MEMORANDUM TO THE INDUSTRY

TO: All Builders, Developers, Engineers, Site Contractors, and Distributors Engaging in the Installation of Loudoun Water’s Systems

FROM: Leslie Plazio, P.E., Manager of Inspections
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DATE: April 4, 2016

SUBJECT: Fire Services Connected to Loudoun Water’s Distribution Systems Site Plan Review and Inspection of Installations

Over the last few months, Loudoun Water (LW) has met with Loudoun County Building and Development staff to review the fire services process/design change that will impact fire line site plan review and inspection of installations. For many years, LW has:

1. Conducted site plan review of underground fire service pipes
2. Performed inspection of the underground installation of the fire lines from the LW water main, to the first flange interior to the building. The inspection has included verifying proper materials and installation, thrust restraint, and pressure testing.
3. Witnessed a pressure test of the service to 200 psi and provided notification to the County’s Chief Fire Protection Inspector confirming the installation and pressure test.

The review and inspection stated above extend beyond the limits of LW’s easement or the public right-of-way and are outside of LW’s purview. Beyond these limits, fire services are privately owned and maintained by the building owner and outside of LW’s authority.

Loudoun Water (LW) will be transitioning the underground fire service review, inspections and testing to Loudoun County on May 1, 2016 (this does not impact projects that have a LW Construction Permit issued prior to May 1, 2016). LW will inspect services only interior to LW’s easement or the public right-of-way. LW will be updating the Engineering Design Manual to clarify the process/design change.

Loudoun County Building and Development will require a Fire Protection Permit for any underground fire main installed from the Loudoun Water connection into a building. The installation of this main will require inspections for compliance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. Building and Development will not require a separate plan review. Any questions can be directed to The Fire Protection Program Manager or Chief Fire Protection Inspector at Building and Development at 703-777-0220.
NOTES:

1. WITHIN WATER EASEMENT OR PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY:
   A) FIRE LINE TO BE MINIMUM 4" DIAMETER DUCTILE IRON PIPE, CLASS 52 OR BETTER.
   B) USE APPROVED RESTRAINING GLAND AT VALVE. RESTRAIN ALL PIPE JOINTS WITH LOCKING
      GASKET OR APPROVED RESTRAINED JOINT PIPING SYSTEM.
   C) ALL MATERIALS MUST CONFORM TO APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF LOUDOUN WATER'S
      APPROVED MATERIALS LIST.

2. LOUDOUN WATER MUST INSPECT AND APPROVE THE INSTALLATION AND HYDROSTATIC TEST AT
   200 PSI TO THE LIMIT OF PUBLIC WATER EASEMENT OR RIGHT OF WAY.

3. FOR CONTINUATION TO THE BUILDING, ACQUIRE UNDERGROUND FIRE SERVICE PERMIT AND
   INSPECTIONS FROM THE LOUDOUN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT.

4. FOR DRAWS OF WATER FROM THE PUBLIC MAIN, CONTACT LOUDOUN WATER INSPECTIONS
   DEPARTMENT.