

**Title 15 of the Rules of the City of New York Chapter 31
Rule Governing House/Site Connections to the Sewer System**

§31-08 Repair Order.

(a) General Requirements.

- (1) When a sewer house connection, private pumping station, private sanitary ejector, private sanitary force main house connection, or a private force main is found to be leaking, inoperative or defective at a particular premises, the DEP shall issue a repair order to the Owner of such premises. The repair order shall instruct the Owner to make all necessary repairs and otherwise comply with the requirements of such order within 30 days of the date of issuance of such order, except when the DEP determines that there is an immediate danger to public health, property or to the environment, in which case such order may provide that repairs shall be made immediately upon issuance of such order. For purposes of this section, "ejector" shall mean a mechanical device used to pump or eject sewage.
- (2) If the Owner has not complied with the repair order in the period allowed, the DEP shall shut off the water service tap/wet connection of the premises. All repair work concerning a sewer connection shall be performed by a Licensed Master Plumber, as provided herein.
- (3) If an Owner believes that a repair order has been issued in error or that exigent circumstances exist such that shutting off the tap/wet connection of the premises would result in extreme hardship, the Owner may apply by letter to the Commissioner who shall make a final determination as to whether the repair order was issued in error or whether exigent circumstances exist warranting an abeyance of issuance of the repair order.
- (4) A Licensed Master Plumber shall obtain a sewer connection repair permit prior to performing work pursuant to a repair order on a sewer connection or in compliance with sections 31-04(a)(4) and 31-08(a) of this Rule. Upon completion of all necessary repairs by the Licensed Master Plumber and approval by the DEP, a Licensed Master Plumber shall obtain a tap/wet connection permit to restore the water service.
- (5) When the water service is shut off by the DEP, the Owner must engage a Licensed Master Plumber to assume responsibility for the excavation over the tap or wet connection. If the Owner fails to engage a Licensed Master Plumber, the water service will remain shut off, the excavation will be backfilled, and the street will be properly restored.