

PRIVATE LATERAL PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE – DRAFT # 2, March 1, 2006

The WEF Collection System Committee is primarily interested in successfully operating programs for work performed on the privately-owned portion of the lateral line; e.g., building service connection. We want to assemble policy descriptions, enabling resolutions or ordinances, funding details, public education/information materials, standard design or construction details, etc., for programs that have proven to be successful. This specific program documentation will be made available to other wastewater utilities through a virtual private property program on-line library.

While we are interested in “planned” programs, we want to first concentrate on programs that have been demonstrated to have been effectively implemented. Planned programs will be included in the virtual library after the program has been implemented and actual experience with the program is available.

Program descriptions of private lateral programs that were previously implemented, but considered “failed” or only “partially successful” will be included if the reasons for the problems with the program have been identified and can be included as a “lessons learned” component of the virtual library.

Interview Conducted by WEF Representative: Name: Jaime Davidson _____
 Date: 10/31/07 _____

1. General Information

Utility Name & Location: Stege Sanitary District _____

Contact Name & Details: Douglas Humphrey, District Manager _____

Utility Characteristics: 40,000 _____ Number of Customers
 13,033 _____ Number of Taps
 147 _____ Total Miles of Public Sanitary Sewers (separated sewers and combined sewers)
 0 _____ Miles of Public Combined Sewers (sanitary only, not including storm sewers)
 (estimate % of system that is combined if total miles is unavailable or unknown)
 _____ no Are basements (thus potentially sump pump connections) typical in your area?
 (indicate yes or no)

Special District Utility Type (municipal government, special purpose district, private utility, etc.)

2. Lateral Definition

Private Lateral Definition: _____ Building to ROW/Easement Line Only
 (check definition that applies)

 (Note if (& how) utility treats laterals in easements differently than laterals in ROWs)

x _____ Building To Tap on Sewer Main Line
 _____ Other (Specify details) Lateral includes connection to main line _____

 (Note if (& how) utility treats residential building laterals differently than commercial building laterals – this may affect responses to subsequent questions)

Cleanouts:
 (check all that apply) Required Usually Exists

_____ x x _____ At building
 _____ x _____ At ROW
 _____ _____ At easement

3. Lateral Program Description

Type of Lateral Program (check all that apply and describe program – try to be brief in program description, but add separate sheets as needed). If utility operates more than one private lateral program, it may be preferable to complete a separate questionnaire form for the remaining questions for each of those private lateral programs.

_____ Lateral Maintenance (e.g., cleaning, root control, etc.):

_____ Lateral Repair (e.g., point repairs, etc.):

_____ Lateral Replacement:

I/I Control (Specify type; e.g., cleanout caps, sump pump disconnect, downspout/yard drain disconnect, backflow preventer installation, etc. If basements are typical in area, where are building owners directed to connect the foundation or tile drain lines that have to be disconnected?):

Cleanouts required. Backflow Prevention Devices required on all new construction and upon activities that require a building permit. Downspouts, drains, other illegal connections removed upon identification through inspections, smoke testing, etc.

_____ Lateral Reconnects (Specify conditions; e.g., when utility relocates main, etc. Specify special situations; e.g., sewers under building(s) requiring building plumbing changes or extensive lateral relocation):

Lateral Inspections (Specify conditions; e.g., point of sale, special utility project, etc.):

Required video inspection upon the sale of property. Replacement of lateral or repair of lateral defects required prior to the close of escrow. Extensions are granted if provisions are made in sales contract and copy provided to District.

New Connection Permitting (e.g., special coordination with Building Codes, etc.):

Cities and County issue building permits, and refer permittees to District for a review of District requirements prior to issuance of permit. This ensures that all Stege requirements are followed.

New Connection Enforcement Mechanisms:

Local agencies will not issue permit unless Stege signs off that District requirements are met.

4. Lateral Program Implementation

Implementation Date: 9/05____ Why implemented? Excessive I/I, capacity concerns at downstream treatment facilities._____

(e.g., consent order/decreed, reduce CSOs/SSOs, obtain capacity to alleviate sewer moratorium, more cost-effective than "old" program, etc.)

Ongoing Program? _____ Or End Date: _____ Why Ended? _____

What Legal Authority was Required to Implement the Lateral Program?
(check all that apply, inquire if electronic copy is available for virtual library; inquire if utility type [i.e., municipality vs. district] affects the necessary legal authority)

- Resolution
- Ordinance
- State Enabling Legislation
- Other (Specify) _____

Electronic copy available. Stege website is www.stegesd.dst.ca.us

Chapter 4 of District Ordinance is the relevant section that covers the lateral testing program.

5. Lateral Program Funding

Who Pays: _____ Utility _____ Property Owner _____ Other (Specify): _____
(other could include grants, loans, low & moderate income programs, block development grants, etc.; inquire if electronic copy is available for virtual library)

Funding Description: Property owners responsible for replacement costs. District has increased operating expenses for staff time involved with implementation of lateral program, funded by service rates. _____

6. Program Construction

Who Does the Work: _____ Utility Internal Forces _____ Utility Selects & Pays Contractor
_____ Property Owner _____ Property Owner But Only From Utility List
_____ Other (Specify): District maintains a list of licensed, bonded contractors qualified to perform work. _____

Construction Description: _____

Construction Details: Are standard details/specifications used? Yes___ Are electronic copies available? Yes_____

Describe/List Details: _____

7. Public Education/Information Program

How is Lateral Program Publicized? _____ Door hangers Are electronic copies available? _____
_____ Bill stuffers Are electronic copies available? _____
_____ Meetings Are electronic copies available? _____
_____ Brochures Are electronic copies available? _____
_____ Customer Specific Are electronic copies available? _____
(e.g., provide property owner with CCTV still shot of lateral interior, field mark/locate [flag or cone] problem, provide picture of field location in case flag or cone is removed, etc.)
_____ Other (Specify) Are electronic copies available? _____

Additional Description of Material(s): Newsletters _____

8. Lessons Learned

What Would You Do Differently? More extensive outreach to realtor groups prior to implementation. _____

Notify Listing Agents and Owners as Soon as Property is Listed – our program compliance rate increased significantly once we started doing this.

Train all staff that answers phones how to deal with FAQs before program is started.

What Performance Measures Are/Were Used? _____
(e.g., plant flow reduction, CSO/SSC reduction, basement backup reduction, service call (roots, etc.) reduction, sewer moratorium lifted, etc.) Describe results of Lateral Program on those performance measures:

Service calls _____ Reduced Slightly

SSOS resulting from obvious lateral problems _____ Have Been Reduced

Total Peak Flow _____ No Negligible Result (Yet)

Compliance with Program _____ About 90% compliance rate overall, recently (last 6 months) over 95%

Lessons Learned: is a long-term program, and will likely take years before results are clear. We remain convinced this will have a positive effect and will reduce SSOs, calls, and peak flows. It will take years, however, to see a significant reduction in peak flows. _____

9. Follow-Up Electronic Submittal

Willing to Send Electronic Materials to WEF Collection System Committee for Inclusion in Virtual Library? Yes _____
(list all items utility agrees to send below should future follow-up reminders be needed)

Is utility willing to provide a contact (e.g., either website address, telephone number or email address [preferably not a name due to possible privacy concerns] for inclusion in the WEF Private Lateral Virtual Library)?

Yes _____

WEF Tracking List of Materials: District Ordinance Code _____

- Newsletters and Letters Notifying Public & Realtors about Program _____

- Summary Reports of Program Compliance _____