

Vision Engineering, Inc.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)
BETHEL TOWNHSIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
September 2009
Residential Sewer Connection Manual

1. BARRY BASHORE, INC.

- a. Todd Bashore called with questions regarding the BTMA Sewer Connection Manual.
 - 1) Todd mentioned that he estimated that 75% of the existing residences in the Villages of Frystown and Bethel have cast iron sewer laterals. Todd asked if the mechanical resistant system included Fernco fittings with a shear ring. **RESPONSE: The recently revised BTMA Residential Sewer Connection Manual has specified that a Fernco, Inc. 5000 Series Connector will be the required standard for the connection between the existing outside building sewer line and the new sewer service line.**
 - 2) Todd wanted to know if he could use SDR 35 pipe fittings for the trap assembly. **RESPONSE: The recently revised BTMA Residential Sewer Connection Manual has specified that the Trap Assembly can be constructed from either PVC Schedule 40 or PVC SDR-35 Pipe and Fittings. Also, the trap must have a one (1) piece return.**

2. KLINE'S Mechanical & Hardware, Inc. (610) 488-1897

- a. Charles Kline from Kline's called and faxed material cut sheets for pipe fittings that he was proposing to use for connecting residents to the BTMA Sewer System.
 - 1) PVC SDR-35 Gasketed Two Way Cleanout Tee **RESPONSE: A Sanitary Wye with 45 degree bend is required for the cleanout fitting located on the Service Line. No Sanitary Tees are allowed.**
 - 2) Rectorseal HubSett Test Couplings for PVC Pipe **RESPONSE: It is unknown if the Hubsett Test Coupling is used for Air Leak Testing of the Service Line or if the Coupling is designed for use with a Sanitary Wye with 45 degree bend. It is the contractor's responsibility to determine if the use of the proposed HubSett Test Coupling is consistent with the Authority's standards (inadequate information submitted).**

3. READING FOUNDRY AND SUPPLY (717) 272-6616

- a. Cory Seaman called from Reading Foundry and Supply (Plumbing supply wholesaler from Lebanon, PA) with questions regarding the BTMA Residential Sewer Connection Detail.

- 1) Cory mentioned that he had received numerous phone calls regarding the sewer connection manual. Cory mentioned that a Double vented running trap would allow the section of sewer service line between the trap assembly and the foundation wall to be snaked. Usually a Trap Spoon is used to divert the snake to clean the service line from the second vent (furthest from house) to the Authority owned Lateral. Therefore, he mentioned that the cleanout shown after the Trap Assembly is nice but does not allow a plumber to snake the line to the house through the trap assembly. **RESPONSE: As noted on the Typical Residential Building Sewer Connection Detail contained in the Residential Building Connection Manual, it is recommended that a cleanout is installed outside of the building's foundation wall when a cleanout is not provided inside of the house. Furthermore, the standard proposed appears to be the better standard to apply in most applications. If however, there are exceptions to this standard due to specific applications, the resident and/or plumber can ask for a waiver of the standard prior to the time of connection (as provided for in the manual).**

- 2) Cory mentioned that he was proposing to provide contractors with a Fernco with a Shear Ring to be an equivalent to the mechanical Joint Restraint System shown in the Connection Manual. **RESPONSE: The recently revised BTMA Residential Sewer Connection Manual has specified that a Fernco, Inc. 5000 Series Connector will be the required standard for the connection between the existing outside building sewer line and the new sewer service line.**