



## Tahoe City Public Utility District

May 17, 2005

John Falk  
John R. Falk and Associates  
P.O. Box 1515  
Carnelian Bay, CA 96140

**SUBJECT: Comments by District Inspectors Related to Backflow  
Prevention Disclosure**

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter dated May 2, 2005 related to comments made during an on-site visit by one or more District inspectors. I have directed our inspectors and all Public Works staff members to refrain from commenting on the duties or responsibilities of real estate practitioners.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again ask that real estate professionals representing both buyer and seller contact the District whenever they are working on a property sale within our District to ascertain whether backflow protection is needed at that property. Since the District discontinued notification during escrow, fewer than five (5) inquiries have been made by real estate practitioners regarding the need for cross-connection control at properties they are working on. From our perspective, notification to sellers at the time of sale was both efficient and effective. As a consequence of discontinuing that practice, we are enforcing the installation of an assembly by a person who is completely unaware of the need for same, because neither the seller nor the seller's agent is disclosing the requirement prior to sale.

Giving notice to our customers when we are aware that there is a pending sale is advantageous to both seller and buyer. It serves as a reminder to the seller of his or her obligation to install the assembly and saves the buyer from an expense that is truly the responsibility of the seller.

John Falk  
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If you would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact me at (530) 583-3796, extension 31.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debi Black". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Debi Black  
Technical Services Supervisor /  
Cross-Connection Specialist

c: Robert Lourey, General Manager  
Bill Back, Director of Public Works  
Bruce Ells, Tahoe Sierra Board of Realtors, P.O. Box 3744, Olympic Valley, CA 96146