

1.0 Purpose and Need

The Capacity Assurance and Connection Policy supports the sizing and planning of the regional interceptor system and establishes the process for connecting to the regional interceptor system.

2.0 Definitions

Collection System. A network of pipes, manholes, and pumping stations to convey sewage from individual properties to the regional interceptor system. Sewer service laterals on private property are not included.

Flow Acceptance. The process for reviewing and approving proposed connections, or modifications to existing connections, to the sanitary sewer system.

HRSD Service Area. The area of sewer service that is defined through coordination with the localities that HRSD serves. The existing Service Area boundaries can be found on the HRSD website.

HRSD Territory. All territory lying within the boundaries of the counties and cities included in the District, including all territory lying within the boundaries of any town in a county unless otherwise specified.

Metro Area. Area encompassing the following localities: Cities of Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Portsmouth, Hampton, Newport News, and Williamsburg; the Counties of Isle of Wight, Gloucester, and James City; and the Town of Smithfield.

Localities. Cities, Counties, and Towns within the HRSD Service Area.

Regional Interceptor System. A network of gravity and/or force main pipes owned and operated by HRSD which convey sanitary sewer flow received from locality or HRSD pump stations to the HRSD treatment works.

Regional Treatment Works. Wastewater treatment facilities, with physical, chemical, and biological processes to treat sewage and discharge treated water, which are owned and operated by HRSD.

Sanitary Sewer System. The collection system, the regional interceptor system and the associated treatment works. Sewer service laterals on private property are not included.

Small Communities. Localities including but not limited to: the Counties of King William, King and Queen, Middlesex, Surry, and Mathews; the Towns located within these Counties; and the Lawnes Point development.

Terminal Pump Station. Any pump station that connects to; (1) the regional interceptor system or; (2) to a collection system force main that ties into the regional interceptor system.

3.0 Guiding Principles

HRSD is responsible for ensuring there is adequate capacity in the regional interceptor system and treatment works to support current and future development activity within the HRSD Service Area. HRSD is also responsible for protecting infrastructure and treatment processes from non-domestic wastewaters.

Local governments are responsible for defining sewer collection service areas within their communities and for constructing collection systems to convey sanitary waste from individual properties to the HRSD regional interceptor system. Direct and effective communication and collaboration with the localities regarding development planning, land use, population estimates and other factors that have the potential to impact the regional wastewater infrastructure is required for HRSD to plan the regional interceptor and treatment systems.

In order to ensure adequate capacity, HRSD tracks new connections to the sanitary sewer system via the Flow Acceptance process. The tracking of connections enables HRSD to anticipate and plan for future capacity upgrades.

HRSD force mains are typically sized to accommodate a minimum velocity of 2 feet per second for an average peak hour dry weather flow and to accommodate a maximum peak hour velocity of 8 feet per second.

4.0 Procedures

4.1 Capacity Review

New sanitary sewer service requests shall be submitted through HRSD's Development Services Review Process. A Flow Acceptance Letter and HRSD plan approval are required for:

- A. Projects, regardless of size, that include a direct connection to the HRSD interceptor system via an existing valve, a new tap, new sewer service line, or through a gravity manhole.

- B. Projects that include a direct connection to a locality force main that is connected to an HRSD interceptor.
- C. Projects requiring regulatory approval (as defined in Commonwealth of Virginia Sewage Collection and Treatment Regulations).
- D. Connections within the Small Communities service areas, regardless of size and without exception, including single family residential homes.

HRSD capacity will be determined by average and peak hour flows as calculated in accordance with the HRSD Regional Sewage Flow Projection Data table.

Projects requiring HRSD facility expansion will be conditionally accepted until HRSD facility expansion is completed. Facility expansion requires a minimum of two-year notice prior to the projected need for service.

4.2 Connections to the Regional Interceptor System

Requests for connections to the HRSD system shall be made with adequate detail for HRSD evaluation and approval. At a minimum, requests must include a signed Flow Acceptance Certificate Request Form from the locality, plans and detailed drawings, the Industrial Waste Permit (if applicable) and other information in accordance with HRSD's current procedures.

Connections to the HRSD interceptor/collection system must be inspected and approved by HRSD prior to being placed in service.

4.2.1 Terminal Pump Station Connections

Any new pump station connecting to the HRSD interceptor system must be sized to accommodate both the dry weather and peak flow as defined in the HRSD Regional Sewage Flow Projection Data table. Pump station upgrades or replacements shall use the existing flows and system hydrology for sizing.

HRSD shall provide the associated pressure range for all direct connections to the interceptor force main system per the Hydraulic Grade Line (HGL) – System Operating Pressure Policy.

Connections shall typically only be approved at existing branch locations that were planned for and provided during construction of the interceptor line. New taps shall only be considered when existing conditions make it impractical to use an existing tap.

The Locality shall own an isolation valve immediately upstream of the dedicated HRSD valve at all pressure pipe connections.

4.2.2 Connections to HRSD Gravity Line

Gravity line connections shall only be permitted at existing manholes for non-Small Communities projects. Connections by constructing new manholes on the gravity line at locations other than existing manholes will be considered upon review of the submitted plans. At no time shall connections to existing pump station wet wells be permitted.

4.2.3 Individual Connections to HRSD Force Main

New connections to an HRSD force main for service to a single residential unit or a single commercial parcel will typically not be permitted. However, in the Small Communities service area, single connections may be allowed per the HRSD Sanitary Sewer Guidelines. Requests for connections shall be submitted to HRSD for evaluation in consultation with the Locality.

4.3 Connections to the Locality System

In the Metro Area, a flow acceptance request by the Locality is not required when the project average daily flow (ADF) is less than 40,000 gallons per day, it is a gravity connection to an existing Locality sanitary sewer collection system, and it is domestic wastewater.

4.4 Service Area Expansion

Localities expanding sewer service areas beyond the existing HRSD Service Area shall submit a Service Area Expansion Request per the HRSD Service Area Expansion Policy.

COMMISSION ADOPTED POLICY
Capacity Assurance and Connection



Adopted: September 30, 2019

Revised: N/A

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5.0 Responsibility and Authority

The Planning and Analysis Division of the Engineering Department shall review and approve all connection requests. Approval will not be unreasonably withheld. Appeal of denied connection requests shall be through the General Manager with final decision authority at the Commission.

The Planning and Analysis Division of the Engineering Department shall be responsible for regular reviews and recommended updates to this policy.

Approved:


Frederick N. Elofson, CPA
Commission Chair


Date *19* 

Attest:


Jennifer L. Cascio
Commission Secretary


Date