

Connection Code Bulletin 2009 – 3

Issues: Water and Sewer Services connection process
Audience: Proponents, Project Managers, Designers, Construction Supervisors, Constructors
Date: 11th September 2009

Introduction:
Process for water and sewerage service connections

Note this process is applicable to building services and subdivision connections for water and sewer main connections.

Once approval for a new water service and or sewerage connection has been given, it is the developer’s representatives responsibility to contact PWC prior to construction of the works to arrange for water and sewerage connection points to be established.

These processes have been put in place to reduce public health and the OHS&E risks associated with water and sewerage connection and to comply with relevant legislation.

Only Power and Water or it’s Authorised representative are permitted to make connections to existing services and seven (7) days notice is required to undertake the works. A connection will only be undertaken following the payment of applicable fees and upon approval to connect from Power and Water with signed design drawings. Power and Water will undertake all tapplings and connection to live mains however, excavation and all material are to be supplied by the developer.

Water

For water services, these connections must be established at the start of works and are carried out in two stages. All new water services must be tested back to the connection point. In the initial stage of connection PWC will supply and install a blank to test against. This blank will be installed after the valve and will ensure **all** new works undertaken by the developer are fully tested.

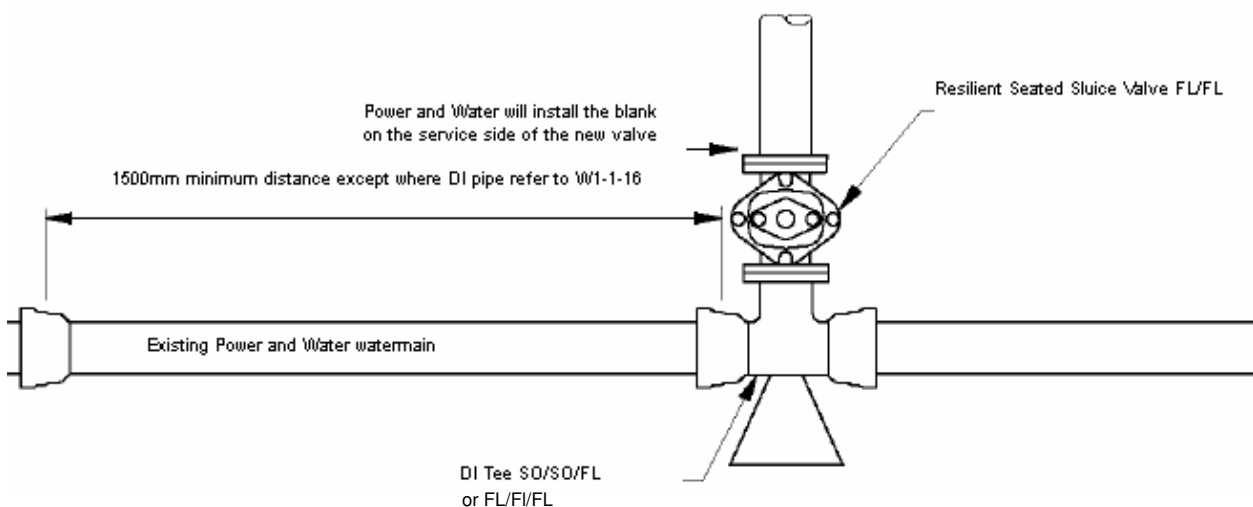


Figure 1 Typical water connection



Following handover and acceptance of the new watermain by PWC, the second stage of the connection process will be to remove the blank and make the system live. The developer will be responsible for all excavation and reinstatement to complete the connection however only Power and Water or its Authorised representative are permitted to make the final connection.

Sewer

Mains sewer connections for building services and subdivisions are to be undertaken at the commencement of works or following handover and acceptance by Power and Water. When the sewer connection is made, will be dependent on the particular job requirements and needs to be discussed with Power and Water Services Development prior to the commencement of works.

A sewer connection which renders the new works 'live' and connected to Power and Water sewerage system, will not be undertaken until such time as the works have been handed over and accepted by Power and Water.

Before works can commence all sewer connections will be required to have double isolation from the existing PWC sewer mains, which can be visually inspected from the surface.

Conventional sewer plugs are not designed to be left in place for a long period of time and may fail under normal hydrostatic testing and allow gases through the plug.

Double isolation can be a combination of any two of;

- Mechanical plug with proven long term isolation capability
- Solvent welded push on cap
- Pneumatic plug that requires no ongoing inflation
- Physical barrier that fills the pipe which can be removed at connection

All materials are to be provided by the developer

To allow enough space to install the isolation methods and allow visual inspection through an the access lid opening, it is intended to extend the sewer pipe approximately 300mm inside the sewer maintenance hole. The pipe will be installed in the benching and when connection is made the top of the pipe will be removed and the bottom half of the pipe will then form the benching.

Illegal Connections

Connection made to Power and Water infrastructure without approval is an offence under the NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA Water Supply and Sewerage Services Act as in force at 1 July 2009 as outlines in the extract below.

91 Connections to licensee's infrastructure

- (1) A person must not make a connection to or undertake work on a licensee's water supply or sewerage services infrastructure except with the written approval of the licensee.

Penalty: In the case of a natural person – 20 penalty units.

In the case of a corporation – 100 penalty units.

These penalty units are equivalent for the 2009/2010 financial year

Penalty: In the case of a natural person – \$2,600.

In the case of a corporation – \$13,000.

How Can I Get More Information?

The Services Development section of Power and Water administers the Connection Code and associated activities including the asset creation process for Power and Water's water supply and sewerage infrastructure. The Connection Code internet site is available through the following link.

http://www.powerwater.com.au/business/for_business_and_developers/water_services_connection_code

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