
BULLETIN 2016-001-PL

February 11, 2016

**WATER TREATMENT DEVICES - PROTECTION FROM CONTAMINATION
(VPBL Sentence 2.6.2.1.(2))**

This bulletin clarifies that all water treatment devices applications marketed to promote the longevity of potable distribution piping may only be installed in conformance with an accepted Alternative Solution submission. This requirement extends to previously installed systems.

Water Treatment Installations

The Vancouver Plumbing By-law (Book II of the Vancouver Building By-law) requires that a water treatment device or apparatus shall not be installed unless it can be demonstrated that the device or apparatus will not introduce substances into the potable water system that may endanger health.

Given the increased interest in installing these treatment systems, the potential risk for substances to be introduced into the drinking water that may endanger health must be considered in the specifications of the appropriate applications. Consequently, all proposals to install water treatment device applications must be accompanied by an Alternative Solution application complying with Division C, Section 2.3. of the Vancouver Building By-law. This is not a new requirement of the Plumbing By-law, and this requirement does extend to previously installed systems.

Guidelines

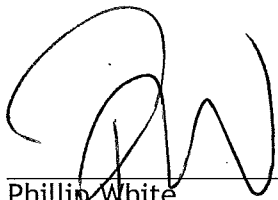
Consideration for the Alternative solution application shall include not only the deviation from the Vancouver Plumbing By-law but shall also include other factors including, but not limited to:

- Seismic and Environmental concerns,
- Monitoring and Tampering detection,
- Protection of the city water supply and interface with the existing distribution system,
- Notification of end users and record keeping
- Chemical Storage and security
- Spill containment and procedures in the event of incorrect dosing, etc.

All Alternative Solution applications will require submission of:

1. A technical report from an Registered Professional with appropriate qualifications and training identifying the context of installation, performance specifications of the proposed equipment, and the technical basis for the installation and means to protect the general public and end users,
2. A piping diagram of the proposed water distribution system showing the type of existing piping and equipment, and
3. A letter from the owner(s) stating that all end users have been informed of the decision to introduce such chemicals into the drinking water and a sign has been posted in a conspicuous place thirty days before the date of installation detailing the scope of the installation, the name of the chemicals being introduced and the relevant MSDS data sheets.

Registered Professionals taking responsibility for the system design are required to complete a Schedule B with their permit application and a corresponding Schedule C upon the completion of their field reviews. Refer to: <http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/alternative-solutions.aspx> for more details regarding Alternative Solution submissions.



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