



Document Owner: Manager Customer Planning

Disinfection of Drinking Water Network Repairs

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) covers work undertaken on repairs within the drinking water network. This work needs to be undertaken with the utmost care, following best practice as the network is exposed and must be safeguarded against contamination, both bacteriological and chemical. Disinfection is key to preventing contamination of the water supply during maintenance and should be an integral part of the standard repair procedures.

Health & Safety and Operational Information

Hazard Indictors





Personal Protection



Health and Safety Information

- Health and Safety documentation.
- Sodium Hypochlorite Solution Material Safety Data Sheet.

Operation's & Maintenance Documentation

Disinfection SOP

Customer Information (Confidential)

- Vulnerable customers (DHB supplied list)
- Priority customers (WWL)

Priority Customer Categories

- Schools and childcare
- Commercial premises
- Hospitals
- Retirement homes/villages
- Correction facilities
- Military installations
- Oil and gas refinery

Emergency Procedure / Escalation

Emergency

- Make "Site Safe" and isolate risks to people or property with resources at hand
- All forms of chlorine have hazardous substance storage and handling requirements. All people using these chemicals should be aware of the requirements identified in the material safety data sheets
- Key phone numbers

Additional Documentation

- FH SOP 3W GEN 015 Avoiding electrical shocks when working on metal pipes.
- FH SOP shutdown procedure
- **SOP Reactive Shutdown**
- **SOP Asbestos Pipe Repair**
- Living Safely Manual
- Wellington Water, Disinfection of Water Systems -Work Instruction (Under Development)
- Service plans (B4uDig)









Escalate if extra resources required or problems occur!

- Escalate to Team Leader and inform of the issues faced and/or expected resources required if necessary.
- If no FAC after flushing until clear, flush again. If no FAC present escalate to Team Leader.

Required Skills, Competencies (Qualifications and/or Certifications)

Competent persons only – NZ Certificate in Infrastructure Works (PCM) Level 3 or higher Drinking Water Strand

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Standard Operating Procedure

Required Equipment

Equipment and Information	Details
Fully Equipped Vehicle	Ensure vehicle, plant, equipment and materials appropriate to the day's work schedule is available.
Spray bottle containing Sodium Hypochlorite solution and swabbing material	Ensure full spray bottle containing Sodium Hypochlorite solution and sufficient clean swabbing material is in the vehicle before leaving the depot. The bottle is to be stored in such a way that it cannot tip or spill If the bottle is not full, use the following mixing ratios to have a full spray bottle of chlorine solution at correct strength (1%): - decant 70ml of Sodium Hypochlorite 15-17% Solution into a 1 litre spray bottle, fill the spray bottle with water - 250ml of 2-4% Janola into a 1 litre spray bottle, fill the spray bottle with water.
	Ensure you are wearing appropriate PPE including gloves and eye protection, take care not to breathe in the fumes and not to spill any undiluted chemical on yourself or others.
Vulnerable & Priority Lists (Confidential)	Ensure that you have access to the Vulnerable and Priority lists.

Perform the work - Disinfection

Action	Trade	Action Details
Maintenance	Serviceperson	When pipes and fittings are transported to site, the pipes should be capped where feasible and these caps remain in place until the pipe is used. Pipe and fittings are to be stored off the ground to prevent entry of dirt and vermin.
Maintenance	Serviceperson	Prior to work starting, a risk of contamination to the network will be undertaken and the result indicated on the RCP. A photograph of the completed RCP is to be attached to the Maximo work order.
Maintenance	Serviceperson	All tools contacting the water supply or its parts, particularly cutting surfaces, must be adequately disinfected prior to commencing work and subsequently as necessary when tools contact soil or backfill material. All fittings and pipes shall be sprayed and swabbed with a super-chlorinated solution and protected from contamination.
		A photograph of the spray bottle will be included in the before and after photographs on the Maximo work order.
Maintenance	Serviceperson	The internal lining of the open ends of pipelines shall be sprayed and swabbed with a super chlorinated solution. Care shall be taken to ensure water from the trench does not enter the pipeline, this may be achieved by: - Shutting down the network during the repair - Excavating deep enough that water in the bottom of the trench is below the pipe - Dewatering the trench to remove water
Maintenance	Serviceperson	If the repair is to be left for an extended period, the ends of the exposed pipe are to be capped to prevent small animals and dirt getting into the network.

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Perform the work - Disinfection

Action	Trade	Action Details
Maintenance	Serviceperson	After the repair is made, and where practicable, the repaired pipe shall be flushed so that potable water is drawn through the repair location until the water is clear or 3x the volume of the pipe in the repaired area has passed through the pipe. Record how long this took.
Maintenance	Serviceperson	A Freely Available Chlorine test must be done on the clear flush water.
		For small repairs on pipes less than 100mm, a "colour" test will be sufficient and a photograph attached to the Maximo job order.
		For 150mm diameter pipes and larger, a FAC test should be done and the digital reading photographed and attached to the Maximo job order. On these assets an E Coli test will be taken by the water team leader or designated qualified person when the pipe is returned to service.
		For critical assets, pipes that feed schools and hospitals, an FAC test will be done and the digital result photographed and attached to the Maximo job order. On these assets an E Coli test will be taken by the water team leader or designated qualified person when the pipe is returned to service.
		If there is a chlorine residual in all cases, photograph the reading and attach to the job in Maximo. Return main to service.
		If no chlorine residual flush the main for another length of time same as the first and take another FAC sample. If there is no FAC reading from this sample escalate to TL for a decision on shutting down the main.
Maintenance	Serviceperson	For extended outages exceeding 8 hours and repairs on critical assets, Taumata Arowai is notified. The depot drinking water team leader is to complete a report form and forward to NMG to report to TA. The report outlines what has happened, how the risk of contamination was managed and the FAC and E.Coli test results.
Maintenance	Serviceperson	Separate tools should be used on drinking water and wastewater networks. Where this is not possible, or tools become contaminated by wastewater they shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with the super-chlorinated solution before using them again Equipment and plant that has been used on wastewater networks or in a manner that may contaminate the drinking water network should be cleaned and disinfected before use.

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