

4901:1-15-10

**Construction, maintenance of plant and equipment, and interruption notification for planned outages and flushings.**

(A) All improvements or additions to any system of a waterworks company and/or sewage disposal system company involving construction which would alter the capacity of, such system, by one per cent or more of that system's average day demand, shall be indicated in writing by the company to the director of the commission's consumers services department or the director's designee prior to construction. The director of the consumers services department or the director's designee will determine whether the associated construction plans, specifications, and blueprints also need to be submitted. All facilities and equipment shall be identified either on the blueprints or engineering drawings, or written in detail in an attached report. If applicable, the OEPA approval letter indicating acceptance of the plans, specifications and engineering drawings shall be filed by the company with the compliance division of the commission prior to construction.

**(B) Maintenance of plant and equipment:**

- (1) Each waterworks company and/or sewage disposal system company shall have and follow a system-specific maintenance plan and schedule to include, but not be limited to, source-of-supply, treatment, distribution and storage facilities. This plan and schedule shall be available for review by the commission staff at the closest related facility.
- (2) Each waterworks company and/or sewage disposal system company shall make repairs consistent with industry accepted utility engineering standards and using industry accepted materials.
- (3) Each waterworks company shall avoid dead ends in the distribution mains so far as possible. If such dead ends exist, the waterworks company shall provide facilities for flushing. Flushing facilities shall be sized to provide at least a flow velocity of 2.5 feet per second.
- (4) Each waterworks company shall flush each of its mains at least annually , or in the case of dead-end mains, at least twice annually. All records of flushing shall be maintained as referred to in rule 4901:1 15 14of the Administrative Code.
- (5) Each waterworks company shall establish a valve and hydrant inspection program which shall include operating valves and hydrants through their full cycle. Plant and pumping station valves and valves on transmission mains or at critical locations on distribution mains shall be kept in good operating condition and shall be inspected at least annually. Valves on local distribution system mains shall be inspected every two years. Valves and hydrants found to be inoperable shall be repaired or replaced. Valve covers shall be maintained at or above grade level and not paved over. The company shall maintain records of the date and type of each inspection and all maintenance.

These records shall be available for review by the commission staff at the company's plant(s).

(6) Each waterworks company's storage tank(s) shall be inspected at least every five years. These records shall be available for review by the commission staff at the company's plant(s).

(7) Each sewage disposal system company shall annually inspect each of its manholes. Manholes and sewer lines shall be kept in good operating condition. Manhole covers shall be maintained at or above grade level and not paved over. The company shall maintain inspection records to include, but not be limited to, the date, location, inspector, and condition of each manhole, and all maintenance performed on the manholes and collection system. These records shall be available for review by the commission staff at the closest related facility.

(C) Notification for planned outages and flushings

(1) Each waterworks company and/or sewage disposal system company shall notify the commission's director of the consumer services department or the director's designee at least three days in advance of any planned outage expected to last over two hours or planned/routine annual/semi-annual main flushing.

(2) Each waterworks company and/or sewage disposal system company shall notify affected customers at least three days in advance of any planned outages or planned main flushings. The notice shall be given to the customer(s), delivered in writing, or by notice printed in a newspaper of general circulation serving the community or by an obvious sign posting in the company's affected service territory. The notice shall state the date and estimated duration of the outage or flushing for affected area(s) and a local or toll-free telephone number that customers may call with questions.

Replaces: 4901:1-15-11

Effective:

R.C. 119.032 review dates:

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Certification

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Date

Promulgated Under: 111.15  
Statutory Authority: 4905.04  
Rule Amplifies: 4905.06  
Prior Effective Dates: 6/1/77, 12/12/91