

Side-by-side Comparison

of Dual Check and Double Check backflow prevention valves used for residential premises with an auxiliary water system.

Acronyms:

n/a = Not Applicable

BOCC = Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners

DEP = Florida’s Department of Environmental Protection

PUD = Hillsborough County’s Public Utilities Department

SDWA = Florida’s Safe Drinking Water Act, [F.S. §§ 403.850—et seq.](#)

SERC = Florida DEP’s Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs for 62-555.360 F.A.C.

		
Valve type:	Dual Check	Double Check
Advocated by:	PUD Director Paul Vanderploog	PUD Director George Cassady
Is the valve approved for use by the Florida DEP for residential premises with an auxiliary water system?	YES	YES
Standards:	Florida DEP Canadian	AWWA

<p>Total number of residential premises in Hillsborough County that have an auxiliary water system using a source of water other than reclaimed water, i.e. the number of homeowners who will ultimately be paying to buy, test & maintain Double Check valves.</p> <p>Cassady estimate: ¹</p> <p>Florida DEP / Census: ²</p>	<p>3,000</p> <p>111,713</p>	
<p>Initial Cost (\$) to each homeowner:</p> <p>Cassady estimate: ³</p> <p>Florida DEP estimate: ⁴</p>	<p>75</p> <p>190+</p>	<p>150</p> <p>350+</p>
<p>Total Initial Cost (\$) for Hillsborough County homeowners (using the more accurate DEP numbers):</p>	<p>21,225,470+</p>	<p>39,099,550+</p>
<p>Annual cost (\$) to each Hillsborough County homeowner to install and maintain the valves: Source: Florida DEP's SERC</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>102</p>
<p>Is the valve testable?</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Does the valve probably require resetting the curb stop and water meter to accommodate the length of the valve <u>OR</u> intruding on the premises, i.e. the taking of private property for the County's use without Due Process?</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Does the valve probably require a "Jumbo" vault box because of the valve's length? ⁵</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Is the valve subject to "Drive-by Testing"?</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>YES</p>

Can the testing of the valve go <u>un-verified</u> , even with the hiring of many additional County “monitors”?	n/a	YES
Is the valve subject to false “maintenance repair” claims by testers?	n/a	YES
Does the valve require hiring additional County employees just to record over 300 test results per day?	n/a	YES
Does the valve provide Direct Access into the public drinking water thru its Test Ports? (Hint: See the little red arrow in the photo at the top of this table.)	n/a	YES
Is the valve so dangerous that a former Assistant County Administrator, Wally Hill, actually reported a person (me) to Homeland Security (FBI) for publically demonstrating the ease of using a valve like the Double Check with Test Ports to contaminate the public water supply: ⁶	n/a	YES
Is the valve so dangerous that one of Director Cassady’s <u>current</u> employees, Bob DiCecco , actually reported a person (me) to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and to Homeland Security (FBI) for publically demonstrating the ease of using a valve like the Double Check with Test Ports to contaminate the public water supply: ⁷	n/a	YES
With the widespread distribution of these valves throughout the residential areas of Hillsborough County, will they probably be used by disgruntled people and pranksters to contaminate the public drinking water supply to a particular home?	n/a	YES
With the widespread distribution of these valves throughout the residential areas of Hillsborough County, will they probably be used by a terrorist to contaminate the public drinking water supply?	n/a	YES

Does the valve allow the backflow of a 55-gallon drum of contaminants into the public drinking water system in less than two minutes? ⁸	n/a	YES
Are any Test Port Locks installed on a valve easily overcome with a drop of Super-Glue? ⁹	n/a	YES
Does this type of valve encourage contamination of the public drinking water supply, according to the Journal of the American Bar Association (ABA)? ¹⁰	n/a	YES
Does this type of valve encourage contamination of the public drinking water supply, according to the Journal of the American Water Works Association (AWWA)? ¹¹	n/a	YES
Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve give a terrorist direct access into Hillsborough County's public drinking water supply? Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve provide "material support and resources" to terrorists? Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve cause the valve to violate the federal Patriot Act? ¹²	n/a	YES
Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve provide a means to disrupt the ability of Hillsborough County to provide safe drinking water? Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve promote "adversarial actions that might substantially disrupt the ability of a system to provide a safe and reliable supply of drinking water"? Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve cause the selection of the valve to violate the federal Bioterrorism Act.	n/a	YES

<p>Does the presence of Test Ports on the valve cause the valve to violate a number of federal Anti-Terrorism laws including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 U.S.C. § 2339A Providing material support to terrorists. 18 U.S.C. § 175 Prohibitions with respect to biological weapons. P.L. 107–188 The Bioterrorism Act. 18 U.S.C. § 175c Direct transfer of Variola virus. 42 U.S.C. § 5195 The Critical Infrastructures Protection Act. P.L. 107-56 § 1016 The Patriot Act. 42 U.S.C. § 300i-1 Tampering with Public Water Systems. 	<p>n/a</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Will the selection of a valve probably subject Hillsborough County to a number of negligence lawsuits after an intentional contamination event that causes sickness and death? ¹³</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Does the selection of a valve with the presence of Test Ports cause the valve to <u>fail to provide safe drinking water at all times</u>.</p> <p>Does the selection of a valve with the presence of Test Ports demonstrate <u>a failure to give due regard to economic factors</u>.</p> <p>Does the selection of a valve with the presence of Test Ports on the valve demonstrate <u>a failure to consider efficiency in government</u>.</p> <p>Does the valve violate Florida’s Safe Drinking Water Act? ¹⁴</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>YES</p>

Does the selection of the valve <u>fail</u> to meet even a basic Cost/Benefit analysis: ¹⁵	n/a	YES
Could it be that because so much money is involved with the type of valve that has Test Ports, that one of Director Cassady's <u>current</u> employees, Bob DiCecco , may have violated the Hillsborough County Code of Ethics to throw business to a friend: ¹⁶	n/a	YES
Could it be that because so much money is involved with the type of valve that has Test Ports, that one of Director Cassady's <u>current</u> employees, Bob DiCecco , may have violated the County's Code of Ethics by lobbying business friends to influence the BOCC's valve selection: ¹⁷	n/a	YES
Does the high cost of the valve, and the high cost to periodically test and maintain it, provide for a potential kickback scheme by County Officials? ¹⁸	n/a	YES
Is the valve so susceptible to a kickback scheme that Director Cassady refused to answer a Cross Connection Control Board member's very simple questions (mine), because it could have potentially revealed the Director's involvement in a kickback scheme?	n/a	YES
Is the selection of the valve morally and ethically wrong in that it allows the contamination of the County's drinking water supply by a terrorist and senselessly puts the lives of thousands of men, women and children at risk, just for the potential enrichment of a few officials at the Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department?	n/a	YES

¹ Source is a letter that Director Cassady sent to a number of County residents on 2/6/2015. This is obviously a low-ball number that will be used later in cost estimates by the Director to disguise the actual enormous cost of Double Check valves to your constituents.

² Source is the Florida DEP's Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (SERC) prepared for 62-555.360 F.A.C. and the 2013 Census data. The number 111,713 uses the same calculation method for Hillsborough County that the DEP used to calculate the number of residential premises that have an auxiliary water system using a source of water other than reclaimed water for Florida.

To review the DEP's very detailed SERC, go to [http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance Exhibits.pdf](http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance%20Exhibits.pdf) Then using the "Bates" numbers at the lower right of each page, it runs from page 133 to 179.

For the parallel calculation for Hillsborough County, go to [http://suncitydave.info/Census 2013 - Calculation.pdf](http://suncitydave.info/Census%202013%20-%20Calculation.pdf) .

³ Source is a letter that Director Cassady sent to a number of County residents on 2/6/2015. This is obviously a low-ball number that will be used later in cost estimates by the Director to disguise the actual enormous cost of Double Check valves to your constituents. I have no idea where he got those numbers. Obviously, he didn't do his homework!

⁴ Source is the Florida DEP's Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (SERC) prepared for 62-555.360 F.A.C. These costs do not include the cost of a Plumbing Permit. Nor do they include the cost (around \$200?) for the homeowner to remove the old RP.

⁵ <http://www.sprinklerwarehouse.com/NDS-Sprinkler-Valve-Box-p/nds-117bc.htm>

⁶ See top of page 4 at [http://www.suncitydave.info/Smoking guns handout with titles.pdf](http://www.suncitydave.info/Smoking%20guns%20handout%20with%20titles.pdf)

⁷ See the first email on page 2 of [http://www.suncitydave.info/Smoking guns handout with titles.pdf](http://www.suncitydave.info/Smoking%20guns%20handout%20with%20titles.pdf)

⁸ Go to [http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance Exhibits.pdf](http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance%20Exhibits.pdf) Then using the "Bates" numbers at the lower right of the pages, look for Bates pages 110 & 111.

⁹ <http://www.backflowvideos.org/video17H.wmv>

¹⁰ Article is "Coordinating Efforts to Secure American Public Water Supplies" written by Tim De Young and Adam Gravley, who are partners in the Seattle office of Preston Gates and Ellis, LLP, that appeared in the American Bar Association's "*Natural Resources and Environment Journal*", Volume 16, Number 3, Winter 2002. To read the full article, go to [http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance Exhibits.pdf](http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance%20Exhibits.pdf) Then using the "Bates" numbers at the lower right of each page, look for Bates pages 89 - 101.

¹¹ Article is “The Who, What, Why, and How of Counterterrorism Issues” written by Gay Porter Denileon, a member of the National Critical Infrastructure Protection Advisory Group, that appeared in the *Journal of the AWWA*, Vol. 93, May 2001. To read the full article, go to <http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance Exhibits.pdf> Then using the “Bates” numbers at the lower right of each page, look for Bates pages 81 – 88, particularly starting at the top left of Bates 086.

¹² <http://www.backflowvideos.org/video10H.wmv>

¹³ Article is “Coordinating Efforts to Secure American Public Water Supplies” written by Tim De Young and Adam Gravley, who are partners in the Seattle office of Preston Gates and Ellis, LLP, that appeared in the American Bar Association’s *“Natural Resources and Environment Journal”*, Volume 16, Number 3, Winter 2002. To read the full article, go to <http://suncitydave.info/Ordinance Exhibits.pdf> Then using the “Bates” numbers at the lower right of each page, look for Bates pages 89 - 101.

¹⁴ [Section 403.851\(3\) F.S.](#)

¹⁵ No one has ever died in Florida from a backflow incident! The County Health Department has no record of anyone’s ever getting sick from a backflow incident!
<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/cost-benefit-analysis-CBA.html>

¹⁶ <http://suncitydave.info/dicecco.htm#incident1>

¹⁷ <http://suncitydave.info/dicecco.htm#incident2>

¹⁸ Hillsborough County has a colorful history of corruption. In February of 1983, three of the County Commissioners were [arrested and led away in handcuffs by the FBI](#) for trying to extort money in exchange for a zoning change.

More recently, Pat Bean (the former County Administrator) and Renee Lee (the former County Attorney) lost their jobs after giving themselves [secret pay raises](#) without the approval of the Commissioners.

And even some employees of the Public Utilities Department certainly have [questionable ethics](#).