PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – UTILITIES – DISTRIBUTION & COLLECTION



WATER DISTRIBUTION - OPERATIONS

CLEARANCE AND ACTIVATION OF DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS

Rev: 0 | **Revision Date**: 6/23/2017 | **Print Date**: 6/19/2017

I.D. Number: PW-UTL-DC-DIS-CT-6- Distribution Improvement Clearance and Activation

1. PURPOSE

To ensure that water distribution improvements are properly tested and approved before connecting to the City public water system.

2. PREPARATION

2.1 Acronyms

- AWWA American Water Works Association
- D&C Distribution & Collection
- DSD Department of Sustainable Development
- FDOH-BC Florida Department of Health in Broward County
- PWS Public Water System

2.2 Summary

Owners/agents constructing water distribution infrastructure improvements must obtain a Water Main Construction Permit (attachment 1) from the FDOH-BC. Permit requirements for new water mains include hydrostatic pressure testing, disinfection as per AWWA Standard C651-14, and a bacteriological survey. In addition, pursuant to Rule 62-555.345, F.A.C., the permittee shall submit a Certification of Construction Completion (form 62-555.900(9)- attachment 2) to the FDOH-BC and obtain approval or clearance, from the FDOH-BC before placing any water main component into permanent operation.

3. PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS (SAFETY AND HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS)

3.1 Operation of City Valves

- Only trained, City of Fort Lauderdale Florida licensed Water Distribution System Operators, are authorized to operate water distribution valves.
- No valves shall be operated to "energize" an infrastructure improvement without a written request and proof of Certification Clearance by the FDOH-BC.

3.2 Health Hazards

Potential contamination of PWS.

3.3 Caution Statements

 Bacteriological survey sample reports must be submitted to the FDOH-BC within 60 days of sampling or they may be considered invalid.

Approved by: Rick Johnson, Utilities Distribution & Collection Systems Manager



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3.4 Warning Statements

- Energizing or placing any PWS water distribution system components into operation without certification clearance from the FDOH-BC will result in enforcement and fines.
- Failure to follow this procedure may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

4. OPERATING LIMITS

- Contractors are prohibited from operating City of Fort Lauderdale water distribution valves.
- City of Fort Lauderdale PWS water distribution system components are not allowed to be energized or placed into service without approval by, or a Certification Clearance letter from, the FDOH-BC (attachment 3).

5. SAFETY SYSTEMS

None

6. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

6.1 Department of Sustainable Development (DSD)

- 1. Written approval to place new or altered PWS components into permanent operation in the form of a Partial or Final Certification Clearance letter from the FDOH-BC will be received by the City Engineer at the DSD.
- 2. The City Engineer shall forward the letter electronically to the Distribution & Collection Systems Manager and the Distribution & Collection Supervisor in a timely manner.

6.2 Distribution & Collections

1. Upon receipt of a written Partial or Final Certification Clearance issued by the FDOH-BC from the City Engineer, the D&C Manager or Supervisor shall create a folder named with the permit number if none exists on the Shared Cabinets at the following path: S:\Departmental\D&C\Construction\Certification Clearance Letters\ and save the document in its original name as received from FDOH-BC.

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- 2. Upon receipt of a request for assistance from an owner/agent to operate valves to place an infrastructure improvement into service or to set new meters, D&C staff shall:
 - Obtain the project name and permit number from the requestor
 - Check for a filed Certification Clearance letter in the Shared Cabinets at the following path:
 S:\Departmental\D&C\Construction | Certification Clearance Letters\(Folder with Permit #)

Note: Multiple partial clearance letters may be received under one permit number. Each will have a unique name as provided by the FDOH-BC. Each partial and final clearance letters should be filed in the folder with the corresponding permit number.

- 3. If no Certification Clearance letter is on file, the Certification Clearance letter for the project shall be requested from the Owner/Agent via e-mail.
- 4. Upon receipt of a Partial or Final Certification Clearance letter, verify the following:
 - Project Name
 - Permit Number
 - Date of Approval
 - Description of Partial Approval
 - Refer to plan sheets (request from owner/agent if needed)
 - File the letter as in 6.2(1) above.
- 5. <u>DO NOT PLACE ANY NEW OR ALTERED PWS COMPONENTS INTO PERMANENT OPERATION UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT (FDOH-BC) ISSUES WRITTEN APPROVAL, OR CLEARANCE, TO PLACE THE COMPONENTS INTO PERMANENT OPERATION.</u>

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- 6. Following confirmation of an approved written clearance from the FDOH-BC, open a Q-Alert work order for the requested service.
- 7. Provide the owner/agent a schedule for the service.

Note: Approval and issuance of a Certification Clearance letter by FDOH-BC may take from 2 to 8 weeks from submittal. Approval can be expedited upon request and payment of a fee. See attachment 4.

7. ATTACHMENTS

- 1. FDOH-BC Construction Permit
- 2. FDOH-BC Construction Completion Form
- 3. FDOH-BC Certification Clearance Letter Example
- 4. FDOH-BC Drinking Water Project Review Fees

