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buildingfeedback@mbie.govt.nz

Submission by Water New Zealand to Consultation: Amending Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods 2016

1. Water New Zealand (“Water New Zealand”) appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission on the above consultation document.
2. Water New Zealand is a national not-for-profit organisation which promotes the sustainable management and development of New Zealand’s three waters (freshwater, wastewater and storm water). Water New Zealand is the country's largest water industry body, providing leadership and support in the water sector through advocacy, collaboration and professional development. Its 1,500 members are drawn from all areas of the water management industry including regional councils and territorial authorities, consultants, suppliers, government agencies, academia and scientists.
3. Although primarily focused on ‘building’ development, in the absence of any national legal document that covers the general requirements of infrastructure construction, people start gradually relying of the provisions of the building code for compliance. Storm water lines in building sites are also still required to comply with Building Code.
4. The current verification methods under E1 (Page 29 - Verification Method E1/VM1; Paragraph 8 Drain Leakage Tests) only provide for Water tests, Low and High Pressure air tests. Although these provide a good means for determining the how well the pipe is sealed, these methods do not provide a complete assessment of compliance.
5. Although it is not part of the consultation on which you are seeking comment, we would like to suggest an amendment to the above verification method. Paragraph 8 Drainage Leak Tests should include “CCTV inspection conducted as per the New Zealand Pipe Inspection Manual & assessed by an experienced professional” as a testing method. The title of paragraph 8 should also be changed to “Drainage Tests” removing the term “Leakage” to reflect the increased assessment scope.
6. I attach a link to the referenced document on our website. Please note this manual is currently in the process of being updated.
http://www.waternz.org.nz/Article?Action=View&Article_id=46

J Pfahlert
CEO