

## ***Answers and Comments to the Plumber's 8/10/09 Submittal***

### **Questions and Comments for WWTA**

#### **From the Plumber's Advisory Group**

- **We (The Plumbers) need the rules and regulations in writing regarding WWTA Notification form, WWTA permits, and retaining our customers regarding WWTA work.**

*The WWTA requests that the Notification Form be completed by the Plumber and submitted to the WWTA. The Notification Form should be submitted ASAP, because the Home Owner is not eligible for reimbursement of services, by the WWTA, unless notification is provided.*

*The WWTA rules and regulations are available on the WWTA website in regards to any information on permit requirements and are updated immediately, if the Board changes policy or procedure.*

*If the owner is looking to the WWTA for payment/reimbursement, the WWTA is the customer and director of the process. If no payment/reimbursement is required, it is not a matter for the WWTA to be involved with.*

- **If rules change we need notice in writing prior to change.**  
*Rules or policy changes that affect the public require public notification. Rules or policy changes that affect plumbers or other contractors that deal with the WWTA are implemented in a 60 day notice cycle. The changes are clearly posted in the WWTA office with effective change date.*
- **Are the PSLP installations and replacements to adhere to the 2003 International Plumbing Code?**  
*No, by way of explanation: At a minimum all WWTA installations and replacements of building sewer (service lateral) adhere to the latest Southern Building Code being enforced in Hamilton County; but the WWTA has the authority to set the requirements, for installations within its Service Area, that are beyond the latest Southern Building Code being enforced in Hamilton County. As an example the Southern Building Code does not require the 4" service to be Schedule 40 PVC pipe; however, the WWTA does.*
- **We need pricing schedule (We understand the WWTA is currently developing)**

*Once the legal bidding procedure is established under the Purchasing guide lines it will be made known.*

- There needs to be two lists

**One list for sewer cleaning, camera inspection, and minor repairs**

**One list for contracts PSLP replacements**

*This is actually two parts of our operation. Sewer cleaning, camera inspection, and minor repairs would probably fall under Emergency Repairs; and*

*Contracts for PSLP would be a part of the overall program Contract. Emergency repairs will also be a part of the overall Contract under Emergency when it comes to replacement or repair.*

*This issue will be addressed when the procedure for Administrating the Contract is determined. The basic process will be similar to the following:*

**PSLP**

***I. Call-Out (Emergency)***

***A. Notification Form, Lateral Drawing, and Consent Form***

***B. Evaluation***

***1. Determination***

***a. Repair***

***b. Replace***

***c. Defer to Program***

***II. Routine within the PSLP Contract***

***A. Assessment***

***1. CCTV***

***2. Locating***

***3. Testing***

***4. Documentation***

**B. Decision**

- 1. No Action – Passed PSLP process**
- 2. Repair or Replace**

**C. Evaluate Alternative Action**

- 1. CIPP**
- 2. Pipe Bursting**

**D. Document Actions Taken**

- Some companies can be on both lists. There are some companies that do all of the above and some companies only do drain cleaning, camera inspection, and minor repairs. There are also some companies that would only want to do the PSLP replacements.

*If multiple lists are considered, for Administration of the lists, the lists would need to be specific to that category and the Plumber would have to pick the part of the program which they would like to be considered. These would also allow the small businesses to get a part of the work.*

*If the Plumber wanted to be on each list in the rotation, a placement from either list would be considered a turn in the rotation procedure. That service from either list would be considered the Plumber's turn no matter what list that service falls under.*

**List to be considered:**

- 1. Service and Drain**
- 2. Repair and Replace**
- 3. Trenchless Technology**

**Note: The requirements for each service will be determined by the PSLP.**

- Is it permissible to subcontract the work? We work with each other and help each other out and would like to continue to do so.  
*Should the WWTA considers this, the subcontractor would need to meet the same requirements as the Master Plumber (see proposed list of requirements).*
- Are WWTA inspector's state certified?  
**Yes**
- We feel that the WWTA field inspectors should not make referrals.

*The WWTA inspectors do not make referrals, but do recommend the owner to get three quotes if asked by the owner. The owners that have called our office have requested that we post the plumbers that are a part of our program on our website and when asked, our inspector will make that information available to the owner.*

- Is there a way we can ease the permit process? Perhaps a sworn affidavit giving permission for employee of master plumber to obtain permit. Or is there a way to call in permits and mail in payment?

*This is not a PSLP issue.*

- Do we also have to buy a permit for PSLP repair and replacements from the Town of Signal, City of Red Bank, and the City of East Ridge?

*This is governed by each Town, City, or County Government. The requirement to buy any type of permit in the Towns, County Governments, or Cities does not fall under the jurisdiction of the WWTA. The WWTA has no authority over what is required by the Towns, Cities or County Governments and the WWTA has not requested the Towns, County Governments, or Cities to issue any permits for the PSLP.*

- If you don't attend the first WWTA training class does that mean you can't do the work until you have completed the class?

*Yes, but the WWTA will schedule the first group classes close together to maximize the opportunity to attend. Then the class will be offered; similar the WWTA Grinder Pump Install Class, based on the number of requests.*

- If a plumber is working for one of his or her customers or if a property owner chooses a specific plumber the job should stay with that plumber and he or she should not lose his or her place on the rotation list.

*Once it is determined to be a PSLP issue, the WWTA then becomes the customer and the set forth procedures will apply.*

*Under the Call-Out (Emergency) the Plumber called will make the repair provided the price can be agreed upon by the Plumber and the WWTA.*

*Under the PSLP the Routine established Rotation Procedure will be used.*

- Can a plumber be removed from the program or placed in bad standing? (This is a consideration added to the list by the WWTA)

*Yes, if there are complaints to the WWTA about their work or personnel or if the plumber has been deemed to be undermining the PSLP program for their own benefit.*

