

## **Title 15 of the Rules of the City of New York Chapter 31 Rule Governing House/Site Connections to the Sewer System**

### **§31-02 Sewer Availability Certification.**

#### **(a) General Requirements.**

Owners proposing to connect to a City sewer, a private sewer, a private drain, or an approved outlet to serve an existing or a proposed development must file a sewer certification application with the appropriate department of the City, in accordance with the following requirements:

- (1) For an existing or a proposed Fee Simple One (1), Two (2) or Three (3) Family Dwelling Unit, a House Connection Proposal for sewer availability certification shall be required. Stormwater management systems for developments that include subdivision of lots must be submitted to DEP for review and approval.
- (2) For all existing or proposed developments other than Fee Simple One (1), Two (2) or Three (3) Family Dwelling Units, a Site Connection Proposal for sewer availability certification shall be required. Stormwater management systems for developments that include multiple construction phases or subdivision of lots must be submitted to DEP for review and approval as a master/phased plan site connection application proposal.
- (3) For the elimination of existing cesspools or septic tanks for existing buildings other than Fee Simple One (1), Two (2) or Three (3) Family Dwelling Units, a Site Connection Proposal for sewer availability certification shall be required, unless the site has been granted a prior sewer availability certification.
- (4) All House Connection Proposals or Site Connection Proposals for sewer availability certification shall be prepared by, or under the supervision of, a professional engineer or registered architect licensed by the State of New York, and shall be submitted with the appropriate sewer certification application form. The signature and seal of a professional engineer or registered architect shall appear on each proposal.

#### **(b) Specific Requirements.**

- (1) A professional engineer or registered architect may self-certify the availability of sewers by using the appropriate self-certified sewer certification application, except as specified in paragraph (3) of this subdivision.
- (2) All sewer certification applications for new construction under the jurisdiction of the DOB may be submitted to the DEP or to the DOB. All other sewer certification applications for construction that is not under the jurisdiction of the DOB and do not require DOB project identification number(s) (DOB PIN(s)) shall be submitted to the DEP.
- (3) A professional engineer or registered architect shall not self-certify sewer certification applications for the cases listed below. Such applications shall be submitted to the DEP for review and certification:
  - (i) Applications involving mapping actions;

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- (ii) Applications for connection(s) to a proposed private sewer or private drain under construction by the applicant to serve a proposed development;
  - (iii) Applications for proposed developments to be constructed in staged phases;
  - (iv) Applications for proposed developments on part of a tax lot;
  - (v) Applications to connect to a sewer or drain where the flow discharged must pass through a private pumping station;
  - (vi) Applications for proposed developments which must utilize an easement through, or cross, adjacent properties, to gain access to an approved outlet;
  - (vii) Applications for proposed developments on a site traversed by a watercourse, active ditch, or existing sewer easement;
  - (viii) Applications for proposed discharge of flow to a private drain not built in accordance with the City drainage plan and which is not owned by the owner(s) of the proposed development(s);
  - (ix) Applications to connect to sewers or drains discharging to a private sewage treatment plant;
  - (x) Applications for proposed sanitary discharge to an interceptor sewer;
  - (xi) Applications for proposed sanitary discharge to six (6) inch diameter sanitary sewers or drains;
  - (xii) Applications for proposed discharge of site storm flow to a highway drain, Work Project Administration (WPA) sewer, Temporary Connection (TC), plumber's drain, watercourse diversion, or State arterial highway drain;
  - (xiii) Applications for skewed connections or connections to stub extensions from existing manholes; and(xiv) Application for proposed developments in areas rezoned after June 1993.
- (4) All sewer certification applications shall contain the appropriate identification number(s) as issued by the DOB, except for:
- (i) Self-certified applications filed with the DOB; or
  - (ii) Applications which are not required to be filed with the DOB.

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- (5) Sewer certification applications shall show the proposed sanitary discharge; the proposed developed site storm flow; the allowable flow from the site; and/or the stormwater release rate from the site, in accordance with the following:
- (i) Computation of allowable flow to be discharged into stormwater or combined sewers or drains shall be based on either the City drainage plan or an approved drainage proposal under which the existing sewers or drains were constructed. Computation of the stormwater release rate shall be in accordance with Section 31-03(a)(1) for connections in a combined sewer system.
  - (ii) Developed site storm flow shall be computed using the rational method for the total site area, with rainfall intensity of 5.95 inches per hour and the weighted runoff coefficient (Cw) based on the site development.
    - A. DEP will provide runoff coefficients to be used in computing site storm flow.
    - B. DEP will accept for review applications that minimize the runoff coefficient of the entire site by maximizing open areas, and areas with grass or vegetative cover, green roofs, permeable pavements with suitable infiltration, or other techniques based on the runoff coefficients published by DEP. Further runoff coefficient reductions must be substantiated by soil borings taken at the location of the proposed areas in addition to a permeability test performed in situ.
    - C. Overall site runoff coefficients must not be decreased without the express written approval of DEP.
  - (iii) Applicants shall specify the method(s) of disposal of all developed site storm flow in conformance with the provisions of local laws governing such disposal.
  - (iv) Sanitary flow discharged to sanitary or combined sewers or drains shall be computed based on the density development permissible under zoning designation for the proposed development in accordance with the most recent drainage design criteria of the DEP.
- (6) Block and lot numbers shall correspond to the most recent records supplied by the DOF. Any applicant proposing to alter an existing block and/or lot layout shall submit to the DOB a Tentative Lot Number(s) Request Form bearing the applicant's signature and seal and showing the proposed block or lot modifications. Such forms shall be approved by the DOB.
- (7) All existing and proposed sewer connections shall be shown on the site plan and supporting documents. The minimum size of pipe for proposed connections to the sewer system shall be an eight (8) inch pipe in the Borough of Manhattan and a six (6) inch pipe in all other Boroughs.
- (8) No horizontal bends for sewer connections shall be permitted outside the property lines of the project site.

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- (9) All sewer connections shall be gravity connections. Single structures utilizing an internal ejector shall follow provisions of the New York City Building Code and shall connect to the sewer by gravity for such use. In cases where multiple structure developments use internal ejectors, the internal ejector system shall discharge into a pressure relief manhole within the property lines, and then flow into the existing sewer by a gravity sewer connection.
- (10) All site plans submitted to the DEP with sewer certification applications shall be prepared in accordance with the latest standards and requirements of the DEP, as indicated below:
- (i) Site plans shall be drawn to scale, and shall contain the original seal and signature of the filing professional engineer or registered architect.
  - (ii) All hydraulic computations, and the proposed method(s) of disposal for all sanitary and storm discharge, must be shown on the site plan.
  - (iii) Swimming pool(s) must be shown on the site plan, but are not reviewed as part of the sewer certification application(s). A separate approval for the discharge from swimming pools must be obtained from the DEP. All swimming pools must discharge to an internal sanitary system prior to discharge into the existing sewer or drain.
  - (iv) Computations and details for the management practices proposed for the on-site retention or detention of stormwater runoff from the developed site necessary to ensure compliance with this rule must be shown on the site plan.
- (11) Subsoil boring logs and soil permeability testing information must be submitted to substantiate any proposed on-site stormwater infiltration.
- (12) Any person constructing a new development abutting a waterway shall discharge its stormwater to that waterway. All direct discharges shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations.
- (13) For sites with industrial waste discharge, the applicant must obtain approval from the DEP for such discharge prior to the certification of the sewer certification application. For self-certified sewer certification applications, the approval for the discharge of industrial waste must be obtained prior to submission of the self-certified sewer certification application to the City.