affected water user until the subject device is tested and shown to be operating properly.

c. Extension of time may be granted by the General Manager on a case-by-case basis. Any extension of time, as may be granted pursuant hereto, shall not release the owner from the requirement of annual testing, nor shall such extension of time delay or in any manner result in any device failing to be tested annually, as set forth in Section 4.

**Section 6. WATER SERVICE TERMINATION**

6.1 **General**

When the District encounters water user conditions that represent a clear and immediate hazard to the potable water supply that cannot be immediately abated, the District shall institute the following procedure for discontinuing the District water service.

### 6.2 **Basis for Termination**

Conditions or water uses that create a basis for water service termination shall include, but are not limited to, the following items:

a. Refusal to install a required backflow prevention device.

b. Refusal to test a backflow prevention device.

c. Refusal to repair a faulty backflow prevention device.

d. Refusal to replace a faulty backflow prevention device.

e. The District has not received a test certificate during the calendar year as required in Sections 4.3 and 5.3.

f. Unprotected direct or indirect connection between the District water system and an auxiliary water system.

g. Unprotected direct or indirect connection between the District water system and a system or equipment containing contaminants.

h. A situation which presents an immediate health hazard to the public water system.

i. Direct or indirect connection between the District water system and a sewer line.

### 6.3 **Water Service Termination Procedures**

For conditions a., b., c., d., e., or f., the District will terminate service to a customer's premises after a 48-hour written notice has been sent specifying the corrective action needed and the time period in which it must be done. If no action is taken within the allowed time period, water service will be terminated.

For conditions g., h., or i., the District will terminate water service and lock the service valve and, if necessary, remove the meter immediately. The District will make a reasonable effort to first advise the water user. The water service will remain inactive until correction of violations, as approved by the District.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District may terminate any water service at any time deemed necessary or appropriate to protect its water supply and/or distribution system.

## Section 7. CROSS-CONNECTIONS / BACKFLOW INCIDENTS

## 7.1 **Cross-Connections / Backflow Incidents**

If a cross-connection is found the Cross-Connection Control Program Coordinator will shut down potable water service to a property. The coordinator will begin a preliminary investigation into the property, identifying all sources of connection. Customers will be informed of issues and how the District will proceed with any incidents that arise. Customers will be provided with a contact phone number, and the Coordinator will be the main point of contact on behalf of the District. After all findings are made the SWRCB will be notified within 24 hours and be debriefed of the situation. If necessary, local law enforcement along with the county of San Bernardino or Riverside will be notified to enforce the shutdown requirements.

If cross-connections cannot be removed, IWVWD will install a backflow device at the meter connection to protect the drinking water system with a minimum protection of an RP device. Upon completion of investigation and removal of cross-connection the District specialist will complete a full write-up and include all details of the incident within 5 business days. The backflow incident report form in **Attachment 1** will be filled out and returned to the SWRCB as found in *Appendix F of the CCCPH***.**

## 7.2 **Water Quality Concerns**

Water quality concerns will be evaluated and reviewed by the Operation's department personnel if a concern arises that warrant further investigation, then the Cross-Connection Control Supervisor and Operations Manger will be notified. They will determine whether it is a direct action from a cross-connection (via backsiphoning or backpressure). Each concern will be responded to within a timely manner of notification. Each department will notify one another to keep communication open. If a cross-connection is found an initial notification will be sent to the SWRCB within 24 hours of the incident and a full report will be drafted within 5 business days to include water sampling information, specifics of the incident, and all related documentation.

## 7.3 **Water Quality Sampling**

Routine water quality monitoring is based on the SWRCB approved Bacteriological Site Sampling Plan**.** Water quality sampling will be conducted at locations where cross-connections are positively identified and a follow-up sample within 24 hours to ensure water is safe to consume. After a cross-connection is found a Boil Water notice will be issued to the customer location(s). Boil Water notices will only be lifted after receiving approval from SWRCB's Water Resource Control Engineer deeming the location is safe to drink.

## 7.4 **Documentation of Incidents**

During the investigation of a cross-connection a series of questions will be asked to see how the incident was caused. A report will be drafted and all the information provided will be addressed in the report. Photos will be taken of the cross-connection, and the removal of the cross-connection. Pressure testing to indicate conditions in the system will be provided in the report. Copies of the initial field report will be attached to the full report. All water quality sample reports will be included and stated in the final report. A final determination will be provided about the nature of the cross-connection (whether accidental or intentional). Lessons learned will be provided on how the cross-connection could have been prevented and a backflow will be installed at location and tested if not already at location. All prior backflow test reports along with a new test report will be provided in the final report. Each report will have a sequence number that is based on a four-digit year and three-digit sequential order sequence (ex. 2025- 001).

## Section 8. EDUCATION

### 8.1 Public Education

The public is provided with a variety of different educational opportunities with our program such as public outreach events like fairs, local supply house outreach events, tours of District facilities, reading about the cross-connection control program on our website, and taking one of the District's brochures.

### 8.2 IWVWD Staff Education

The Indian Wells Valley Water District will provide annual training to discuss cross-connection control. The information to be discussed in the training will be: What a cross-connection is, Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook, backflow devices and why we use them, the districts cross-connection control plan, cross-connection incidents, hazard assessments, record keeping, staff designated to the program, reporting criteria.

## Section 9. LOCAL ENTITY COORDINATION

### 9.1 Entity Coordination

The Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWVWD) maintains a comprehensive Cross-Connection Control Program to safeguard the public water system from potential contamination. This program involves collaboration with various local entities to ensure effective hazard assessments, appropriate backflow prevention measures, and prompt

investigation of any backflow incidents.

In alignment with the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) Section 3.1.3(a)(10), which mandates that public water systems coordinate with local entities involved in cross-connection control or public health protection, IWVWD engages with several local agencies and organizations. These collaborations include working with plumbing and permitting officials, health departments, law enforcement, fire departments, and both public and private entities. Such partnerships are crucial for performing thorough hazard assessments, implementing suitable backflow protection, and assisting in the investigation of backflow incidents. The District will also update ordinances to reflect the broad nature of the CCCPH to enforce the requirements.

## 9.2 **Coordination for Hazard Assessments**

The Cross-Connection Control Supervisor will establish the District's authority on protecting the public drinking water system and inform residential and commercial water users of this authority. The relationship between water utilities and its customers is a vital factor for the continuation of a cross-connection control program. The public needs to be aware that the District is not here to impose its will on the customer but to help and lead them to better water quality and stewardship. Some of the ways we do this are by the following:

- Routine risk assessments may be conducted with the fire departments, public works, and health officials to identify potential cross-connection risks in commercial, industrial, and residential areas.

- Organize training sessions with law enforcement, fire departments, and maintenance personnel to recognize cross-connection hazards and understand backflow risks.

- Create a database or GIS map showing high-risk locations for contamination to be shared with relevant local entities.

## 9.3 **Ensuring Appropriate Backflow Protection is Provided**

Pre-construction coordination with permitting agencies and plumbing officials to enforce backflow prevention requirements in new developments, remodels, commercial facilities, and additional dwelling units.

Certified backflow tester partnerships will be used to maintain a list of approved backflow testers. This will ensure local businesses and property owners comply with annual testing requirements.

Public awareness is a goal of the District to educate residents and businesses about backflow risks through workshops, bill messages, and website updates.

### 9.4 **Coordination for Backflow Incident Investigations**

A joint incident response team will work closely with health officials, law enforcement, and fire departments to investigate backflow events, ensuring rapid response and contamination mitigation for large scale events.

Incident reporting protocols have been developed to standardized reporting that allows IWVWD to inform the public and SWRCB of suspected cross-connections or backflow events. If events become larger than just a single service connection, then the public will be informed. During the contamination event the District will research and test to see how far contamination has spread. By implementing these proactive coordination efforts, IWVWD can ensure that the health and safety of the public water system is protected.

Likewise hazard assessments will be thoroughly performed, backflow prevention is enforced, and investigations into backflow incidents are efficiently managed—fully aligning with the CCCPH.

## Section 10. BACKFLOW HAZARD ASSESSMENTS

### 10.1 **Process**

The process starts by assigning each specialist within the District a list of service connections to evaluate potential hazards. The specialist will fill out a backflow hazard assessment form to evaluate the potential hazards. The specialist will utilize all available tools to evaluate hazards such as: GIS maps, and Google maps, existing backflow reports, in person assessments, customer service account information. The specialist will use their discretion whether the site needs further investigation to make accurate assessments. Each form submitted will be evaluated by the program supervisor and if a backflow is required a follow-up work order will be generated to install a backflow device. The hazards that are associated with requiring a backflow device can be found in *Appendix D of the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook.*

### 10.2 **Initial Hazard Assessment**

During the hazard assessment a specialist will evaluate all known plumbing conditions to see if there are any hazards that could contaminate the public drinking water supply. If a low hazard is found the specialist will continue to look for more hazards if more than one low hazard exists, then the low hazard will be upgraded to high Hazard. A high hazard location will then be added to the list of backflow installations.

### 10.3 **Timeframe of Initial Hazard Assessment**

The District assesses that all initial hazard assessments will be completed within 15 years. This allows staff the proper time to conduct assessments by contacting customers, filling out reports, and requiring installation of appropriate devices to meet the needs of the associated hazards. Additionally, they will need this amount of time to stay focused on their daily duties as well as incorporate this duty as part of the job.

### 10.4 **Criteria for Backflow Protection**

The criteria for backflow protection are based on the associated hazards and their degree of hazard. When the hazard assessment states the degree of hazard is high or low then a specialist will find the associated hazard in within the hazard assessment form and assign the associated backflow based on the degree. Low hazards are considered anything that does not affect public health. High hazards are considered a risk to public health which may cause sickness or death. The default backflow device to be installed on all service connections will be an RP backflow preventer.

### 10.5 **Criteria for Hazard Assessment**

The criteria to perform a hazard assessment is based on whether a commercial location changes ownership. This can cause a change in water use conditions which can elevate or lower a hazard on a location. Residential properties will be re-evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Additional dwelling units will be considered a high hazard location when detached from the main building, this turns a property into a complex plumbing situation where by a specialist will default to a high hazard.

## Section 11. RECORDKEEPING

### 11.1 Recordkeeping in the Cross-Connection Control & Recycled Water Program

Maintaining accurate and comprehensive records is a critical component of Indian Wells Valley Water District's (IWVWD) Cross-Connection Control Program to ensure regulatory compliance, public health protection, and efficient response to backflow incidents. The District keeps detailed records in the following key areas:

**Category of Records Kept and Description of Records**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Backflow Records** | • **Backflow Test Reports (Swift Comply)**<br>• **Backflow Repair Reports (Swift Comply)**<br>• **Backflow Installation Reports (Swift Comply)**<br>• **Backflow Inventory and Identification (Swift Comply)**<br>• **List of Certified Testers (if contracting outside IWVWD) (in backflow folders)** |
| **Cross-Connection Control Records** | • **Sites Supervisor Records and Training Dates (record of training spreadsheet and in staff training folder)**<br>• **Cross-Connection Test Reports (in use site folders)**<br>• **Cross-Connection Incident Reports (Individual folders)**<br>• **Backflow Hazard Assessments (Swift Comply)**<br>• **Plan Checks For New Projects (in use site folders)**<br>• **Work Order History (Springbrook)**<br>• **Customer Notices (Install, repairs, testing) (Individual folders)**<br>• **Staff Training Records for Cross-Connection Control (In staff training folder)** |

11.2 **Backflow Prevention Device Inventory**

A database of all backflow prevention assemblies (BPAs) installed within the system, categorized by location, property type, and risk level. All device-specific details, including model, size, manufacturer, serial number, installation date, last inspection date, and assigned hazard level are tracked within the backflow management software. See the Recordkeeping Software section below for a description.

### 11.3 **Testing & Maintenance Records**

The District maintains logs of annual backflow testing results for each registered device. These logs include details such as the certified tester's name, test results, and any maintenance performed. Maintaining accurate records allows for compliance tracking, ensuring that District customers complete required testing and take corrective action when devices fail.

Additionally, the District keeps notification records for property owners and businesses, informing them when testing is due or if repairs are required. These notifications are essential for keeping the public informed and ensuring timely compliance with backflow prevention requirements. Regular communication helps prevent potential contamination risks and reinforces the integrity of the public water system.

### 11.4 **Hazard Assessment Records**

Hazard assessment reports for residential, commercial, industrial properties identifying potential cross-connection risks. Inspection records from field staff and coordination with plumbing inspectors to ensure proper backflow prevention is installed. Documentation of mitigation measures required for high-risk properties (e.g., installation of RPZ (Reduced Pressure Zone) assemblies in hazardous locations).

### 11.5 **Incident Investigation & Response Records**

Reports of backflow incidents, including the date, location, cause, affected properties, and water quality testing results. Records of corrective actions taken, including flushing procedures, enforcement actions, and follow-up monitoring. Coordination records with public health agencies, fire departments, and law enforcement during incident investigations.

### 11.6 **Compliance & Regulatory Reporting**

Submission of required state and local compliance reports detailing backflow prevention enforcement. Records of communication with regulatory agencies, ensuring compliance with California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), EPA, and Title 22/CCCPH regulations. Documentation of staff training programs on cross-connection control, and backflow prevention.

## Section 12. REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOGNITION AS A DISTRICT APPROVED BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE TESTER

Each applicant for district approval as a tester of backflow prevention devices shall register with the District. The District, at its discretion, may rely on the Kern County approved list of testers.

District approval as a backflow prevention device tester may be revoked or not renewed for improper testing, repairs and/or reporting, or for other reasons deemed appropriate by the District.

The following are minimum requirements:

d. Applicants must provide evidence of a valid certification from the American Water Works Association (A.W.W.A.) California-Nevada Section, the American Backflow Association (A.B.A.) or from a District approved certification program.

b. S/He shall be responsible for the competency and accuracy of all tests and reports prepared by her/him.

## Section 13. CONTINUITY

Adoption of this ordinance shall not be construed as a waiver of any right or obligation under any prior agreement, contract or commitment.

## Section 14. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

In the event that conditions arise which are not specifically covered by this ordinance, the Board may take whatever action that, in its discretion, is warranted.

## Section 15. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this chapter, or any part thereof, is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The Board hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.

# Attachment 1







State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

## BACKFLOW INCIDENT REPORT FORM

Water System: _____

Water System Number: _____

Incident Date: _____

Incident Time (if known):_____

Incident Location: _____

How was the incident discovered?

_____

Backflow Originated from:

Premise Location: _____

Address: _____

Premise Contact Person: _____ Title:_____

Phone:_____ Email: _____

Connection Type: (please check one)

☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Single-Family Residential ☐ Multi-Family Residential

☐ Irrigation ☐ Recycled Water ☐ Water System Facility

☐ Other: _____

Description and source of backflow fluid (please be as descriptive as possible):

_____

_____

*If available, please attach an MSDS or other chemical description form*

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Was the backflow fluid contained within the user side? YES☐ NO☐

Estimated Number of Affected Persons: _____

Number and description of consumer complaints received:

_____

_____

Did any consumers report illness? Please describe.

_____

_____

If applicable, please describe the consumer notification:

_____

_____

## INVESTIGATION

Please describe the water system investigation including time frames:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

What was the area system pressure? _____

Is this within typical range: YES☐ NO☐ - typical pressure: _____

Was a sample of the water contaminated by the backflow incident collected and stored before flushing? YES☐ NO☐

Please describe all sampling:

_____

_____

F-2

*DDW recommends laboratory or field sampling for the following parameters: total coliform, E. coli, free and total chlorine residual, pH, odor, turbidity, temperature, and color. Additional sampling should be collected at the PWS and regulatory agency's discretion.*

## CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Please describe the corrective actions taken by the water system:

Was the chlorine residual increased after the backflow incident discovery?YES☐ NO☐

Date of the last cross-connection control hazard assessment of the premise with the backflow incident conducted: _____

Did the premise have backflow prevention assemblies? YES☐ NO☐

Date of most recent backflow prevention assembly test(s): _____

When was the Division of Drinking Water or Local County Health office notified?

Date: _____Time: _____ Contact Person: _____

Was the Division or Local County Health notified within 24 hours? YES☐ NO☐

Other agencies or organizations contacted?

## CERTIFICATION

Name: _____ Job Title: _____

Certification(s): _____

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*Please list all cross-connection control related certifications including number and expiration date*

I certify that the forgoing information is true and correct to the best of my ability.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Attach the following applicable documentation

1. Laboratory Test Results
2. Sketch of the cross-connection and modifications
3. MSDS or chemical information forms if chemical hazard is known
4. Applicable backflow assembly test reports including the most recent test before the incident
5. Other relevant supporting documentation