



Rules and Regulations to Regulate Private Connections to Prevent Inflow and Infiltration

I. DEFINITIONS

Administrative Compliance Fee: A fee imposed by the Executive Director for refusal to grant access for inspection or to take Corrective Action under this policy.

Authority: The Western Virginia Water Authority.

Authorized Building Inspector: A Professional Engineer, Licensed Plumber, or other individuals authorized by the Executive Director to perform inspections under this policy.

Authorized Utility Contractors: Those contractors secured by the Authority from time to time under term contracts to perform general utility construction.

Corrective Action(s): Improvements necessary to properties with Private Lateral Connections to comply with this policy.

Defect(s): Inflow and Infiltration sources that include damaged or deteriorated private lateral connections to the Public Sanitary Sewer; private lateral connections to the Public Sewer System carrying the discharge of sump pumps, downspouts, foundation drains, or other drains that could collect surface or groundwater; broken sewer cleanouts; and holes or other defects in floor drain piping that allow Inflow and Infiltration into the Public Sewer System.

Design and Construction Standards: The latest edition of the Authority's standard specifications and standard details for the construction of water/sewer lines and appurtenances, and available at the Authority's Web site.

Executive Director: The Executive Director for Wastewater Services for the Western Virginia Water Authority or his/her designee.

Failed Wells and/or Failed Septic Systems: Wells and septic systems will be considered to have failed when they require repairs of more than fifty percent (50%) of their replacement values, or when they are not capable of meeting current Virginia Department of Health (VDH) requirements.

Inflow and Infiltration: The unpermitted discharge of stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff or subsurface drainage into the Public Sewer System.

Licensed Utility Contractor: An individual, firm, or corporation who is licensed by the Virginia Board for Contractors to perform public utility and/or unclassified construction projects that have a contract value not exceeding its license limitation.

Licensed Plumber: An individual, firm, or corporation who is licensed by the Virginia Board for Contractors to perform plumbing construction.

Main Line or Distribution Main: A sewer pipe installed along a street, road, highway, or within a public utility, water or sewer easement, for the purpose of providing Sewer Service to adjoining properties.

Other Responsible Person(s) Representing Property(ies): Individuals authorized to represent a Property Owner or Sewer User for purposes of compliance with this policy.

Private Lateral Connection: The portion of Sewer Service that is located on private property, and not within a water or sewer easement. Construction, ownership and maintenance of the Private Lateral Connection are the responsibilities of the customer.

Professional Engineer: An engineer with expertise in building design, civil structures, wastewater systems, and/or plumbing systems registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Property Owner(s): Owners of real estate with Private Lateral Connections.

Public Sewer System: The sewer pipes, storage facilities, pumping stations, treatment facilities and appurtenances that are owned and/or operated and maintained by the Authority.

Sewer Service: Provision of the collection of wastewater generated from properties with a Service Connection.

Service Connection: A tap into the sewer Main Line for the purpose of supplying Sewer Service.

Sewer User(s): Individuals, corporations, or other entities that are customers or contract for Sewer Service with the Western Virginia Water Authority.

Trunk Line or Interceptor Sewers: A sewer pipe constructed primarily for the conveyance of sewerage from one area to another, usually following creeks, rivers, or drainage ways. Trunk Lines are usually, but not always, 15" or greater in diameter. Trunk Lines usually collect and convey sewage from the smaller Main Lines of the collection system.

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II. GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT / PURPOSE

The unpermitted discharge of stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff or subsurface drainage, collectively referred to as Inflow and Infiltration, into the Public Sewer System has significant economic and environmental impacts to the shareholders of the Western Virginia Water Authority.

It is the policy of the Western Virginia Water Authority and the purpose of this document to establish procedures for the removal of Inflow and Infiltration from private sources entering the Public Sewer System, enforce the sewer use standards arising from Article IV of Chapter 18 of the Roanoke County Code, Article III of Chapter 26 of the City of Roanoke Code, Commonwealth of Virginia regulations, and to protect public health and facilities from the actual or potential discharge of Inflow and Infiltration.

Wastewater agencies have long had responsibilities in their operating permits to establish programs to protect treatment works from damage or impairment. Inflow and Infiltration into the Public Sewer System constitutes a direct threat to public health, safety and welfare, since this flow can overload the Public Sewer System, thereby causing sewer overflows and sewer backups into homes and businesses. This discharge increases the cost and expense to all utility users as the overloads result in higher operating costs at the regional sewage treatment plant, increased regulatory mandates to improve water quality, and higher capital costs for expansions of the Public Sewer System that would not be needed otherwise.

III. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

III.a Inspection

Sewer Users, Property Owners, or Other Responsible Persons Representing Properties connected to the Public Sewer System shall allow inspections by Authority staff or Authorized Building Inspectors at reasonable times to determine if Defects exist and to document needed Corrective Action.

It is the Authority's intent to coordinate Corrective Actions with the transfer or sale of property when possible. At its option, the Authority may conduct inspections of properties outside the sale process as part of a coordinated renovation of localized sections of the Public Sewer System. The Authority may also conduct inspections of properties requesting new service connections due to new construction, failed wells and/or failed septic systems.

An inspection report shall be generated and sent to the Sewer User, Property Owner, or Other Responsible Person Representing Property connected to the Public Sewer System recently inspected detailing Defects, if any, and required Corrective Action.

For structures or property with actual or potential discharge considered to either have no Defects or Defects that do not require Corrective Action, the Sewer User, Property Owner

or Other Responsible Persons Representing Property shall be notified in writing of the results of the inspection.

Properties may be re-inspected every five years or sooner at the discretion of the Executive Director to ensure that the condition(s) have not changed. Sewer Users, Property Owners, or Other Responsible Persons Representing Property may request additional inspections, subject to staffing constraints, to verify the property is meeting current policy requirements.

III.b Defects

Defects shall include damaged or deteriorated lateral connections to the public sanitary sewer; lateral connections to the public sanitary sewer carrying the discharge of sump pumps, downspouts, foundation drains, or other drains that could collect surface or groundwater; broken sewer cleanouts; and holes or other defects in floor drain piping that allow Inflow and Infiltration into the Public Sewer System.

III.c Defects Requiring Corrective Action

Sewer Users, Property Owners, or Other Responsible Persons Representing Properties connected to the Public Sewer System shall take Corrective Action to eliminate the discharge of sump pumps, downspouts, and holes or other defects in floor drain piping within 180 days of receipt of notification from the Authority.

Corrective Actions shall comply with applicable building codes, shall be permitted through local jurisdictions as applicable, and shall be performed by the Property Owner, a Licensed Plumber or Licensed Utility Contractor. Corrective Actions shall comply with the Authority's Design and Construction Standards.

The Executive Director reserves the right to require Corrective Action for Defects not listed in section III.c if such additional actions will eliminate significant sources of Inflow and Infiltration, protect other Sewer Users, or protect the Public Sewer System.

III.d Completion of Corrective Action Requirements

Once corrective measures have been implemented, Sewer Users, Property Owners, or Other Responsible Persons Representing Property shall request in writing that the Authority re-inspect the corrective measures to verify compliance with this policy.

III.e Reserved

IV. ENFORCEMENT AND APPEALS

IV.a Temporary or Emergency Termination of Service

During and after periods of heavy rainfall resulting in actual or potential Inflow or Infiltration in excess of two hundred (200) gallons per day per Private Lateral Connection, the Executive Director may at his/her discretion temporarily terminate sewer service at the

Private Lateral Connection to protect the Public Sewer System and other Sewer Users. Sewer Service shall be restored after Corrective Actions are complete or by agreement between the Executive Director and the Sewer User, Property Owner, or Other Responsible Person Representing Properties.

IV.b Administrative Compliance Fee

Compliance with this policy is a condition of Sewer Service. An Administrative Compliance Fee of up to \$100 per month shall be imposed on the Sewer User, Property Owner, or Other Responsible Person Representing Property by the Executive Director for refusal to comply with the requirements of this policy. After six months of assessment of the Administrative Compliance Fee, the Executive Director, at his/her discretion, may terminate Sewer Service to the property and notify applicable building code, public health and environmental regulatory agencies of service termination. Sewer Service shall not be re-established until compliance with this policy is achieved.

IV.c Appeals of Inspection Results or Administrative Actions

Any Sewer User, Property Owner, or Other Responsible Person Representing Property may appeal a determination of the Authority by submitting a notice of appeal to the Executive Director within fourteen days from the receipt of a written notice generated by the Authority requiring Corrective Action, imposition of an Administrative Compliance Fee, or notice of Sewer Service termination.

The Executive Director shall conduct a hearing on all appeals within fourteen days of the receipt of notice of appeal. The notice of appeal shall state the technical grounds and objections for the appeal. At the hearing, the Executive Director shall hear and investigate any objection that may be raised and take such action as may be appropriate under the facts and circumstances established. In all other respects, the substantive and procedural requirements for this appeal shall comply with the provisions of section 15.2-1245, et seq. of the State Code.

The Executive Director shall render a decision within five business days of the date of the hearing. The Sewer User, Property Owner, or Other Responsible Person Representing Property may petition the Authority's Board of Directors to review the decision or take other such action as permitted by the Commonwealth law. The Authority reserves the right to seek reimbursement of administrative and operational costs and legal fees resulting from enforcement of this policy.

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