



Hamilton

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Mr. Michael J. Thomas
Head, Ops Administration
Ontario Ministry of Transportation
Ontario Provincial Standards Unit
2nd Floor, Garden City Tower
301 St. Paul Street
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7R4

RE: Revision to OPSS 409

Dear Mr. Thomas:

OPSS 409 has and continues to play a key role in the management of the City of Hamilton's sewer infrastructure, forming the basis for the specifications under several City inspection and rehabilitation contracts.

The City has invested millions of dollars in the collection of sewer condition surveys over the past 8 years, mainly through CCTV inspections. To-date we have inspected over 750 km of pipe using the WRc 3rd edition coding practice and NAAPI certified operators. All of the coding data from these inspections are loaded and stored in the City's CMMS (Computer Maintenance Management System) and used to make decisions with respect to system rehabilitation, replacement and long term financial planning.

We are aware of the release of the 4th edition, however based on a detailed review of the 4th edition, we have chosen to continue to utilize the 3rd edition. Based on discussions with many of our peers in Ontario and across the country, we understand that others are coming to the same conclusion.

As you maybe aware there is a movement within Canada to establish a new association, SPIMA (Sewer Pipe Inspection & Management Association) to replace NAAPI. The City of Hamilton is an active supporter of the SPIMA initiative aimed at re-establishing a Canadian standard of practice by the fall of 2009.

Given the closure of NAAPI, our continued use of the WRc 3rd edition coding practice and the SPIMA initiative, we would request the following changes (highlighted in blue) be made to OPSS 409.

409.04 SUBMISSION AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

The following information shall be submitted to the Contract Administrator two weeks prior to the start of the CCTV inspection operations:

- a) A copy of the CCTV operator's NAAPI Certification Certificate. A copy of said certificate is required for each operator working on the Contract. Operators shall have been certified or re-certified within the **previous five years**.

409.02 REFERENCES

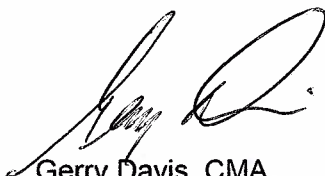
This specification refers to the following standards, specifications, or publications:

Water Research Centre (WRc) Publication
MSCC - Manual of Sewer Condition Classification, Third Edition, 1993

I trust and hope that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation will consider these proposed changes, and that it will seek out all the necessary partners to continue the development of sewer inspection standards and the associated practices training and certification practices.

Should you require further information, please contact Kevin Bainbridge, Senior Project Manager, Infrastructure Programming at 905-546-2424, ext. 5677 or by e-mail at Kevin.Bainbridge@hamilton.ca.

Sincerely,



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Copy to:
Gary Moore, Director Engineering Services
Kevin Bainbridge, Senior Project Manager, Infrastructure Programming