

SECTION 02XXX

SEWER PIPE BURSTING

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01 Scope of Work

The work specified in this section consists of furnishing and installing underground water mains using the pipe bursting method of installation for pipes of various sizes. This work shall include all services, equipment, materials, and labor for the complete and proper installation, testing, and restoration of underground water mains and environmental protection and restoration.

The pipe bursting method will repeat the method, outlined below for each section of pipe being replaced. These processes may be performed in series or in parallel with other sections of pipe within the job; however each section will require these steps. The outline below of the process does not dictate the means and methods of the Contractor but provides an overview of the pipe bursting process.

- 1. Deliver notice of service outage to each affected property Owner in advance of work
- 2. Perform hydrostatic test of the product pipe section
- 3. Excavate a machine pit at one end of the section down to pipe grade for placement of the pipe bursting equipment
- 4. Excavate an insertion pit at the opposite end of the section down to pipe grade for entry of the product pipe
- 5. Excavate service connection pits
- 6. Isolate the section to be rehabilitated from the rest of the system to maintain pressure integrity of the system as well as preventing any backflow
- 7. Excavate and remove hydrant tees and valve tees from the host pipe
- 8. Assemble the rod string as it is thrust through the host pipe from machine pit to insertion pit
- 9. Burst tooling and product pipe attached to rod end at insertion pit
- 10. Pull back and disassemble rod string simultaneously while tooling and product pipe travels from insertion pit to machine pit
- 11. Install service connections to the newly installed mains
- 12. Inspect for leaks at new connections
- 13. Perform final connection of the replaced section of pipe to the system

It should be noted that items "4" through "13" can be accomplished within a single ten hour day if the need for temporary services is to be eliminated. The length of pipe to be burst per run should be chosen to conform to this time frame. Items "4" though "6" (excavation items) may be performed in advance of the bursting operations to expedite the process.

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1.02 Contractor Qualifications

- A. Contractor (or Sub-Contractor) shall provide documented evidence of successful installation of pipe through the pipe bursting method for work comparable in nature to the scope of work required by this project for a minimum of two years.
- B. Contractor (or Sub-Contractor) to have successfully self-performed at least (5) pipe bursting projects to install product pipe of a similar nominal diameter and length to the proposed project within the past two years. Owner and Engineer shall have the sole authority to determine the adequacy of the representative projects.
- C. Contractor's (or Sub-Contractor's) project manager, superintendent, and pipe bursting machine operator assigned to pipe bursting shall be experienced in work of this nature shall have successfully completed projects similar in nature and shall have successfully completed similar projects using pipe bursting. Contractor (or Sub-Contractor) shall submit substantiating evidence of qualifications with the bid submittal documents.
- D. All pipe bursting equipment operators shall be experienced in comparable pipe bursting work, and shall have been fully trained in the use of the proposed equipment by an authorized representative of the equipment manufacturer(s) or their authorized training agents.
- E. All high density polyethylene (HDPE) fusion equipment operators shall be qualified to perform pipe joining using the means, methods and equipment employed by the Contractor. Fusion equipment operators must possess and be able to provide written validation (card or certificate) of current, formal training on all fusion equipment employed on the project, including training and proper use of the data logging device on the equipment. Qualification of the fusion technician shall be demonstrated by evidence of fusion training within the past two years on the equipment to be utilized on this project in accordance with ASTM F2620.

1.03 Referenced Standards

- A. American Water Works Association (AWWA) latest edition:
 - 1. AWWA C622 Pipe Bursting of Potable Water Mains 4 In. (100 mm) to 36 In. (900 mm)
 - 2. AWWA C651 Disinfecting Water Mains
 - 3. AWWA C901 Polyethylene Pressure Pipe and Tubing, ½ Inch Through 3 Inch for Water Service
 - 4. AWWA C906 Polyethylene Pressure Pipe and Fittings, 4 Inch Through 63 Inch for Water Distribution and Transmission
- B. American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Manual of Practice 112 Pipe Bursting Projects



- C. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) latest edition:
 - 1. ASTM D638 Tensile Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
 - 2. ASTM D790 Test Materials for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials
 - 3. ASTM D2122 Standard Method of Determining Dimensions of Thermoplastics Pipe and Fittings
 - 4. ASTM D2239 Standard Specification for Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe (SIDR-PR) Based on Controlled Inside Diameter
 - 5. ASTM D2657 Practice for Heat-Joining of Polyolefin Pipe and Fittings
 - 6. ASTM D2683 Standard Specification for Socket Type Polyethylene Fittings for Outside Diameter-Controlled Polyethylene Pipe and Tubing
 - 7. ASTM D2774 Standard Practice for Underground Installation of Thermoplastic Pressure Piping
 - 8. ASTM D2837 Standard Method for Obtaining Hydrostatic Design Basis for Thermoplastic Pipe Materials or Pressure Design Basis for Thermoplastic Pipe Products
 - 9. ASTM D3035 Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe (DR-PE) Based on Controlled Outside Diameter
 - 10. ASTM D3261 Butt Heat Fusion Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Fittings for Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe and Tubing
 - 11. ASTM D3350 Polyethylene Plastic Pipe and Fittings Material
 - 12. ASTM F412 Standard Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems
 - 13. ASTM F714 Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe (SDR-PR) Based on Outside Diameter
 - 14. ASTM F905 Standard Practice for Qualification of Polyethylene Saddle-Fused Joints
 - 15. ASTM F1055 Standard Specification for Electrofusion Type Polyethylene Fittings for Outside Diameter Controlled Polyethylene Pipe and Tubing
 - 16. ASTM F1056 Standard Specification for Socket Fusion Tools for Use in Socket Fusion Joining Polyethylene Pipe or Tubing and Fittings
 - 17. ASTM F1290 Standard Practice for Electrofusion Joining Polyolefin Pipe and Fittings
 - 18. ASTM F2164 Field Leak Testing of Polyethylene (PE) Pressure Piping Systems Using Hydrostatic Pressure
 - 19. ASTM F2206 Fabricated Fittings for Butt-Fused Polyethylene Plastic Pipe
 - 20. ASTM F2620 Standard Practice for Heat Fusion Joining of Polyethylene Pipe and Fittings
 - 21. ASTM F2786 Standard Practice for Field Leak Testing of Polyethylene (PE) Pressure Piping Systems Using Gaseous Testing Media Under Pressure (Pneumatic Leak Testing)
 - 22. ASTM F3124 Standard Practice for Data Recording the Procedure used to Produce Heat Butt Fusion Joints



- 23. ASTM F3183 Standard Practice for Guided Side Bend Evaluation of Polyethylene Pipe Butt Fusion Joint
- 24. ASTM F3190 Standard Practice for Heat Fusion Equipment (HFE) Operator Qualifications on Polyethylene (PE) and Polyamide (PA) Pipe and Fittings
- C. North American Society for Trenchless Technology (NASTT) latest edition:
 - 1. NASTT's Pipe Bursting Good Practices Guidelines 3rd Edition
- D. Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI) latest edition:
 - 1. The Plastics Pipe Institute Handbook of Polyethylene Pipe Chapter 16 Pipe Bursting
 - 2. PPI TR-3 Policies and Procedures for Developing Hydrostatic Design Basis, Hydrostatic Design Stresses, Pressure Design Basis, Strength Design Basis, Minimum Required Strength Ratings, and Categorized Required Strength for Thermoplastic Piping Materials or Pipe
 - PPI TR-4 PPI HSB Listing of Hydrostatic Design Basis, Hydrostatic Design Stresses, Pressure Design Basis, Strength Design Basis, Minimum Required Strength Ratings, and Categorized Required Strength for Thermoplastic Piping Materials or Pipe
 - 4. PPI TN-36 General Guidelines for Connecting HDPE Potable Water Pressure Pipes to DI and PVC Piping Systems
 - 5. PPI TN-38 Bolt Torque for Polyethylene Flanged Joints
 - 6. PPI TN-44 Long Term Resistance of AWWA C906 Polyethylene (PE) Pipe to Potable Water Disinfectants
 - 7. PPI TN-45 Mechanical Couplings for Joining Polyethylene Pipe
 - 8. PPI TN-46 Guidance for Field Hydrostatic Testing of High Density Polyethylene Pressure Pipelines: Owner's Considerations, Planning, Procedures, and Checklists
 - 9. PPI TN-49 Recommendations for AWWA C901 Service Tubes in Potable Water Applications
 - 10. PPI TN-54 General Guidelines for Squeezing Off Polyethylene Pipe in Water, Oil and Gas Applications
- E. Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI) Municipal Advisory Board (MAB)
 - 1. MAB Generic Electrofusion Procedure for Field Joining of 12 Inch and Smaller Polyethylene (PE) Pipe
 - 2. MAB Generic Electrofusion Procedure for Field Joining of 14 Inch to 30 Inch Polyethylene (PE) Pipe
 - 3. MAB Model Specifications for PE 4710 Buried Potable Water Service, Distribution and Transmission Pipes and Fittings
 - 4. MAB Guidelines for PE 4710 Pipe Bursting of Potable Water Mains

1.04 Submittals



- A. Contractor shall submit personnel information detailing the names and resumes, including specific project experience, for the proposed project manager, superintendent, and pipe bursting equipment operator proving that the experience meets the requirements detailed in this specification.
- B. Contractor shall submit personnel information, including specific project experience, for all proposed pipe bursting equipment operators, including evidence of training in the use of the proposed equipment by an authorized representative of the equipment manufacturer or their qualified agent.
- C. Contractor to submit a plan to the Owner on a marked-up copy of the project documents showing the Contractor's construction phasing and plans. Plan details shall include the following:
 - 1. Pit locations for machine pit and insertion pit
 - 2. Pit locations for service connection pits
 - 3. Burst schedule detailing which locations are to be replaced
 - 4. Lengths of each section to be burst
 - 5. Isolation points to be used to seal the system during pipe bursting
 - 6. Location of temporary services
 - 7. Staging area to be used for fusion and material storage
 - 8. Pipe bursting equipment information to be used on the project such as tonnage and tooling
 - 9. Shoring system to be used with the bursting equipment
 - 10. Risk management plan
 - 11. Tracer wire to be used
- D. Submit pipe catalog information confirming that pipe, fittings, joints, and other materials conform to the requirements of the specifications.
- E. Submit pipe manufacturer's most current calculations regarding tensile load limitations for trenchless installations.
- F. Provide information showing staging and pipe fusion areas, site access during work activities, pipe storage and handling and procedure for pipe joining.
- G. Contractor shall provide a plan to locate and protect all adjacent utilities and infrastructure.
- H. Submit traffic control plan for all entrance and exit pits.
- I. Provide as-built documentation. Contractor shall plot as-built conditions on the field drawings, including the location of pits and service connections at the completion of each production shift.



- J. Contractor to maintain all testing and quality control documentation and assurance procedures. Contractor to provide the following documents to the Owner:
 - 1. Quality control test reports
 - 2. Fusion reports for each weld as reported by the datalogger

1.05 Utility Locating

- A. The Contractor shall be responsible for following the procedures in this specification to identify, locate and verify the presence of existing utilities along the route of the proposed pipeline or work areas.
- B. Utility locating will be performed in three parts: identification, designating and verification.
 - 1. Utility Identification Identify the presence of underground utilities through One Call service and visual observation of surface markers or other indicators such as manholes, valve boxes, fire hydrants, etc.
 - 2. Utility Designation Marking the location of underground utilities with paint or flags based on utility owner information or third party locating equipment.
 - 3. Utility Verification Verification of Utility Identification and Designation by excavation or other methods to determine the horizontal and vertical location of the underground utility. This also provides the size and material of the underground utility. Approved methods to accomplish this task include vacuum excavation, potholing, and test holes with traditional equipment (backhoes, etc.)
- C. The Contractor shall record the location (horizontal and vertical) of all known utilities, as defined within this specification, on the project documents. At a minimum, utilities shall be located by station and offset from the project baseline or with state plan coordinates. Vertical location can be based on depth from existing grade or elevation using the project vertical datum.
- D. The project documents showing all known existing utilities shall be submitted to the Owner's Representative for review and to document, prior to construction, the known utilities within the project limits. The Owner's Representative will have a five (5) working day period to review and approve or comment on the utility locations.
- E. The approved project documents showing the existing utilities shall be the basis for changes to the contract as addressed within these specifications.
- F. Utilities located and documented as described above then subsequently damaged by the Contractor under this contract will have no basis for claims against the Owner for costs associated with repairs, delays, etc.

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G. Damage to existing underground utilities that were not identified by the procedures noted above will be the utility owner's responsibility to repair or replace.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.01 Polyethylene Pipe, Fittings and Accessories

- A. Polyethylene pipe and fittings 4-65 inch diameter shall be in accordance with AWWA C906-15, material designation code of PE4710, all applicable ASTM standards and be listed on the PPI TR-4 HSB Listing of Hydrostatic Design Basis Listed Materials.
- B. Polyethylene pipe ½ -3 inch diameter for main line piping shall be polyethylene pipe (not tubing) in accordance with AWWA C901, material designation code of PE4710 all applicable ASTM standards and be listed on the PPI TR-4 HSB Listing of Hydrostatic Design Basis Listed Materials.
- C. Butt fusion fittings shall be made of HDPE material with a minimum material designation code of PE4710, all applicable ASTM standards and shall be listed in current versions of PPI TR-4. Molded and fabricated fittings shall have a pressure rating equal to the pipe unless otherwise specified on the project documents. All fittings shall meet the requirements of AWWA C901, C906 and all applicable ASTM standards. Markings for molded fittings shall comply with the requirements of ASTM D3261. Fabricated fittings shall be marked in accordance with ASTM F2206. Socket fittings shall meet ASTM D2683. Fabricated fittings shall be manufactured using a DataLogger to record fusion time, pressure and temperature, and shall be marked with a unique joint identifier that corresponds to the joint report. A graphic representation of the time and pressure data for all fusion joints made producing fittings shall be maintained for a minimum of five years as part of quality control and will be available upon request of owner. Qualification of the fusion technician shall be demonstrated by evidence of fusion training within the past two years on the equipment to be utilized on this project in accordance with ASTM F2620.
- D. Electrofusion fittings shall be made of HDPE material with a minimum material designation code of PE4710 and meet ASTM F1055. Electrofusion fittings shall have a pressure rating equal to the pipe unless otherwise specified on the project documents. All electrofusion fittings shall be suitable for use as pressure conduits and have nominal burst values of four times the working pressure rating of the fitting. Marking of electrofusion fittings shall comply with the requirements of ASTM F1055. All electrofusion fittings shall be properly stored in compliance with the manufacturers recommendation.
- E. Saddle fusion could be used to fuse branch saddles, tapping tees and other HDPE fittings onto the wall of the main pipe. Saddle fusion shall be done in accordance



with ASTM F2620 or PPI TR-41 or the fitting manufacturer's recommendations. Saddle fusion joints shall be made by qualified fusion technicians. Qualification of the fusion technician shall be demonstrated by evidence of fusion training within the past two years on the equipment to be utilized on this project in accordance with ASTM F3190.

- F. Socket fusion could be used to fuse branch saddles, tapping tees and other HDPE fittings onto the wall of the main pipe. Socket fusion shall be done in accordance with ASTM D2683 or the fitting manufacturer's recommendations. Socket fusion joints shall be made by qualified fusion technicians. Qualification of the fusion technician shall be demonstrated by evidence of fusion training within the past two years on the equipment to be utilized on this project in accordance with ASTM F3190. All equipment used for socket fusion should comply with ASTM F1056 and manufacturer's recommendations.
- G. Flanges and Mechanical Joint Adapters (MJ) shall have a minimum material designation code of PE4710 and meet all applicable AWWA and ASTM standards. Flanged and MJ adapters can be made to ASTM D3261 or machined in compliance with ASTM F2206. Flanges and MJ adapters shall have a pressure rating equal to the pipe unless otherwise specified on the project documents. Markings for molded or machined flange adapters or MJ adapters shall be per ASTM D3261. Fabricated (including machined) flange adapters shall be marked per ASTM F2206. Installation of all Flanged adapters shall follow the guidelines of the Plastics Pipe Institute TN-38.
- H. Glands, bolts, and gaskets shall be manufactured in accordance with AWWA C153. Bolts and nuts shall be grade 2 or higher.

2.02 Pipeline Identification

- A. All polyethylene pipe shall be marked in accordance with the standards to which it is manufactured.
- B. All polyethylene pipe shall be black, and shall contain a continuous colored stripe,
 2 inches wide, located at no greater than 90 degree intervals around the pipe.
 Stripes shall be impregnated or molded into the pipe by the manufacturer.
 Application of the stripes after manufacture is not acceptable. Stripe color shall be:
 - 1. Reclaimed Water Mains purple stripes
 - 2. Force Mains green stripes
 - 3. Sanitary Sewer green stripes
- C. Grey or white polyethylene without stripes may be used for gravity or storm sewer applications as approved by the Owner or Engineer.



D. All black polyethylene without stripes may be used for any installation in the interest of expediting delivery or reducing the cost of installation as approved by the Owner or Engineer.

2.03 Tracer Wire

- A. Installation of Tracer Wire. The Contractor shall be required to install tracer wire during the pipe bursting operations including along all pits for connections. The tracer wire shall be installed simultaneously with the PE piping system. Tracer wire shall be properly spliced at each end connection and each service connection. Care should be taken to adequately wrap and protect wire at all splice locations. No bare tracer wire shall be accepted. Provide Magnesium alloy anode for cathodic protection that conforms to the requirements of ASTM B843. Install tracer wire per local and manufacturer's requirements. A minimum of three separate tracer wires shall be installed with the pipe bursting activities. Contractor shall be required to provide as many wires as necessary to maintain continuity throughout the length of the pipe bursting activity. Failure of continuous continuity in the locating wire shall result in abandonment and reinstallation of the pipe bursting activity, at the discretion of the Owner.
 - 1. Tracer wire shall be three (3) 3/16-inch, 7 x 7 (or stronger) Stranded Copper Clad Steel Extreme Strength with 4,700 lb. break load, or braided stainless steel (A304 or A316), with minimum 50 mil HDPE insulation thickness.

2.04 Delivery, Storage and Handling of Materials

A. Contractor is required to inspect materials delivered to the site for damage. All materials found during inspection or during the progress of work to have cracks, flaws, or other defects shall be rejected and removed from the job site without delay.

PART 3 EQUIPMENT

3.01 General

A. The pipe bursting equipment shall consist of a pipe bursting unit that is capable of generating sufficient force to burst and compact the existing pipe fragments into the surrounding soil while pulling in the replacement pipe and trained and competent personnel to operate the system. All equipment shall be in good, safe operating condition with sufficient materials and spare parts on hand to maintain the system in good working order for the duration of the project.

3.02 Other Equipment



A. Pipe Rollers – pipe rollers, if used, shall be of sufficient size to fully support the weight of the pipe while being hydro-tested and during pull back operations. Sufficient number of rollers shall be used to prevent excess sagging of pipe.

3.03 Data Logger

- A. A data logger shall be used to record and document all butt fusion process. The data logger must be compatible and outfitted with an electronic data recording device. A digital report or printout for all fusion joints made that complies with, but is not limited to, ASTM F3124 must be delivered to the OWNER upon request and at the completion of the project. All hydraulic fusion must be recorded and able to produce a graphic representation of the time and pressure data. All manual fusion must be recorded with, but not limited to, Joint ID, Operator Name and ID, Pipe information, and Heater Plate Temperature. The recording unit shall be a DataLogger 6 as manufactured by McElroy Manufacturing, Inc, or newer model or approved equivalent.
- B. The Owner or Engineer may approve not implementing use of a DataLogger on small diameter pipe, 6 inches or less.

PART 4 EXECUTION

4.01 General

- A. Locate positions of machine and insertion pits and lay out pipe assembly area. Lay out and assemble pipe in a manner that does not obstruct adjacent roads, and commercial or residential activities adjacent to construction areas.
- B. The Contractor is to use a temporary bypass line comprised of large enough diameter polyethylene pipe or lay flat hose above ground to provide temporary bypass. The above ground polyethylene pipe or lay flat hose is to be protected by Contractor at all times.
- C. For temporary bypass, the Contractor shall provide flow diversion with pumps of adequate size and capacity to handle all flows generated during the pipe bursting process.
- D. Contractor can provide door hangers for residents and customers indicating when the pipe bursting project is to occur and resident should refrain from using water to the sewer system during the temporary outage period. Contractor shall evaluate if such flow stoppage provides adequate working conditions for the pipe bursting process and reconnection of laterals and manholes.

4.02 Pipe Joining



- A. High density polyethylene pipe shall be heat fused and pressure tested as per manufacturer's guidelines before installation in the bore hole. During assembly and prior to pullback, pipe must be laid out in such a way as to minimize interference to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- B. Cuts or gouges that reduce the wall thickness by more than 10% are not acceptable and must be cut out, discarded and the pipe rejoined.
- C. Each butt fusion shall be recorded and logged by a datalogger affixed to the fusion machine. Joint data shall be submitted as part of the As-built documentation.
- D. Mechanical joining Polyethylene pipe and fittings may be joined together or to other materials by means of flanged connections or mechanical couplings designed for joining polyethylene pipe or for joining polyethylene pipe to another pipe material. Mechanical couplings shall be fully pressure rated and fully thrust restrained and installed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- E. Install required locator wire along polyethylene pipe prior to pulling through bore hole as per these specifications.
- F. After pulling pipe, clean exposed ends for installation of fittings, test locator wire for continuity.

4.03 Swabbing (if Pre-chlorination is approved, see Section 4.05)

- A. The purpose of swabbing a new pipeline is to conserve water while thoroughly cleaning the pipeline of all foreign material, sand, gravel, construction debris and other items not found in a properly cleaned system. Prior to pressure testing of a new pipeline swabbing shall be utilized as specified on the project documents for each project.
- B. New water mains greater than 12" ID (unless determined otherwise by the Owner) shall be hydraulically cleaned with a polypropylene swabbing device to remove dirt, sand and debris from main.
- C. If swabbing access and egress points are not provided in the design drawings, it will be the responsibility of the Contractor to provide temporary access and egress points for the cleaning, as required.
- D. Cleaning of the system shall be done in conjunction with, and prior to, the initial filling of the system for its hydrostatic test.
- E. The line to be cleaned shall only be connected to the existing distribution system at a single connection point.

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F. At the receiver or exit point for the poly swab, the Contractor is responsible for creating a safe environment for collection of debris, water and the swab. Considerations shall be made for protecting surrounding personnel and property and safe retrieval of the swab.

4.04 **Pressure and Leakage Testing**

- A. Summary of Practice of Pressure and Leakage Testing
 - 1. The section of the piping to be tested is isolated from other parts of the system and properly restrained in order to prevent failure of both the test section and the existing system connected to the test section. Isolated sections of the test section are vented to the atmosphere in order to ensure compressible gases do not remain within the hydraulic test section. The test section is filled with liquid, raised to the test pressure, and allowed to stabilize. The system is then inspected for leakage and the pressure is relieved. Any required repairs or replacements are then performed while the pipe is depressurized.
 - 2. There is no leakage allowance, as properly made heat-fusion joints of HDPE do not leak. However, if any defects or leaks are revealed, they should be corrected and the pipeline retested after a minimum 24 hour recuperation period between tests. Total testing conducted on a section of pipeline shall not exceed eight hours within a 24 hour period.
 - 3. An expansion allowance is allowed as HDPE will expand slightly due to elasticity and Poisson effects. The amount of make-up water (expansion allowance) will vary because expansion is not linear. This procedure compensates for expansion with an initial expansion phase followed by a testing phase as to which the test pressure is reduced suspending expansion. Expansion or contraction due to Poisson effects may disjoin other non-restrained joints, such as bell and spigot joints, so measures must be taken to fully restrain the test section.
- A. Style of Testing
 - 1. Conduct hydrostatic pressure testing of installed polyethylene pipe in accordance with ASTM F2164, Standard Field Leak Testing of Polyethylene Pipe and Crosslinked Polyethylene Piping Systems Using Hydrostatic Pressure.
 - 2. It is not permitted to conduct pneumatic leak testing on HDPE in accordance with ASTM F2786, Standard Practice for Leak Testing of Polyethylene Piping Systems Using Gaseous Media Under Pressure (Pneumatic Leak Testing.)
 - 3. Non-pressurized HDPE sewer mains may be pressure tested following ASTM F1417 Standard Practice for Installation Acceptance of Plastic Non-pressure Sewer Lines Using Low-Pressure Air.



B. Non-HDPE Components

- 1. Non-HDPE components, such as end caps, valves, etc., that are used to isolate the test section from other parts of the system in order to perform the test are required to be rated for pressures equal to or greater than the test pressure applied to the test section. These non-HDPE components must be properly restrained while conducting the pressure test.
- 2. Air release valves must be installed at the high points of the test section to allow for the release of any air or gases within the pipe prior to performing the required hydraulic pressure testing.
- 3. Pumping equipment used to pressurize the test section during the pressure testing should be of adequate capacity to fill, pressurize and test the section within the allotted time for the test.
- 4. A pressure monitoring gage is recommended to be connected to the test section at the lowest point to ensure the highest pressure is recorded within the test section. The combination of pump pressure and pressure at higher elevations will be recorded at the lowest point of the test section. Constant monitoring of the pressure during testing is required. A datalogger with a pressure recording transducer can be attached to the pressure gage to record pressure readings during the test. Additional gauges capturing the quantity of water used to fill prior to initial pressure testing and make up water during testing are required.
- C. Safety
 - 1. Take the necessary safety precautions to ensure the test is conducted safely during the entirety of the testing period. Persons operating near the test string should be familiar with pressure testing and understand the safety precautions necessary to perform the test safely.
 - 2. The test section should be supervised at all times during pressure testing.
 - 3. Failure of the HDPE pipe string may result in sudden, violent, uncontrolled and dangerous movement of the system piping, components or parts of the components.
- D. Restraint against movement
 - 1. Measures should be taken to ensure all parts and components of the pipe section under pressure testing should be restrained from movement either through the use of partial backfill or adequate above ground restraint methods.
- E. Pre-test preparation and set-up
 - 1. HDPE pipe materials are rated at temperatures of 73°F or less. Pressure testing at higher temperatures will require de-rating of the pipe and fittings in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

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- 2. Prior to testing, all heat fusion joints are to be completely cooled and allowed to cool beyond the required rough handling time.
- 3. The pipe string and components required to be tested should be flushed, pigged or otherwise cleaned to remove and dirt and debris that may damage parts or components involved in the pressure testing.
- F. Maximum test pressures
 - 1. The maximum test pressure of should not exceed the Owner's or Engineer's recommendations.
 - 2. System operating pressures often refer to the actual pressure that the municipal water and wastewater pipeline systems experience during actual operation.
 - 3. System design pressures often refer to the pressure rating of the HDPE pipeline that will be installed within the municipal water and wastewater pipeline system. HDPE pipe utilized in municipal water and wastewater systems often have higher rated design pressures than the operating pressures of the pipe systems they are installed within.
 - 4. System operating and system design pressures are not always equal. It is necessary to establish if there is a difference between system operating and system design pressures. The Owner or Engineer will make a determination if the system operating pressure or system design pressures will be used to perform pressure and leakage tests on the pipe string.
 - 5. The maximum test pressure for HDPE shall not exceed 1.5 times the system design pressure when lower pressure rated components or devices are not present. The maximum test pressure for HDPE shall not exceed the pressure rating of the lowest pressure rated components when they are present.
- G. Test duration
 - 1. The test duration required to pressurize, stabilize, hold test pressure and depressurize shall not exceed 8 hours. If retesting is necessary, the test section shall be depressurize for a minimum of 8 hours prior to restarting.
 - 2. Prior to pressurizing, all components must be inspected to be in proper working conditions, all components of the test section shall be vented to atmosphere and all low pressure lines not part of the test section shall be disconnected from the test section.
- H. Hydrostatic Test Procedure
 - 1. The test section shall be filled slowly with liquid and all air is purged from the system. It is important to take steps to ensure all air is purged from the system. The flow velocity of liquid within the test section should not exceed the capacity of air to be purged from the system or the allowable design velocity of the pipe.
 - 2. The test section should be allowed to come to temperature equilibrium



between the pipe string and the fluid within the pipe.

- 3. When the test section is filled with fluid and purged with air, the pressure within the test section shall be gradually increased to the required test pressure. Make-up water should be allowed to fill the test section to maintain the required pressure due to expansion of the test section.
- 4. Once the pipe has stabilized, the pressure should be reduced 10 psi and the pressure monitored for 1 hour. The pressure should not be increased nor makeup water added to the test section during the observation period.
- 5. If not leakage occurs or if the internal pressure remains within 5% of the test phase pressure, the pressure test has passed.
- I. Post test submittals
 - 1. All records kept during pressure testing shall be provided to the Owner and Engineer.
 - 2. Pressure test reports shall include the test liquid, backflow prevention devices, if used, weather conditions and ambient temperature at site of testing, test pressure, types of test gauges, location of test gauges including location distances and elevations, gauge calibration records, test pressures recorded, any adjustments made such as makeup water, etc, description of leaks or failures, date and time, and operator performing the pressure test.

4.05 Preliminary CCTV Inspection of Sewer Lines

- A. The Contractor shall perform a preliminary internal CCTV inspection after cleaning the existing pipe in order to document the condition of the host pipe, identify and locate and active service laterals, and verify if the lines were cleaned enough to perform the pipe bursting process.
- B. The Contractor is to determine if obstructions or pipe materials that will prevent the existing pipe to be pipe burst that can't be removed by traditional cleaning equipment. These obstruction locations should be shared with the Owner or Construction Inspector and a determination if this obstruction should be corrected prior to perform pipe bursting should be made by the Owner or Construction Inspector.
- C. The Contractor is to determine if there are any sags or humps in the existing pipe that have standing water greater than 25% of the existing pipe diameter. These sag locations should be shared with the Owner or Construction Inspector and a determination if this sag should be corrected prior to perform pipe bursting should be made by the Owner or Construction Inspector.

4.06 **Pipe Bursting**

D. The pipe bursting operation described within provides guidance on the basic process. It is to be understood that the need to make exceptions or additions to this

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process are common. These changes are made to accommodate nonstandard conditions. The contractor experience requirements make it reasonable to put the responsibility of devising these exceptions upon the Contractor.

- B. Pit Location and Excavation
 - 1. Machine pit and insertion pit locations shall be placed such that excavations are minimized. This may be accomplished by placing either or both of these pits at the point of service connection, valve, hydrant location or manholes.
 - 2. Initial burst lengths shall be 400 feet (+/-) 50 feet in length for first two bursts to determine soil pipe friction and specific site conditions that may impact bursting lengths. After site specific factors are evaluated, longer burst runs may be performed.
 - 3. All pits shall be shored to ensure worker safety per OSHA or other local regulations.
 - 4. All pits shall be roped off and or covered when not active per OSHA or local regulations to ensure public safety.
 - 5. Traffic control shall be accommodated for by Contractor as per the Contract specifications. Safe traffic passage around pit excavations that are located in or adjacent to streets or highways shall meet Right-of-way Department requirements. Parking of related employee vehicles, trucks and auxiliary and equipment shall be such that congestion and traffic delays are minimized.
 - 6. Utilities intersecting the existing pipe shall be exposed using an excavation technique appropriate for the utility. As a general rule, both horizontal and vertical distance between the pipe to be burst and the existing adjacent pipe should be at least two diameters of the replacement pipe. If adjacent utilities are within this area, or the adjacent utility location is unknown, the excavation (Utility Crossing Pit) shall be excavated prior to commencement of bursting. Worker entry shoring is not required, except as determined by OSHA, however appropriate safety precautions should be made.
- C. Static Pipe Bursting Machine Location and Shoring: Bursting machines of the static pull style require preparation and planning for the machine pit that they are to operate from.
 - 1. Forward face of the machine pit or the surface that the machine bears against while pulling back, shall be shored in a safe manner. This shoring shall maintain perpendicular burst machine alignment to the pipe during pullback. Any loss of perpendicular alignment during pull shall result in stopping of the bursting process and improvement of the forward face shoring.
 - 2. Rearward shoring shall be provided to react rod thrust forces during payout. While these forces are substantially lower than pullback forces, shoring must be used to stabilize the bursting machine so as to maintain perpendicular alignment of the machine during payout. The weight of the



machine cannot be depended on to react thrust forces. Existing pipe at rear face of pit may only be utilized for rearward shoring if scheduled for replacement.

- 3. Pipe face for Cast Iron, Ductile Iron or PVC shall be cut off using a saw or similar device to produce a square face for the bursting machine forward face to bear against. Final separation of cast iron pipe with a wedge may provide a clean face. Existing pipe shall be removed in sufficient length to accommodate pipe burst machine.
- 4. Pipe burst machine must be positioned so as to have rod centerline at approximate centerline of existing pipe.
- 5. Rod box delivery and removal between temporary rod storage location and burst pit must be accommodated for with appropriate lifting equipment and techniques. Additionally, movement and or placement of lifting machine must be included in traffic control plans.
- D. Rod Payout Operation
 - 1. Rod payout is the process of assembling a string of rods and pushing them in a step wise manner from machine pit, through the interior of the existing pipe to insertion pit.
 - 2. Lifting of rod boxes into or out of the machine pit shall be performed per OSHA or other applicable requirements with respect to equipment and method.
 - 3. Threads shall be cleaned of foreign matter before assembly.
 - 4. Counting of rods during payout, or quantity of rods per box shall be monitored such that the equipment operator is aware of the distance between the burst machine and the lead end of the rod string.
 - 5. Thrust force should be monitored by the operator. Should an unexpected sudden and significant increase in thrust force be experienced, the process shall be halted. The operator or Contractor shall review the results with the Owner to remedy in an attempt to determine if offsets, valves or other features or obstruction exist that may cause the rod string to leave the pipe.
 - a. Front end of the rod string should be located by distance from the machine pit. Location should be painted and compared to as built documents.
 - b. Appropriate action should be taken to remedy the cause. This action may include an additional pit at the obstruction to determine the cause, and remove or accommodate for the obstruction. The Contractor shall follow the process provided in the approved Risk Management Plan.
 - 6. Existing pipe in the insertion pit shall be cut or broken prior to arrival of the rod string. Sufficient length shall be removed so as to allow the burst tooling to enter the existing pipe and bend the product within the allowable radius specified by the pipe manufacturer. The second end of the existing pipe in the insertion pit shall be positioned or worked so as not to damage the product pipe as it travels through the insertion pit.

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- 7. Workmen shall not enter the insertion pit when the rod string is nearing the pit. A workman shall be in visual or radio contact with the burst machine operator so as to have the payout halted in a position that allows attachment of the burst tooling. Burst tooling style shall be chosen based on anticipated properties of existing pipe and existing pipe repairs.
 - a. Cast iron or asbestos cement existing pipe anticipated to be free of either ductile repair sections or dressor style couplings may use a simple conical burst head with a single or double longitudinal blade.
 - b. Ductile iron, PVC or existing pipe with ductile iron repair sections or dressor style couplings require use of a rolling blade cutter (slitter) ahead of the conical expander.
- E. Tooling and Attachment
 - 1. The new polyethylene pipe shall be moved into position for attachment to the rod string. Appropriate traffic or pedestrian control will be exercised along the path of the polyethylene pipe.
 - 2. The lead and second rod shall be painted orange or yellow so as to give notice to the burst machine operator position of the burst tooling.
 - 3. Attachment of the burst tooling to the rod shall be through the use of removable pin joint allowing the tooling to pivot to the rod axis.
 - 4. Burst head diameter will be on average 15% over size to the outside diameter of the new polyethylene pipe. Actual size is left to the discretion of the Contractor. A greater outside diameter allows for reduced pipe friction but increases bursting forces with increased soil displacement.
 - 5. Attachment of the polyethylene pipe to the burst tooling shall be with a swivel that permits rotation to relieve torsional (twist) stress on the polyethylene pipe.
 - 6. Burst head shall slide on the rod string such that the rear of the burst head overlaps the forward end of the polyethylene pipe to eliminate the chance of damage to the polyethylene pipe.
- F. Pullback Operation
 - 1. The burst machine operator will begin the pullback with the approval of the insertion pit observer. Progress will be made at a slow rate until the observer sees the burst tooling has completely entered the existing pipe.
 - 2. As the burst tooling nears any utility crossing pit, an observer in radio or visual contact with the burst machine operator will monitor and control movement of the burst tooling past the utility.
 - 3. Should the forward shoring upon which the bursting machine bears yield sufficiently to bring the bursting machine out of square to the existing pipe, the shoring will be reworked.
- G. Tooling Removal



- 1. Burst machine operator shall note rod count and anticipate entry of painted rods into the burst pit. As the pin joint connection nears the burst machine forward face, the burst is to be halted. Load on the forward face is relieved by reversing the rod direction slightly.
- 2. The burst machine shore plate is to be removed, allowing the tooling to enter a cage or the hull of the burst machine. The tooling string will be disassembled and removed, in sections if necessary until the product pipe face has been pulled beyond the face of the machine pit. The distance past the face of the machine pit shall be at the discretion of the Contractor anticipating the length required for connection/fusing.
- H. Pneumatic Pipe Bursting Equipment Setup: Bursting machines of the pneumatic pull style require preparation and planning for the machine pit that they are to operate from.
 - 1. If the pipe bursting equipment is to be inserted into a manhole, the Contractor shall remove all concrete and existing pipe necessary to allow for the bursting head and replacement pipe to enter the manhole without disruption.
 - 2. If the pipe bursting equipment is to be aligned outside of a manhole, the Contractor shall provide suitable supports to the excavation to withstand the force require during the pipe bursting process.
- I. Pipe Relaxation
 - 1. After the pipe has been installed, allow the pipe to relax for the manufacturer's recommended relaxation time period, but not less than four (4) hours, for cooling and relaxation due to tensile stressing during the pipe bursting project. The pipe shall be allowed to relax prior to reconnecting to laterals, manholes, service lines, sealing of the annulus or backfilling of the excavations.
 - 2. Sufficient excess length of the pipe, but not less than six inches, shall be allowed to protrude into the manhole to provide for relaxation.

4.07 **Pipe Bursting Sewer Laterals**

- A. Contractor shall verify all sewer lateral connections as indicated in these specifications above. Service laterals shall be disconnected from the sewer main prior to pipe bursting to minimize damage to the existing lateral.
- B. If a sewer lateral is to be replaced through lateral pipe bursting, the lateral pipe bursting shall occur after the mainline is burst or replaced by open cut construction.



4.08 Reinstating Service Connections

Upon completion of the pipe bursting, certain tasks must be followed through in order to complete the overall process.

- A. Maintaining sanitary conditions within the product pipe after pipe bursting must take high priority. Should any foreign matter, including ground water be allowed to enter the pipe interior, the condition of the pipe is no longer suitable for connection to the system. For this reason connections may not be made in standing water. Such water must be pumped or bailed prior to making the connection or unsealing the pipe. Areas under connections should be excavated below the pipe invert.
- B. Before joining a surface and before any special surface preparation to accommodate that joining, external surfaces should be clean and dry. Dust may be removed by wiping with clean, lint free cloth. Heavier deposits must be washed from the surface with soap and water and dried with a clean, lint free cloth.
- C. Service reconnections shall be of a type approved by the Owner and Construction Inspector. All service reconnections shall be made following manufacturer's recommendations and dry conditions for all fusion of HDPE. Mechanical service connections shall follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

4.09 Restoration

After completion of the pipe bursting operation work areas, staging and storage areas are to be restored to equal or better condition than pre-construction condition.

4.010 Post CCTV Inspection of Sewer Lines

E. The Contractor shall perform a post CCTV inspection after installation the replacement pipe and connection to all services and manholes. The Contractor shall submit the CCTV inspection video to the Owner or Construction Inspector for approval and final acceptance of the pipe.

END OF SECTION