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CODE OF PRACTICE FOR PLUMBING & DRAINAGE: REVISED EDITION

Councils are advised that the NSW Code of Practice – Plumbing and Drainage 3rd Edition was gazetted on 30 June 2006. Further to the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, this edition supersedes all previous editions and is in effect from 1 July 2006.

The Code, under clauses 13 and 16 of the Regulation, provides the applicable standard for water supply, sewerage and stormwater drainage work in areas of NSW where the council is the local water utility/approval authority.

Councils' specific attention is drawn to a number of areas where responsibilities and procedures may have changed or been clarified since the publication of the previous edition:

- All greywater diversion previously required the approval of councils under s.68 Part C of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The commencement of the Local Government (General) Amendment (Domestic Greywater Diversion) Regulation 2006 on 1 July 2006, while maintaining the prescription of domestic greywater diversion as an activity requiring the prior approval of the local council, also provides for an exemption from the requirement for prior approval if the conditions listed in Clause 75A of the Local Government (General) Regulation are complied with. Compliance requirements are set out in the NSW Code of Practice on pages 33-39 and in Part 2 Section 10A of the technical requirements at page 107 of the 3rd edition.
- Food waste disposal units (in sink) are only permitted for domestic applications with the approval of the local water authority (refer to 4.11.1 of the Code on page 45). In determining its position on these units, any council water utility should be mindful of their potential effects on council water and sewerage treatment infrastructure. Food waste disposal units are not permitted for non-residential use in areas of the State where the local council water utility is the relevant approval authority.
- Food waste disposal units are not permitted to discharge to on-site sewage management facilities nor to greywater diversion devices (refer to 3.2.3 of the Code on page 34).
- Where rainwater tanks are designed and installed to allow cross connection with the reticulated potable water supply the water authority,

in discharging its responsibilities to other consumers, should ensure that cross connection controls and backflow prevention devices, appropriate to the risk and degree of hazard involved, are in place to protect reticulated supply from the possibility of backflow contamination (refer to Section 14 of Part 1 of the technical requirements at page 82). The local authority has the discretion to require an approved testable backflow prevention device to be fitted, in which case 3.1.5 on page 32 of the Code applies.

Copies of the Code are available from the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability in hard copy for a fee of \$20 (Customer Services telephone 02 8281 7378) or from its website at www.deus.nsw.gov.au.



Garry Payne
Director General