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**Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth
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The Installation of Water Meters in Manufactured Communities

“Providing for Michigan’s Safety in the Built Environment”

Technical bulletins are issued to provide clarification on issues that arise regarding code administration and enforcement. The information provided in the bulletin is developed to promote uniform interpretation and enforcement of the state codes.

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THE INSTALLATION OF WATER METERS IN MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITIES

Issue

Criteria governing the installation of water meters to individual existing manufactured homes in a licensed manufactured home community.

This technical bulletin will outline the permit, code, materials, and methods of construction for these installations.

Permit

Plumbing permits are required for the initial connection of manufactured homes in a licensed manufactured home community.

The Stille-ReRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, 1972, PA 230, section 10 (6) states:

This section shall be construed to allow the imposition of requirements in the code, or in other laws or ordinances, for additional permits for particular kinds of work, including plumbing and electrical, or in other specified situations.

Plumbing contractors, licensed under the Michigan Plumbing Law, Act 733, PA 2002, shall obtain permits as directed in the Michigan Plumbing Code, section 106.4, Rule 792.

The Plan Review Division maintains responsibility for the approval of manufactured home community construction under the Mobile Home Commission Act 96, PA 1987. The act provides for the approval of initial construction and renovations of manufactured home communities and further defines that a manufactured housing dealer and installer/repairer may perform certain functions in section 25 (3).

Code, Materials, and Methods of Construction

The Michigan Residential Code, section AE 101.1 General, clarifies that the Michigan Plumbing Code shall apply to the unit installed on a privately owned (non-rental) lot.

The Michigan Plumbing Code outlines the type of material and methods of installation throughout the document. Attention must be paid to the full open valves on each side of the meter and the backflow protection requirements. Hose connections not having acceptable materials and proper vacuum breaker protection are prohibited and must be corrected.

Discussion

The State Construction Code allows local units of government, having authority, to conduct the inspections.

Consideration of permit costs is based on the ability to conduct numerous inspections in a close proximity similar to original underground park construction. It is intended that one base fee with a small unit park site fee, similar to individual fixtures, be assessed. Additional inspection visits would be assessed additional inspection fees.

Conclusion

A licensed plumber or a manufactured home installer/repairer may complete the installation of water meters to an existing manufactured home in a licensed manufactured home community. A permit must be secured by the party performing the work and inspections conducted to determine compliance with the applicable code provisions. Changes to existing piping, not conforming to proper backflow protection, will be made to address proper health concerns.

Questions regarding this technical bulletin may be directed to the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth, Bureau of Construction Codes, Plumbing Division, P.O. Box 30254, Lansing, Michigan 48909, or by calling 517-241-9330.