

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Public Utility Contractors Installing Building Sewer and Water Service

Code: 2012 Plumbing Code

Date: November 12, 2013

Sections: 101.6, 202

Question:

Can a licensed utility contractor install water service and building drain lines between the public main and the building?

Answer:

Yes.

North Carolina general statute 87-10 (b)(3)(a) allows public utility contractors to install water service lines and house and building sewer lines as defined in the North Carolina State Building Code.

The 2012 North Carolina Plumbing Code defines building sewer as that part of the building drainage system that extends from the end of the building drain and conveys the discharge to a public sewer, private sewer, individual sewage disposal system or the point of disposal. The building drain is defined as terminating 10 feet beyond the walls of the building and conveying the drainage to the building sewer. The same code defines water service pipe as the pipe from the water main or other source of potable water supply, or from the water meter when the meter is at the public right of way to the water distribution system of the building served. The water service pipe is defined as terminating 5 feet from the outside foundation wall of the building.

Based on the above information, a licensed public utility contractor may install a building sewer to within 10 feet of the building and may install a water service pipe to within 5 feet of the foundation wall. Installation of the building sewer and water service pipe must conform to the requirements of the North Carolina Plumbing Code and a plumbing permit for the work must be obtained from the local authority having jurisdiction.

Keywords: