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Subject: AB 1020, Public Swimming Pools; Anti Entrapment Devices and Systems

This letter is a notification to public swimming pool owners regarding Assembly Bill 1020, recently signed into law on October 11, 2009. The Bill amends California Health and Safety Code Section 18942 and adds Sections 116064.1 and 116064.2. San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) is the local regulatory agency for all public swimming pools in San Bernardino County and is responsible for enforcement of this Bill. The law mandates that public swimming pools and spas be equipped with anti-entrapment main drain covers that comply with current standards. In addition, any existing swimming pool or spa which is constructed with a single main drain must be so designed (retro-fitted) to prevent entrapment. **All public swimming pools and spas must comply with the new requirements by July 1, 2010.** A compliance form will be made available, to be completed by each pool/spa owner, and signed by a contractor or professional engineer licensed in the State of California who has experience working on public swimming pools. The contractor or engineer will be certifying that the pool or spa is in compliance with the new regulations. **This compliance form will be available on our website at www.sbcounty.gov/dehs before March 1st, 2010. A \$6.00 surcharge will be added to your next health permit invoice for each pool/spa. This fee will be sent to the California Department of Public Health to cover the cost of implementing these new regulations.**

Requirements for New Public Pools and Spas:

1. Pools/Spas shall install an anti-entrapment drain cover, and at least two suction drains (excluding equalizer lines) per pump that are hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more “T” fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least three feet in any dimension between the drains.

Requirements for Existing Public Pools and Spas:

1. All pool/spa recirculation, jet and equalizer suction lines shall be equipped with anti-entrapment suction drain covers that comply with ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 performance standard. (As in effect December 31st, 2009)
2. Pools/Spas constructed with single suction drains (recirculation and jets) that are not an “un-blockable” type, shall comply with one of the following:

- a. Split the suction drain in a manner that is hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more “T” fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least three feet in any dimension between drains. (Does not apply to skimmer equalizer lines)
- b. Install one of the following devices or systems that comply with the applicable ASME/ANSI performance standard:
 - Safety vacuum release system (A112.19.17 or ASTM F2387 standard)
 - Suction limiting vent system
 - Gravity drainage system that utilizes a collector tank
 - Automatic pump shut-off system
 - Other system that is deemed in accordance with Federal law, to be equally effective as or more effective than, the systems described above
- c. The installation of an “un-blockable” drain or channel drain which meets ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 performance standard and measures in excess of 18” x 23” or has a diagonal measurement greater than 29”.

Notes:

- Blocking of a suction drain is not an option.

DEHS requires plan check submittal when pools are renovated or when modifications are made, such as:

- Splitting of a suction drain
- Replacement of a pump
- The installation of an un-blockable drain or channel drain
- Altering the plumbing of pool/spa recirculation/jet systems
- Modifying ancillary facilities (i.e. fencing, decks, restrooms, etc.)

DEHS does not require plan check submittal for the following installations:

- A safety vacuum release system
- Anti-entrapment suction drain covers

DEHS advises pool owners planning to make structural modifications to their public pool/spa to have work performed only by a contractor properly licensed in the State of California.

Once the compliance forms are completed, they are to be mailed to DEHS where they will be reviewed for compliance. **All forms must be received by DEHS no later than July 1, 2010. Pools/spas which have not been certified compliant with AB 1020 by this date may be subject to closure by this Division.**

DEHS Plan Check Section can be reached at (909) 387-0214 with any questions in regards to this correspondence. To access the legislation, log onto www.leginfo.ca.gov, access Bill Information, keyword search AB 1020.