

City of Minneapolis

ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

Removal/Replacement of Concrete Pole Bases, Concrete Encased Conduit, and Hand holes that Contain Asbestos

Some Minneapolis signal and streetlight bases, pipe contain asbestos-containing (Transite) electrical conduit which can be broken during the removal and replacement of a streetlight or signal pole foundation. Some Minneapolis style hand holes also have asbestos pipe used in the vertical pipe section of the hand hole. Asbestos release can be controlled by wetting the concrete base and Transite before and during removal and painting encapsulant on any broken Transite edges exposed during the foundation removal/replacement process.

Equipment needed:

- Garden sprayer filled with amended water(water/surfactant mixture – dish washing detergent can be used as a surfactant, use 1 oz./gallon of water)
- Bucket of Childers CP-11 mastic – available at plumbing supply stores
- Disposable paint brush

Training needed:

- OSHA requires that workers who disturb asbestos-containing materials must get Class III training. A four-hour session, which includes hands-on training, will meet this OSHA requirement.

Procedures:

After the base is excavated, look at the conduit to determine if it is Transite. Transite is a rock hard, gray, slate-like material. Gray PVC pipe was also used as conduit. The PVC pipe requires no special precautions.

When removing wiring, make sure system is completely de-energized. If Transite conduit is present, spray the inside of the conduit and wiring with amended water. Pull the wires out of the conduit. If wires are visibly contaminated, wipe down the wires with disposable wipes.

If the base will be hoisted out of the ground in one piece, paint the exposed Transite conduit with CP-11 and spray amended water inside the conduit. If the base breaks during removal and Transite is exposed, wet the broken areas with amended water. When the base is moved, paint any newly exposed Transite areas with CP-11.

If the base will be broken apart and partially removed, wet the exposed Transite and inside surfaces of conduit with amended water.

When base breaks, immediately spray the newly exposed Transite surfaces with amended water. Paint the exposed Transite surfaces on the removed portion of the base with CP-11.

For the portion which remains in the ground, wet all exposed Transite. It is very important to wet the portion of conduit where any PVC/Steel adapters will be inserted. Carefully set the adapter and paint the Transite and adjacent portions of the adapter with CP-11. Paint any other exposed portions of Transite with CP-11.

Carefully haul removed bases and portions of bases to an area where they can be stored and kept separate from any other concrete which could be recycled.

Asbestos-containing material must not be recycled because crushing this material will release asbestos fibers into the air and also introduce asbestos into the recycled concrete aggregate.

The material which contains Transite conduit must be disposed of at a landfill which accepts asbestos-containing materials. This material can be legally placed in a demolition landfill, but some landfills do not accept asbestos. Call to insure acceptance.