



## CFPUA System-Wide Connection Deferral Policy and Guidelines

### What is a Connection Deferral?

Owners of existing structures with plumbing for Domestic Use desiring to delay the expense of connecting the structure's plumbing to the Authority's sewer or water systems due to hardship caused by topography, structure's distance from the Authority services, or other unusual circumstance, may apply for an extension of time past the required connection deadline. Only one service is considered per Connection Deferral request.

Property owners of vacant lots or unlivable/uninhabitable structures as deemed by the governing jurisdiction are not required to mandatorily connect -- a connection deferral does not apply.

### Qualifications for Connection Deferral

1. Properties with recently inspected, properly operating septic systems or well systems, depending on the deferral being requested.
2. Livable/habitable structure without electrical power. To meet this deferral requirement, electrical power must be disconnected from the structure. Verification on site by CFPUA is required.
3. Where continued operation of a septic system and/or well will not impair the activation and operation of Authority owned infrastructure.

### How to Apply for Connection Deferral?

Property owners must send a request for deferral to the CFPUA Engineering Department within 60 days of receiving the mandatory connection letter. For the sewer deferral to be considered, the applicant must submit to the Authority a certification by a licensed septic system inspector stating the septic system has been inspected within the last 30 days and is currently functioning properly. For a water deferral the well must have been permitted and approved by the New Hanover County Health Department and pass a current bacteriological test. Contact the New Hanover County Health Department at 910-798-6667 for assistance with well and septic information.

### If a Deferral is Granted

If property owner is granted Connection Deferral, it will be valid for up to three (3) years from connection requirement, and they will be required to complete the following 3-step process:

1. Pay or finance the applicable Authority System Development Charges.
2. Pay the bi-monthly Availability Rate, for which connection is mandated, starting with the first month after the original deadline for mandatory connection.
3. Meet with an Authority staff member authorized to handle connection deferrals and sign a connection deferral approval agreement, which will be notarized and filed at the register of deeds.
4. Property owner shall pay the current CFPUA Connection Fee at time payment is made.

### Deferral Reapplication

A deferral may be reapplied for ONCE, allowing an additional 3 years to connect to the sewer/water system from the connection requirement; meaning with permission, an owner may have up to 6 years to connect from the original mandatory connection requirement date. Property owners desiring to apply for a second deferral term shall submit the request 120 days prior to the connection requirement date.

***Connection Deferral is null and void if property's septic/well system fails or is in need of repair as mandated by the County Health Department. At that time, Owner will be required to connect to the Authority's sewer/water system.***

*\*Refer to the CFPUA Utility Regulations and Ordinance for definitions of capitalized words.  
This policy was approved by the CFPUA Board of Directors June 12, 2013.*