

## **A G E N D A**

### **NYC DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS**

- 1. Office of Technical Certification and Research (OTCR) mechanical joint pipe coupling application discussion and feedback**

*Draft Bulletin language shared with Industry for additional input.*

- 2. Follow up Items on January 27, 2021 Meeting**

- A. Fire Pump Testing (MCA)

The general procedure for pump acceptance testing in relation to standpipe flow testing needs to be clarified. Currently both of these tests are combined and really are more of a standpipe flow test than a pump acceptance test. Could we resurrect the bulletin that was supposed to go out a few years back?

***DOB is looking to get greater clarity on requirements and field guidance; draft language was circulated for comments.***

- B. Special Inspector Issues (MCA)

Although Fire Suppression Contractors are allowed to be independent 3rd party Inspectors, I am being told that DOB Now will not accept a LMFSC to sign up for special inspector responsibilities and is only accepting a PE

***This issue has been resolved.***

- 3. (MPC) Permits are issued with an expiration date that is the next possible expiration date of their insurance or license. The expiration date will automatically be updated after the licensee renews their insurance or license. If the appointment would occur after a **possible** expiration date, Development is declining to grant an Actual Inspection. Advanced Notice Inspections can be successfully submitted and conducted. **Why should an inspection be denied on the possibility that an event can occur?****

***DOB will pursue automatically extending the permit when the insurance is updated.***

- 4. (MPC) The inability for registered design professionals to file PAA's or make changes to plans.** Design professionals cannot change information in the Record and complete the PAA. In some cases, the Boiler Unit is requiring another filing.

***DOB is addressing the issue.***

- 5. (MPC) Their filings are not complete due to the lack of Schedule C or Schedule B. In BIS, the Schedule B & Schedule C had mandatory boxes that had to be completed by the registered design professional. In *Build*, there are **pages** that are similar to both of these documents.**

However, the completion of these boxes is not mandatory. In addition, not all of the **boxes** carried over into Build. As an example:

- Design professional fails to include all required gas information in the application.
- Design professional does not find the appropriate **box** to check off the specific gas usage.
- Inspector requests PAA to make a change to the record

***Updates to Schedule B and Schedule C are forthcoming.***

## ARCHITECT'S COUNCIL OF NEW YORK

### 1. What are the current requirements for a gas rough piping inspection? In particular regarding the two below scenarios:

- A. For a **legalization** filing involving some modification of existing gas piping. It was our understanding that recording of only a gas test & gas finish, witnessed by a DOB Plumbing Inspector, was required to close-out a **legalization** application. The plumber was permitted by the Department to determine the Code compliance of the rough piping (including concealed piping) in whatever manner they determined appropriate and was attesting to such responsibility by filing the application. Effectively the plumber was self-certifying the roughing. We were recently advised that a **rough** gas piping inspection by a DOB inspector was also required for a **legalization** and that all new gas piping being **legalized**, as well as any points where branch piping was removed, must be exposed at the time of inspection.

***Legalization of any gas/appliances requires all gas inspections.***

- B. For a standard "rough" gas piping inspection. Similarly, it was our understanding that a **rough** gas piping inspection could be self-certified by the plumber, but the gas test needed to be witnessed by a DOB Plumbing inspector. We were recently advised that the **rough** gas piping inspection must be made by a DOB inspector and all new gas piping, as well as any points where branch piping was removed, must be exposed at the time of inspection.

***There is no change, the plumber has the option to self-certify gas rough. The only time it would require a physical inspection is if the plumber fails a spot check. Piping must be exposed.***

### 2. Clarify the current requirements for all gas piping test/inspections, including what necessary for **cap and remove** of some or all of the gas appliances on a dedicated apartment meter.

Inspection reports do not have any detailed information about inspection failures. Specific information is only viewable in the comments section. For transparency and documentation purposes, more information should be included on the reports.

***If removing any gas appliance on a dedicated apartment meter, the piping and tee must be removed and all gas inspections would be required along with cap/remove.***

## MASTER PLUMBERS COUNCIL

### 1. Development

- A. Are there any circumstances under which a licensed Master Plumber would be required to operate an appliance during a gas finish inspection?

*Example: Direct replacement of an existing appliance.*

***Development Inspections do not require operation of the appliances.***

- B. Gas Work Qualification Cards

- What is the protocol for a gas test or gas inspection?

***The person holding the qualification card must be physically present and show the card to the Inspector upon request.***

- Is it permissible for the gas work qualified individual to have a copy of the card or a picture of it in their phone?

***No.***

- C. Discussion of the March 3, 2021 [Service Notice regarding minor plan changes](#)

- How does this apply to continuation of work on a job?

***Beginning Monday, March 15, 2021, all minor plan changes for jobs after approval will require submission as a Post Approval Amendment.***

- *BIS Jobs – An AI1 form for minor plan changes cannot be submitted in eFiling for jobs after approval unless it is submitted as a Post Approval Amendment (PAA).*
- *For professional certification jobs, upload a completed PW1 form that indicates Okay for Approval in eFiling and select Approval for PAA. For resubmission of a standard plan review job, submit in eFiling as Minor Plan Change/PAA.*
- *DOB NOW Jobs – As of Monday, March 15, 2021, an AI1 for minor plan changes cannot be submitted to the [DOB Help Form](#) for jobs after approval. Submit a Post Approval Amendment (PAA) in DOB NOW.*

### 2. Boiler Unit

Discussion of ECB violations issued for failure of a single initial boiler inspection

***DOB will schedule a separate meeting to address industry questions with regard to boiler violations and inspections.***

### 3. LAA Unit/Development

End uses for gas on LAA applications

**Issue:** There is a requirement to list a tank less coil as end use. However, a tank less coil is standalone appliance. A boiler with a domestic water coil installed is considered a combination unit and provides both heat and hot water. How should this be classified?

***The three types that can be captured as ‘Other’ for gas usage would be classified as a tankless water heater, a boiler coil/boiler with domestic coil or a hot water storage tank.***

**Register/Replace:**

- We would like to discuss this term and its required use.
- Can you please let us know the required inspections when this term is used on a permit application?
- Should this be codified into the Existing Building Code?

***Industry suggestions will be submitted for DOB review and consideration.***

**4. IT Unit/LAA Unit**

- DOB Service Notice regarding [eFiling Authentication Forms & LAA’s](#)
- Can you please explain the flow process?
- The timeframe for reviewing and processing the forms is lengthy. Is there a provision for emergencies?

***Noting ‘Emergency’ on the ‘email subject line’ will accelerate the process for inquiries submitted directly to the LAA unit emails. The inquiries submitted to the [Help Form](#) must be directed LAA.***

***LAA General Inquiries and Technical Issues Module – DOB NOW: Build Project/Filing Type – LAA Question Category – General, Assistance Completing a Filing or Technical Issues***

- Members are having issues opening EWN information in the public domain. Adding Ordinary Plumbing work to DOB NOW: *Build*.
- DOB will consider adding Ordinary Plumbing Work can be added to DOB NOW: *Build*.

***The EWP selection can be utilized when a Work Without Permit Violation is issued, specifically for Emergency Work that is being performed prior to permit. However, all previously issued WWOP Violations and civil penalty fees would be still applicable.***

5. Would it be possible to modify the LAA applications to remove the requirement to use verbiage in the general information section?

***Verbiage suggestions can be submitted to DOB for consideration***

**MASTER PLUMBERS COUNCIL**

**1. Tentative DOB NOW Issues**

- A. When a contractor starts to pull an SP permit if the TR1 has not been filed, the contractor will be unable to pull the permit, however a **filing** is created, therefore once the TR1 has

been filed, a new **filing** is created and now the contractor must sign off two filings or try to withdraw the first one?

***This issue has been resolved.***

- B. Is there a way to update the tracking # so that a contractor never has to inspect two permits for the same thing?

***The secondary permit will eventually be phased out. The current practice should be followed until further notice.***

- C. When a contractor needs to amend a filing, only the new information for the new filing appears? Does the old information **disappear**?

The original filing will be listed as I1

- An amendment will be listed as P1, any additional amendments will be P2, P3 and so on.
- When an amendment is filed the drawings filed at time of original filing are replaced with only the drawings that are amended.
- Q-When a PAA is filed and approved the original PW1 is replaced with the amendment

***Examples are to be shared with DOB for additional review.***

- D. FS contractors can accidentally pull another licensee's permit – how do you rectify the situation?

***This is a training issue. The contractor must be educated on permits types that are required in order to perform a particular job.***

2. AHV Unit responsiveness continues to be an issue. Once again, we respectfully request that there be an expedited process for the subcontractors if a GC has an approved AHV.

***There is no need for an expedited process for subcontractor AHVs when the general contractor has an AHV.***

## **THE PLUMBING FOUNDATION**

A member of the industry submitted a question with regards to the LL152 letter mailing and who was the letter sent to. The Industry Member himself is away until 2022.

***DOB mailed letters to owners of buildings that are required to perform inspections of their exposed gas piping as required by Local Law 152.***

## **MG ENGINEERING**

1. Access for gas appliance valves, specifically for ranges, cooktops and dryers.

***Information on specific violation numbers is to be submitted to DOB for additional review.***

2. Request for a certified letter in order to obtain underground plumbing sign off.

***Information on specific job number is to be submitted to DOB for additional review.***