CITY OF CHICAGO
RULES

DEMOLITION BY IMPLOSION

Andrea R.H. Cheng, Ph.D., P.E.
Acting Commissioner
BY AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONER OF WATER MANAGEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 2-106-040 AND 2-30-030 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF CHICAGO, THE FOLLOWING RULES REGARDING DEMOLITION BY IMPOSITION ARE ADOPTED HEREIN.

By Order of the Commissioner:

Signed: Andrea R.H. Cheng Date: 4/6/21

Andrea R.H. Cheng, Ph.D., P.E.
Acting Commissioner
Department of Water Management

Department of Water Management

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RULES REGARDING DEMOLITIONS BY IMPLOSION

ARTICLE I – DEFINITIONS

Rule No. 1. For purposes of these rules, the following definitions shall apply:


“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Water Management or his or her designee.

“Department” means the Department of Water Management.

“EFP” means Existing Facility Protection.

“OUC” means the Office of Underground Coordination.

“Owner” has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 14A-2-202 of the Municipal Code.

“ROW” means Right-of-Way.

ARTICLE II – PREREQUISITE TO ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR DEMOLITION BY IMPLOSION

Rule No. 2.1 All demolition by implosion plans, regardless of on private or public property, must be submitted to the Department for review, analysis, and approval.

Rule No. 2.2 All applications demolition by implosion projects shall be submitted to the OUC for EFP review. Additional Department requirements will be dependent upon the Department’s OUC-EFP review.

ARTICLE III – WATER FACILITY PREREQUISITES FOR PERMIT APPLICATION FOR DEMOLITION BY IMPLOSION

Rule No. 3.1 The Department shall require before and after demolition water facility leak surveys to be completed by the Department at the owner’s sole cost and expense. The owner shall be responsible, at its sole cost and expense, for all leaks and breaks that happen in connection to the demolition by implosion.

Rule No. 3.2 The owner shall be solely responsible for all costs and expenses for the termination of services at all water main(s) that happen because of the demolition by implosion prior to or after such demolition.

Rule No. 3.3 The Department shall require monitoring, including vibration monitoring, of the proposed demolition by implosion site and surrounding adjacent areas that is located within a 600-foot radius of any water facility as determined through an OUC review.

Rule No. 4.1 Sewers within one block of the proposed demolition by implosion site or anticipated plume must:
(a) Be televised for condition before and after implosion. The owner, at its sole cost and expense, shall be responsible for any damage to any City infrastructure attributed to blasting operations; and

(b) Have perforated lids covered with filter fabric to prevent dust and debris from entering the City’s sewer system.

Rule No. 4.2 Before any demolition by implosion operations are undertaken, the owners shall be responsible to cap or plug and cover with mortar or concrete all on-site private drains at the ROW line or, if applicable, private sewer main. The terminated sewer drains must be inspected by the Department prior to back-fill in accordance with sewer seal permit.

Rule No. 4.3 The owner shall provide and implement a plan for monitoring and recording ground vibration using seismic and other types of monitoring equipment.

ARTICLE V – RIGHT TO SUSPEND OR REVOKE DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

Rule No. 5 The Commissioner reserves the right to suspend or revoke the Department’s approval of the issuance of a demolition by implosion permit for a violation of any provision of the Code, including Chapter 2-30, or these rules or any Rules promulgated thereunder, including non-compliance with any community notification requirements imposed by the Office of Emergency Management and Communications.

ARTICLE VI – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Rule No. 6 Pursuant to Chapter 2-30 of the Code, the Commissioner is authorized to establish the Rules set forth herein, or any amendments thereto.

Rule No. 7 Nothing in these Rules is intended to limit the powers or authority of the City of Chicago, the Department, or the powers or authority of any other City agency; nor are these Rules intended to relieve any person or entity from full compliance with any other provisions of the Code, rules promulgated thereunder by any other City Department, or any other applicable law.

Rule No. 8 The Commissioner reserves the right to set additional requirements and make modifications to these Rules as necessary to protect the City’s water and sewer infrastructure facilities.

Rule No. 9 The Commissioner, in his or her sole discretion, reserves the right to reject any demolition by implosion plan or application for demolition by implosion.

Rule No. 10 Penalties for violations of these rules shall be as provided in the Code.

Rule No. 11. The Commissioner reserves the right to suspend, repeal or amend these Rules at any time in accordance with law.

Rule No. 12. The provisions of these Rules are severable. If any part of these Rules, in whole or in part, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part or parts which remains.
Rule No. 13. Any application, plan, and documentation required to be submitted to the Department under any provision of these Rules shall be complied by submitting such application, plan or documentation to the Office of Emergency Management and Communications.