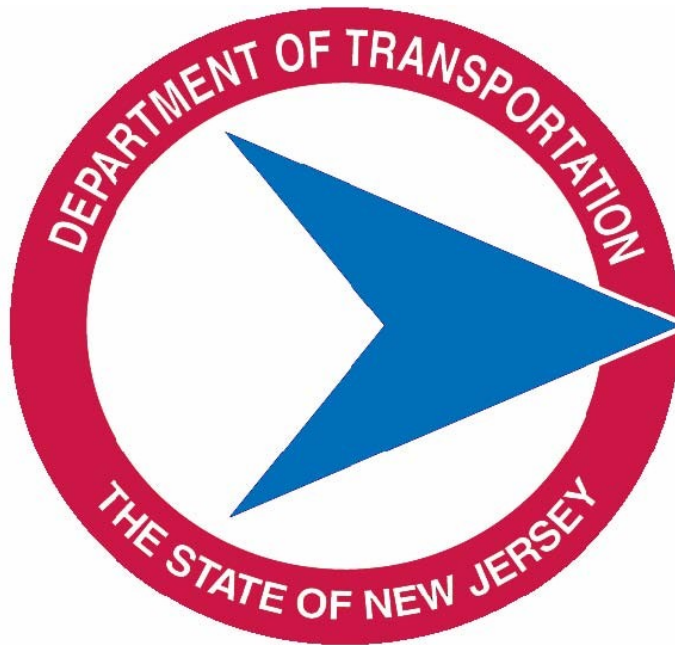


**State of New Jersey
Department of Transportation**

Abandoned Pipe



Guidelines

2020

Prepared by Utility Management

Abandoned Pipe Guidelines

Purpose

These guidelines provide the standards for the accommodation of utility facilities, both public and private, in regard to the abandonment of pipe in all roadways and property within the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) right-of-way.

Application

These guidelines shall apply to the owners, operators, and contractors of utility facilities including, but not limited to, electric, water, sanitary sewer, storm water, gas and communications (telephone, telegraph, cable TV, and fiber optic or light guide cables) that are located in the NJDOT right-of-way.

Where laws or orders of public authorities, industry, government codes, or highway authorities prescribe a higher standard than provided by these guidelines, then the higher standard shall prevail.

In the absence of applicable national, State, or local regulatory agency standard codes, the industry standard code shall apply.

Abandoned pipe shall remain the responsibility and property of the utility owner.

Definitions

Abandoned/Retired – The decision by the utility to no longer use its facilities. These facilities will not be restored to service. Notification of such decision will be made to the NJDOT. Abandoned/Retired shall not be construed to mean any changes in ownership of the facility.

Inactive – a service line not being used for service, but is not abandoned.

Plug – Method used to seal the ends of a pipe. Plugs are to be built to a depth equal to the diameter of the pipe or 2 feet, whichever is less.

Service line – a pipe used to transport solids, liquids, gases, or communication facilities from a source to a customer.

Flowable fill or Controlled Low Strength Material – material complying with Section 903.09 of the 2019 New Jersey Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction (as amended and supplemented).

Specifications

Water: 2019 New Jersey Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction Section 651.03.01.B (as amended and supplemented):

- Remove and dispose of abandoned pipe, services, valves, boxes, thrust blocks, and appurtenances, unless otherwise shown on the Plans as specified in 201.03.01.H. Cap or plug pipe that is to be abandoned in a manner that is acceptable to the Utility.

Sewer: 2019 New Jersey Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction Section 652.03.01.B (as amended and supplemented).

Gas: 2019 New Jersey Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction Section 653.03.01.D (as amended and supplemented).

The Department reserves the right to evaluate the pipe, on a case by case basis, based on the following conditions including, but not limited to: location, depth, strata, age, environmental conditions, size, make of pipe and with good engineering judgement determine if the existing pipe shall be abandoned, partially removed, fully removed or completely filled.

The final physical disposition of an abandoned pipe shall be ultimately approved by the Department.

Utilities must maintain an inventory of all abandoned facilities in the State right-of-way. All plans, contractual or permit, shall indicate and verify proposed, existing

and abandoned pipe(s). Additionally, any and all alterations to the utility facilities on Department right-of-way must be supplied to the Department.