

## **Section 4 - Entry into Anglian Water confined spaces**

The Anglian Water management of confined space procedure allows entry into Anglian Water confined spaces without a 'permit to enter' being issued by a trained member of Anglian Water personnel. In such cases a Site Access Authorisation Form (SAAF) is issued and this effectively signs responsibility for the confined space over to the contractor.

**Please note that this does not apply to sewer connections and that a 'permit to enter' is required in all cases.**

The trench that is excavated to carry out a junction insertion/saddle connection is not considered to be an Anglian Water confined space, so we are not required to issue a permit to enter in this instance. The trench, however, will be a confined space and you are required to employ suitably qualified and competent personnel to make the entry. You are also required to consider and control the hazards that are generally associated with confined space manhole entries, especially after the public sewer has been cut/opened.

Contractor's personnel that are trained permit writers may issue follow on permits for subsequent entries into the initial confined space, providing the conditions within the confined space do not change. Please note that an Anglian Water permit writer **must in all cases** issue the first permit and that the completion of the Anglian Water Confined Space Assessment does not deem the cardholder competent to issue permits. Permit writing training is available as a separate course and if you require further details please contact Develop on 01780 686504.

### **Confined space categorisation and summary of personnel and equipment requirement forms**

These forms have been introduced to allow confined spaces to be categorised and to give guidance on the number of trained personnel and safety equipment required to make the entry. Copy forms are provided with these guidance notes.

We recommend that the forms be used by contractors as a guide; however, the final decision regarding categorisation and safety equipment/ trained personnel will be made by the Anglian Water permit writer on the day the permit is issued. A minimum of **five working days** notice is required for all permits and we strongly recommend that contact be made with the permit writer before the day of entry to discuss in advance the permit requirements. Please note that assistance given at this stage is provided as a guide only and that the permit requirements may change once the permit writer has inspected the confined space on site.

**It is imperative that a minimum of five working days notice be given for all permit requests as this allows time for internal consultation regarding the sewerage system and any other issues that may influence the content of the permit. Should adequate notice not be given we may be unable to issue the permit.**

**Failure to provide the required safety equipment with the appropriate certification and/or the correct number of trained personnel will result in refusal to issue the permit and an abortive site visit charge will be made.**

If you are unsure who the permit writer is for your area, please contact either the Colchester Developer Services Wastewater office on 01206 289470 or the Northampton Developer Services Wastewater office on 01604 446688.

### **Rescue arrangements**

Where the Confined Space Categorisation Form indicates 'R'; formal rescue arrangements **must** be put in place, however, this does not necessarily dictate that a 'rescue team' is required.

A man-riding winch will generally be considered as a suitable means of rescue for situations where the entrant can remain attached to a line at **all** times. Please note that the use of a man-riding winch as rescue equipment requires a minimum of two trained personnel to act as top people.

Where the entrant cannot remain attached to a line at all times, other rescue arrangements must be considered and it is likely that the confined space will be categorised as 'very high risk' and an advanced permit writer will be required. In these cases it is imperative that early contact is made with Anglian Water on the numbers listed above.

### **Trained personnel requirements**

Trained personnel must be able to demonstrate they have obtained one of the following qualifications:

- The Anglian Water Confined Space Assessment.
- The City & Guilds Utilities Operations Scheme – The existing Unit 5831 qualification remains acceptable until May 2012, however, for new attendees only Unit 6150 will be available after May 2009.
- EU Skills Registration Scheme.

Certificates/cards provided as proof of training must be originals (not copies) and in date.

**If you require further information regarding the Anglian Water Confined Space Assessment please contact Develop on 01780 686504.**

