TO ALL:  DEPUTY CITY ENGINEERS
DIVISION/DISTRICT ENGINEERS
DIVISION HEADS
PUBLIC COUNTER PERSONNEL

May 31, 1973

SUBJECT:  DYE TESTING OF PRIVATE SEWERS

On April 18, 1973, the Board of Public Works adopted a dye testing procedure and permit requirement as outlined in Joint Report No. 1 of the City Engineer, Director, Bureau of Sanitation, and Chief Accountant (see attached copy).

This action authorizes Sewer Maintenance Division of the Bureau of Sanitation to dye test private sewers when requested by the City Engineer. It also authorizes collection of the same fee established for a sewer house connection permit fee (currently $16) for dye testing. This fee shall be collected when verification of connection to a public sewer is requested by an applicant and information is not available on our records. The following procedure shall be used for future dye tests:

Form Eng. 3.662 "Application/Permit for Sewer or Storm Drain Connection" shall be adapted to indicate that this transaction is for a Dye Test and processed in the usual manner, assigning the next number in your Sewer Permit control book (see attached sample).

The fee is entered on the "L" key when a cash register is used, or receipted like a sewer permit when a cash register is not used. The applicant is given the blue copy.
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of Form Eng. 3.662. Other copies shall be retained at the permit counter until results of the Dye Test are known. Test results shall be indicated on these copies and the applicant's remaining copy shall be forwarded to him.

Form Eng. 3.667 "Request for Sewer Saddle Installation" shall be adapted to read, "Request for a Dye Test" (see attached sample), and arrangements made with Sewer Maintenance Division to set up a test. If the Sewer Maintenance Division reports the results of the test on another Form Eng. 3.662, attach the signed original to Inspector's Report copy of the receipted Application/Permit. Do not assign it another number in the control book.

Positive Dye Tests (PDT) shall be posted on the wye map by control number and year with prefix "PDT" as below:

PDT (01948-73)

Negative Dye Tests shall be posted on the wye map with date of the test but without control number as below:

Neg. Dye Test 4/25/73

If you have any questions regarding this matter, contact the Utility and Estimating Division on City Hall extension 3885.

Donald C. Tillman
City Engineer

DJM:dn

Attachments
JOINT REPORT NO. 1

April 18, 1973

Honorable Board of Public Works
of the City of Los Angeles

Gentlemen:

DYE TESTING OF PRIVATE SEWERS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That your Board authorize the Sewer Maintenance Division of the Bureau of Sanitation to dye test private sewers when requested by the City Engineer.

2. That your Board direct the City Engineer to collect the same fee established for a sewer house connection permit (currently $16.00) for dye testing a private sewer.

TRANSMITTAL

Ordinance No. 143,861.

DISCUSSION

The City Engineer's Office is receiving an increasing number of requests for verification that a parcel of private property is connected to a public sewer. This information is needed by applicants to meet Federal Housing Administration requirements or to obtain exemption from the City's Sewerage Facilities Charge.

House connection sewers constructed under permit are recorded on the City Engineer's "Y" record maps. If these
records indicate a connection, the requested information is furnished the applicant. However, there are many existing house connection sewers which were constructed without permit, i.e., old sewers constructed prior to requirement for permits, connections made by sewer contractors without permit, etc.

Verification of a connection not shown on "Y" maps is obtained by placing dye in private plumbing and then observing flow in the downstream public sewer manhole. Findings are then recorded on a Sewer "Y" map.

Since most plumbers and house connection sewer contractors are not equipped with safety equipment required to work in public sewers, the Sewer Maintenance Division normally performs all required dye testing. Mayor's Administrative Instruction No. 25 requires the City to recover current costs. Therefore, it is recommended that your Board direct the City Engineer to collect the same fee established for a sewer house connection permit (currently $16.00, see Transmittal, Section 3). This fee will cover the City's expense for dye testing.
For these reasons the recommendations should be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD C. TILLMAN
CITY ENGINEER

ROBERT D. BARGMAN, DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF SANITATION

J. L. BARCLAY
CHIEF ACCOUNTANT
APPLICATION/PERMIT
FOR
SEWER OR STORM DRAIN
CONNECTION
UNDER CHAPTER 6, LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE

JOB ADDRESS
100 E. BROAD AVE.

LOT 2
BLOCK B
TRACT 9090

BUILDING TYPE
RESIDENTIAL

STORIES

DWELLING UNITS

CONNECTION TO
SEWER

PURPOSE
NEW CONNECTION

RELOCATION

CONTRACTOR
JESSE DOE (OWNER)

STATE LICENSE NO.

CLASSIFICATION

PERMIT FEE $16.00

TAP FEE

SPEC. INSPECTION

TOTAL $16.00

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

PERMIT NUMBER CEN-01948

NOTICE TO PERMITTEE

PERMIT MUST BE ON JOB AT ALL TIMES.
INDICATED LOCATION OF SEWER NOT GUARANTEE BY THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES.

KEEP SIDEWALKS AND GUTTERS CLEAR,
KEEP LIGHTS BURNING AT NIGHT.

MAINTAIN BARRICADES AT ALL TIMES.

PERMISSION TO EXCAVATE MUST BE OBTAINED
FROM ANY CONTRACTOR DOING CONCURRENT WORK IN THE SAME AREA.

SATISFACTORY BACKFILLED EXCAVATIONS
MUST BE RESURFACED WITH PRE-MIX
BITUMINOUS MATERIAL WITHIN 3 DAYS AFTER BEING INSPECTED.

FOR INSPECTION INFORMATION SEE
REVERSE SIDE.

THIS PERMIT EXPIRES 4/11/73

THIS PERMIT NOT VALID UNLESS RECEIPT ATTACHED OR REGISTER VALIDATED

RECEIPT 

BILL SIGNATURE 9/11/73