

LEAD SERVICE LINE REQUIREMENTS

Summary

The State of Michigan's 2018 revisions the lead and copper provisions of the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended (Act 399), resulted in several new requirements for water supplies with lead service lines or galvanized service lines previously connected to lead (GPCL). The requirements are summarized below.

Definitions

"Lead service line" means either a service line which is made of lead or any lead pigtail, lead gooseneck, or other lead fitting that is connected to the service line, or both.

"Service line" means the pipe from the discharge of the corporation fitting to customer site piping or to the building plumbing at the first shut-off valve inside the building, or 18 inches inside the building, whichever is shorter.

Compliance Sampling Site Selection

Lead and copper tap sampling site selection criteria were revised to focus on sites with lead service lines or interior lead pipes, as these sites represent higher health risk. Water supplies with lead service lines must maintain, and sample in accordance with, a sampling plan (pool of sampling sites) containing sites served by lead service lines.

Compliance Sampling Methodology

Following the 2018 revisions of Act 399, all compliance sampling locations served by a lead service line must be sampled in accordance with a first- and fifth-liter sampling methodology. The 90th percentile value is calculated using the highest lead result and the highest copper result from each sampling site.

Service Line Materials Identification

Water supplies are required to identify the materials of all service lines in the distribution system. The rule takes a phased approach to the identification of service line materials.

Preliminary Inventory:

By January 1, 2020, water supplies were required to submit to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) a Preliminary Distribution System Materials Inventory (PDSMI). The PDSMI summarized service line materials by material category, based on information available to the water supply at the time of submittal.

Complete Inventory:

By October 16, 2024, water supplies must have a distribution system materials inventory that includes service line materials and verification methodology for all services lines in the distribution system, including both public and privately owned portions of the service line. Supplies are required to submit the Complete Distribution System Materials Inventory (CDSMI) to EGLE in a form and manner specified by the Department.

Inventory Updates:

Water supplies must maintain their inventory and submit an updated materials inventory to the Department every five years.

Service Line Materials Notification

Owner/Occupant Notification:

Water supplies are required to notify the owner and occupant of premises served by a lead or GPCL service line. Additionally, any new account opened at a location known or presumed to be served by a lead or GPCL service line must also be notified. The notification must be made within 30 days of determining the service line contains, or is presumed to contain, lead or GPCL.

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR):

Water supplies with lead service lines or service lines of unknown material must include the following in their CCR: The number of lead service lines, the number of service lines of unknown material, and the total number of service lines in the supply.

Website or Upon Request:

The information provided in the CCR must also be made available on the water supply's website or upon request if the supply does not have a website.

Service Line Replacement Requirements

Replacement Rate:

Beginning January 1, 2021 (one year after the PDSMI due date), all community water supplies with lead or GPCL service lines, must replace those service lines at a rate averaging 5% per year not to exceed 20 years. Lead and GPCL service line materials must be replaced at water supply's expense.

NOTE: If a supply with optimal corrosion control treatment exceeds the lead action level, the replacement rate increases to 7% per year until two 6-months rounds of compliance sampling demonstrate a 90th percentile below the lead action level.

Annual Reporting:

Supplies subject to this requirement must report annually the number of lead/GPCL service lines replaced and the number of emergency repairs (partial lead service line replacements) that were conducted.

Partial Service Line Replacements Prohibited:

Partial lead or GPCL service line replacements are PROHIBITED except in the event of an emergency repair. If an emergency repair is necessary, additional notification, sampling, and reporting requirements apply.

Note Potential Sampling Plan Impacts:

Replacing service lines may impact a water supply's sampling plan (see Compliance Sampling Site Selection). Supplies should reassess the tier of compliance sampling sites after service line replacement and update their sampling plan accordingly. Supplies should contact EGLE Lead and Copper Unit staff if they have questions.

Asset Management Planning Criticality Factors

Community water supplies serving more than 1,000 people must implement an asset management program. The plan must include a summary of methods used to assess criticality of assets. By January 1, 2021 (one year after the PDSMI due date), the presence of lead service lines must be included as a factor for prioritizing asset criticality in the asset management program.

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