

**OUTSIDE PLANT
PERMITS FOR OPENING MANHOLES IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

1. GENERAL

1.01 This section is issued to acquaint Plant forces with the rules for opening manholes in the City of Los Angeles.

1.02 It replaces P.I. 381.01.

1.03 In the City of Los Angeles, Ordinance No. 77,000 regulates the opening of manholes. The ordinance requires that the person opening a manhole have in his possession a permit to do so. The only exception to this ordinance is in the case of a bonafide emergency.

2. ORDINANCE DEFINITIONS

2.01 Manhole, as defined in Section 62.40, shall mean any subsurface structure which is part of any underground system and which has a subsurface cover with an exposed area of 1 1/2 square feet or more.

2.02 Red Flag, as defined in Section 62.43, shall mean a flag made of bright red cloth or other flexible material with an area of at least 1 1/2 square feet of which one dimension must be at least 12 inches.

3. ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS

3.01 The intent of the ordinance is that certain minimum safety precautions must be taken. These may be summarized as follows: however, bear in mind that these are minimum requirements.

3.02 Any person opening a manhole must have a permit to do so, except in case of emergency. This permit must be kept at the open manhole as long as it is open.

3.03 Yearly permits and copies of these permits are obtained from the Board of Public Works.

3.04 Open manholes shall be protected as follows:

(a) During the day, a manhole shall have a manhole guard and at least two red flags. Each red flag shall be at least 1 1/2 square feet in size. These minimum requirements shall be augmented by other warning devices as prescribed in other Bell System Practices.

(b) At night, a manhole shall have a manhole guard and at least two warning lights. These minimum requirements shall be augmented by other warning devices as prescribed in other Bell System Practices.

4. OBTAINING PERMITS

4.01 The Area Construction Staffs will arrange for the annual Area permit for opening manholes in the City of Los Angeles and for sufficient copies of the permit to provide for adequate distribution. Every employee who is required to open manholes in the City of Los Angeles should be provided a wallet size copy of the Area permit and should keep the permit with him.

4.02 Additional wallet size copies of the permit may be obtained from your Construction Staff.