

# Water Loss Metrics

Water Conservation Advisory Council

April 8, 2014

The statements contained in this presentation are my current views and opinions and are not intended to reflect the positions of, or information from, the Texas Water Development Board, nor is it an indication of any official policy position of the Board.

# Water Loss Audit Requirements

- All retail public water suppliers report once every 5-years (HB 3338, 2003, 78<sup>th</sup> session)
  - Next report for 2015
- Retail public water suppliers with active financial obligations with TWDB report annually (HB 3090, 2011, 82<sup>nd</sup> session)
- Retail public water suppliers with >3,300 connections report annually (HB 857, 2013, 83<sup>rd</sup> session)



# The Data

- Ideally used by each retail public water supplier to track its water loss and identify potential conservation activities
- Provided to the regional water planning groups for their consideration in identifying water management strategies
- Reviewed as part of the TWDB financial application process



## H.B. 3605 – 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature

Requires a utility receiving financial assistance from TWDB to use a portion of that assistance to address the utility's water loss if, based on a water audit filed by the utility, that water loss meets or exceeds the threshold established by TWDB.

TWDB is to adopt rules regarding:

- the amount of system water loss (threshold) that requires a utility to take action;
- the use of financial assistance from the board as required to address system water loss.



# Timeline

- Spring 2013 - Passed by the 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature
- August 2013 – Water Loss Symposium
- November 2013 – Presentation made to the Board on issues, approach and possible metrics
- January 2014 – Stakeholder Meeting



# Issues

- Flexibility
- Validity
- System Size
- Wholesale Volume



# Data Review

- Based on population size and connection density
- Possible use of trends over time
- Consideration of:
  - Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)
    - larger systems (>3,000 connections & 16 connections/mile)
  - Apparent Loss
    - gallons/connection/day
  - Real Loss
    - gallons/connection/day (>32 connections/mile)
    - gallons/mile/day (<32 connections/mile)
  - Independent calculation for a retailer's wholesale volume



# Next Steps

- Draft metrics
- Stakeholder Meeting
- Draft rules for Board consideration