

DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: September 12, 2012

Board Item: V-B-3

Amendment to Chapter 9 of the Operating Rules Regarding Taps in Master Meter Districts

Action by Consent

Action

Information

A recent Lean Rapid Improvement Event examined Denver Water's process for making taps on water mains that are 2 inches and smaller in Master Meter Districts. With the exception of one Master Meter District that is authorized to make its own taps, Chapter 9 of the Operating Rules requires Denver Water to make all 2 inch and smaller taps. Particularly for large projects such as main replacement, this process is a significant burden for Denver Water employees who are unable to complete more value-added work. It also causes delays for distributors whose contractors have to wait for Denver Water and who often incur added expenses associated with street permits and longer construction time.

During the Lean Rapid Improvement Event, employees developed a new process by which Denver Water can authorize Master Meter Districts to make their own taps on water mains. Authorization will be conditioned upon the Master Meter District's compliance with Denver Water Operating Rules and Engineering Standards, inspection of taps, and transmittal of tap completion/measurement forms to the Sales Administration Section at Denver Water.

These process changes will require amendments to Operating Rule 2.02.3, which defines the term "Tap Connection," and Operating Rules 9.02.1 and 9.02.2 to allow authorized master meter distributors to make taps within their districts.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached proposed changes to Operating Rules 2.02.3, 9.02.1, and 9.02.2.d

Approvals:

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Anderson
Director of Customer Relations



James S. Lochhead
CEO/Manager



Patricia Wells
General Counsel



Brian Good
Deputy Manager of Organizational Improvement