



**PIMA COUNTY
REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE**

Procedure Number: PN00036

Responsible Division: Engineering

Effective Date: March 1, 2010

Date of next review: March 1, 2011

Approved: 
Michael Gritzuk, P.E., Director

SUBJECT: CONNECTING TO A 12" DIAMETER OR GREATER SEWER SYSTEM

I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Per COT/PC Standard Detail WWM 401, Note 2. (Revised 7/02), a House Connection Sewers (H.C.S.) connection into a sewer system (manhole or main) 12-inch (300mm) in diameter or greater is not permitted without written approval of PCRWRD. Furthermore, any public or private connection to a 12-inch or greater diameter sewer system requires research, evaluation and written approval of PCRWRD.

This letter establishes the authority to review, and approve if appropriate, the connection to 12-inch or greater diameter sewer system as being with PCRWRD Manager of Sanitary Engineering. PCRWRD Engineering Services is the point of contact for customer requests of such connections and they are responsible for conducting a "Due Diligence" assessment of the request. This authority is for H.C.S. connections, private connections, and public sewer extensions to a 12-inch diameter or greater public system. The Planning Section is responsible for granting any concurrent capacity commitments if necessary.

Approval of connections to 12-inch and greater diameter pipe on sewer improvement plans and preliminary approval of connections to 12-inch and greater diameter sewer systems depicted on tentative plats shall be issued in written form by the approving authority and incorporated into the approval notes by comments or signature.

II. PROCEDURE

The review of a request for a line tap to a 12-inch diameter or greater sewer pipe or connecting manhole requires the gathering of system information from a variety of sources, and making a determination as to whether the connection will negatively impact the operation, maintenance, or future repair of the public sewer system or the connecting system. The Due Diligence procedure below identifies the information necessary to make such a determination. All information shall be recorded, and the rationale for approving or denying the connection shall be documented.

Staff performing "Due Diligence" shall evaluate the following elements:

1. What is the current and projected flow?
 - a. Connections should not be permitted if pipe is currently above 50%, or will be full under future flows.
2. Is there evidence of surcharging?
 - a. Connections should not be permitted if pipe has evidence of surcharging.
3. What is the maintenance history of the connecting location?
 - a. High maintenance is an indication of a poorly operating sewer line that has the potential for surcharging.
4. Are there existing taps?
 - a. If no taps are currently on the line, alternatives should be strongly considered.
5. What is the spacing of other taps?
 - a. If other taps exist, the proper tap spacing must be maintained.
6. Are there options for other places to connect?
 - a. Any other options should be considered before allowing a direct tap.
7. Is there an existing manhole to connect to?
 - a. Connection to an existing manhole is preferred.
8. Is there a benefit to not constructing a new manhole?
 - a. Too many manholes make for more O&M and future rehabilitation.
9. What is the age and condition of pipe?
 - a. Old pipe or cracked pipe may be difficult to tap.

All approved connections shall follow the Blue Stake Directive ENG2005-01.