Protection of South East Water Sewerage Assets
Other Authority Works

This document outlines the minimum requirements for works within the vicinity of South East Water’s sewerage assets. Please note that ‘Sewer Rising Mains’ and ‘Pressure Sewer Reticulation Mains’ have special conditions and therefore the contents below may not be applicable.

General conditions

- The design and construction of sewerage assets is to be in accordance with the most recent edition of MRWA WSAA Sewerage Code of Australia.
- Only products and materials approved by SEW can be used.
- No additional loading is to be applied to existing sewer assets.
- Only hand compaction is allowed over sewer mains. Vibrating rollers can be used if permission has been granted by SEW.
- No blasting within 10m of sewer assets.
- No pile driving is allowed where sewer is within the pile’s zone of influence.
- Any works undertaken on sewer assets, including the lifting of maintenance hole covers, must be approved by SEW and carried out by a SEW approved contractor. SEW is also to be notified at least two (2) days prior to works via lodgement of an appropriate Work on Live Sewer form.

Asset location

- The location and depth of sewer mains is to be proven by hand excavation prior to the commencement of works.
- The contractor should make every attempt to locate boundary traps/inspection points to ascertain the position of the property service connection prior to excavation.
- Although every effort is taken in the preparation of asset information provided, SEW accepts no responsibility for loss, damage or injury suffered as a result of a discrepancy.
- Where a bore is to pass under, over or within 1 metre of an existing sewer, the position of the sewer shall be proven by excavation prior to the commencement of works. The excavation shall be extended to 1.0m from the pipeline on the side from which the bore will approach, and the position and direction of the bore head checked when it reaches this excavation to ensure the required minimum clearance between the bore and the sewer is maintained. In addition, progressive management of the length of the bore shall be made to ensure the bore head has not missed the check excavation and travelled beyond it.
- Any damage resulting from failure to comply with these requirements may result in penalties being imposed as provided for in the current legislation including the Water Act 1989. In the event that damage is caused to SEW’s assets please contact Faults & Emergencies on 132 812.

NOTE: Not all sewer assets are shown on plans, and some are shown incorrectly.

Design Considerations

For sewer mains, the following applies unless stated otherwise:

- Proposed drains are to cross above sewers at 90°.
- A minimum vertical clearance of 300 mm from the closest edge of the sewer is required.
- A minimum horizontal clearance of 600 mm from the closest edge of the sewer is required.
- Longitudinal plans must be provided showing the location of all sewer assets, including property connection branches, before consent is given to work near SEW assets.
- Final construction plans must also be submitted to SEW for approval prior to commencement of works.
For maintenance holes and maintenance shafts, the following applies:

- A minimum of 1.0m horizontal clearance from the outside wall of the maintenance structure is to be maintained.
- Access is required 24 hours per day for maintenance purposes.
- A minimum 1.0m clear level working space area of the cover surround is required.
- Any alteration to the surface level of all existing maintenance holes or maintenance shafts will require an approved SEW contractor to carry out the works at the project's cost. SEW is also to be notified at least two (2) days prior to works via lodgement of an appropriate Work on Liver Sewer form.
- If a maintenance hole is found sheeted over, the project owner will be liable for costs of rectification.

 Proposed Drains

Where the vertical clearance of 300mm cannot be achieved between a drain crossing over a sewer, this may be acceptable where a pier and beam structure/support can be constructed subject to the following conditions.

- Piers are to be 600 mm clear (horizontally) of the closest edge of the sewer and are to be constructed to a depth that is equivalent to the invert of the sewer.
- The drain is to act as the beam and must be of a continuous length between the two piers (i.e. no joints are to be constructed over the sewer main).
- No additional load is to be placed on the sewer.
- A compressible fill material is to be placed between the sewer main and the drain.
- SEW will require a copy of the Work Method Statement for the crossing with plans, prior to installation, and an opportunity to inspect the constructed piers.

For new assets below existing sewer mains:

A Work Method Statement, including the method of how the sewer is to be protected during works and specific details of backfill, must be submitted for SEW approval at least fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of works.

 CCTV Inspection

For close proximity drainage works and works near concrete sewer mains:

- SEW will carry out a CCTV inspection of the sewer lines within the area of the drainage, and;
- Immediately after the drainage work is complete, SEW will again require the lines affected by the works to be CCTV inspected at the project’s cost.

 Buildovers

To ensure above ground structures do not breach buildover guidelines, review the document Guidelines for Proposed Works Over / Adjacent to Water Authority Assets available on our website, www.sew.com.au.

24/7 Emergency Response 132 812

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