

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

RESOLUTION NO. 24-0252

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) provides water service to the City and County of San Francisco and maintains procedures for establishing water connections and protecting the safety of the water supply as set forth in its Rules and Regulations Governing Water Service to Customers, first adopted by this Commission on December 15, 1959, by Resolution No. 19.786; and

WHEREAS, Cross-connections are actual or potential connections between a public water system and any source or distribution system containing liquid, gas, or other substances not from an approved water supply; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of a cross-connection control program is to prevent contaminants from entering the public water system's distribution system so as to protect customers from serious health risks; and

WHEREAS, On June 17, 2016, by Ordinance No. 100-16, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors amended Article 12A of the San Francisco Health Code to establish updated cross-connection and backflow prevention requirements that would protect the City and County of San Francisco's public water system and be consistent with current state and federal drinking water quality laws; and

WHEREAS, On September 13, 2016, by Resolution No. 16-0184, this Commission authorized the General Manager to add a new Section G, entitled "Cross-Connection Control," to the SFPUC's existing Rules and Regulations Governing Water Service to Customers (which were first established by Resolution No. 19.786, dated December 15, 1959) to implement the updated provisions of San Francisco Health Code Article 12A; and

WHEREAS, On October 8, 2019, by Resolution No. 19-0191, this Commission approved amendments to Section G that provided clearer requirements for cross-connection control based on stakeholder feedback and added inspection requirements for new water services to conform with revised SFPUC City Distribution Division procedures, as well as emergency cross-connection response plan requirements for standard-plumbed systems and variance procedures; and

WHEREAS, On December 19, 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted new cross-connection control standards through its Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook, which became effective July 1, 2024, and amendments to Section G of the SFPUC's Rules and Regulations Governing Water Service to Customers are necessary for compliance with the new state standards; and

WHEREAS, SFPUC staff have prepared proposed amendments to Section G that are consistent with the new state standards; align with current requirements in the San Francisco Plumbing Code and the City's programs for municipally supplied recycled water and alternate sources of water; provide the SFPUC Water Quality Division with more flexibility in achieving regulatory compliance; and clarify, reorganize, and expand upon Section G's existing requirements to enhance the protection of the public water system from potential contaminants; and

WHEREAS, On November 21, 2024, the San Francisco Planning Department determined that the amended Section G, Cross-Connection Control, of the San Francisco Public Utilities

Commission's Rules and Regulations Governing Water Service to Customers, does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15378 (b)(2) because it involves continuing administrative activities, such as general policy and procedure making; and

WHEREAS, In conformance with the requirements of Charter Section 4.104, a Notice of Public Hearing was posted on the SFPUC website and at the San Francisco Public Library on November 15, 2024; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Commission hereby adopts the amended Section G, Cross-Connection Control, of the SFPUC's Rules and Regulations Governing Water Service to Customers in the form attached hereto and on file with the Director of Commission Affairs, effective as of the date of this resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Commission hereby authorizes the General Manager, or the General Manager's designee, to revise the subsequent cross-connection testing frequency for dual-plumbed systems specified in Rule 10 of Section G, as necessary to comply with anticipated changes in state regulations.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its meeting of December 10, 2024.



*Director of Commission Affairs
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission*