



## **Inactive Meter Policy**

**Adopted May 19, 2025; Effective October 1, 2025**

The Kershaw County and Lee County Regional Water Authority, d/b/a Cassatt Water (the “Authority”) relies on its Base Charge to contribute to funding the fixed and capital costs of operating and maintaining the Authority’s water system infrastructure (the “Water System”), which requires constant upkeep and maintenance and which carries certain fixed costs regardless of usage.

The Authority has determined that it is in the best interest of its customers to implement a more equitable method for funding these fixed and capital costs that requires all service addresses that are connected to the Water System, that continually benefit from its upkeep, and that rely on the continual availability of water service to bear their share of these costs.

The Authority has determined to implement the following policy regarding certain fees and charges for inactive accounts (this “Policy”) to ensure that these accounts are adequately paying for their actual cost to the Water System.

1. Water meters are the property of the Authority. Tap Fees are a non-refundable fee that covers the Authority’s capital and labor costs for the installation of a water meter. If, for any reason, a customer account’s water meter must be removed and replaced or upgraded, it is appropriate for the Authority to charge additional fees for the capital and labor costs involved.
2. Except as expressly provided for in this Policy, any customer account for which a water meter is installed will incur a monthly Base Charge regardless of whether such customer account utilizes any volume of water during such month. For the purpose of this Policy, a water meter is considered “inactive” if, for the period in question, no monthly base charge has been paid.
3. *New Customer with New Water Meters.* A new customer applying for water service at a service address requiring a new water meter shall begin incurring a Base Charge in the first month after the water meter has been installed.
4. *Customer (New or Existing) with Inactive Water Meters (Less than Three Years).* The following shall apply to customer accounts with water meters that have been inactive for less than three years:

- a. Any such customer shall pay all incurred and unpaid Base Charges (calculated based on the applicable Base Charge, multiplied by the number of months the water meter has been inactive), up to but not exceeding the amount of the Meter Modernization Fee.
  - b. A new customer applying for water service at a service address which has an existing water meter, and which the customer has acquired or is occupying under a new lease during the period in which the water meter was inactive, shall pay all applicable new account fees, deposits, and other charges for new service, but shall not be required to pay any previously-incurred Base Charges for any inactive water meter. To qualify under this subsection, the new customer must provide a lease or rental agreement, settlement statement, copy of a recorded deed, or other satisfactory evidence of having acquired or occupied the subject property during the period in which the water meter was inactive.
5. *Customer (New or Existing) with Inactive Water Meters (Three to Five Years)*. A customer applying for water service or reestablishing water service at a service address with a water meter that has been inactive for three to five years shall pay the Meter Modernization Fee. The Authority reserves the right to remove the water meter and related appurtenances and terminate service (if not previously terminated) for any service address with a water meter that has been inactive for more than three years.
6. *Customer (New or Existing) with Inactive Water Meters (More than Five Years)*. A customer applying for water service or reestablishing water service at a service address with a water meter that has been inactive for more than five years shall pay the current Tap Fee, regardless of whether the water meter has been removed, to cover costs of the Authority to ensure that the existing water meter remains in serviceable condition.
7. The Base Charges, Meter Modernization Fees, and Tap Fees due under this Policy, as applicable, shall in every case be in addition to (a) all outstanding charges for water service if the customer has an existing account; (b) all applicable new account fees, deposits, and other charges for new service; and (c) any other applicable charges or fees that may be imposed by the Authority at any time. Nothing in this Policy shall be construed to exempt a customer seeking to upgrade service at an existing service address from paying applicable Tap Fees and Impact Fees in connection with such upgraded service, and any applicable Tap Fees and Impact Fees shall be in addition to all incurred and unpaid Base Charges that may be due under this Policy.