

Office of the Water Authority

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Reference (10) in WWO 26/3619/93

Date 23 May 1994

Distribution : To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorized Persons

Dear Sir,

WSD Circular Letter No. 1//94 **Inspection of Concealed Inside Service/Fire Service**

Your attention is drawn to the following specified arrangement which has been included since 1992 in the Waterworks Standard Requirements for water supply to new buildings :-

"It is advisable to, whenever practicable, arrange for inspections by the Water Authority prior to concreting on any pipework to be embedded in any wall or suspended slab and in any event all underground pipework must be so inspected before it is backfilled or covered up. However, the pipework arrangement should be so designed as to minimize concealed piping as far as possible."

The above mentioned arrangement is necessary to satisfy Waterworks Regulation 6(3) which requires that no pipe or fitting forming part of a fire service or inside service shall be used or covered up until it has been inspected and approved by the Water Authority.

From experience gained over the past two years, a more defined arrangement appears necessary in order to remove any ambiguity arising from the original arrangement in relation to the frequency and timing of inspections by the Waterworks staff.

The concealed inside service and fire service will continue to be inspected at random and approved by the Water Authority. However, commencing from 1 June 1994 the frequency and number of inspections should be such that approximately 10% of the total plumbing work on concealed piping above ground will be inspected and approved by staff of the Water Authority. these random inspections will either be initiated by the licensed plumber or by our staff. In either case, 3 working days' advance notice should be given to the other party in order to arrange a suitable time for conducting such inspections.

There is no change to the requirement of full inspection on all underground pipework.

Yours faithfully,

Signed

(CHAN Chi-chiu)
for Water Authority

c.c. Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Association Ltd
Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Ltd
The Association of Registered Fire Services Installation
Contractor of Hong Kong
Hong Kong & Kowloon Ironwork Workers Union
Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union
Institute of Plumbing Hong Kong Council
All Chief Engineers/Region
SE/Region(2), (3)
E/Region (CS)
CTO/Region(CS)
SI/Region (CS)
I/Region(CS)
CE/RA
SE/RA(3)
E/RA(3)1
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