

Subchapter P. EMERGENCY ORDERS FOR WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES.

§22.293. Notification of Emergency Order.

- (a) A retail public utility that requests, obtains, or is subject to an emergency order issued by the TCEQ shall notify the commission and all regulatory authorities having original jurisdiction over the retail public utility's rates and service policies as soon as reasonably possible by:
 - (1) filing with the commission and all regulatory authorities having original jurisdiction over the retail public utility's rates and service policies a copy of the request or order; or
 - (2) if the request or order is not available to the retail public utility, filing with the commission and all regulatory authorities having original jurisdiction over the retail public utility's rates and service policies a letter describing the facts and circumstances relating to the request or order.
- (b) A retail public utility may comply with subsection (a) of this section by providing the information required by subsection (a) of this section as part of a request for an emergency order under §22.295 of this title (relating to Request for Emergency Order) and by providing notice, if applicable, to all other regulatory authorities having original jurisdiction over the retail public utility's rates and service policies.
- (c) Upon issuance of an emergency order by the commission, the commission shall provide notice of issuance of the order to the affected retail public utility as soon as practicable. Notice of the commission's action under this subchapter is adequate if the notice or emergency order is delivered by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or hand-delivered, to the last known address of the retail public utility's headquarters.
- (d) After a retail public utility receives notice of the issuance of an emergency order by the commission under this subchapter, the retail public utility shall provide notice of issuance of the emergency order to all affected ratepayers, the TCEQ, and all regulatory authorities having original jurisdiction over the retail public utility's rates and service policies. If the emergency order is for a rate change pursuant to §24.14(a)(4) of this title (relating to Emergency Orders and Emergency Rates), the retail public utility will provide the notice within ten days of the issuance of the emergency order or before the next billing cycle in which the new rate will be imposed, whichever is first. Otherwise, the retail public utility will provide the notice within ten days of the issuance of the emergency order. A copy of the notice shall also be filed with the commission along with a signed affidavit as proof that the notice was provided. The notice shall include:
 - (1) The name of the retail public utility for which the emergency order was issued, its corresponding certificate of public convenience and necessity number(s), and all relevant TCEQ-issued public water system name(s) and identification number(s) and wastewater discharge permit name and identification number(s), if applicable;
 - (2) The address of the office for the retail public utility identified in paragraph (1) of this subsection;
 - (3) An emergency contact name and phone number(s) for the retail public utility identified in paragraph (1) of this subsection;
 - (4) The start and end date of the emergency order; and
 - (5) A brief statement explaining how the customers of the retail public utility identified in paragraph (1) of this subsection will be affected by the issuance of the emergency order.
- (e) If a retail public utility required to provide notice pursuant to subsection (d) of this section has abandoned operation of its facilities or the owner of such a retail public utility has abandoned the system, as described in Texas Water Code §13.412(a)(1)-(2) and (f), then the retail public utility's receiver appointed pursuant to Texas Water Code §13.412 or temporary manager authorized pursuant to Texas Water Code §13.4132 shall provide notice as required by subsection (d) of this section. If no receiver or temporary manager has been appointed or authorized, commission staff shall take reasonable efforts to ensure that customers are provided the notice required by subsection (d) of this section or other reasonable notice.