




**Department of  
Design and  
Construction**

**SPECIFICATION  
BULLETIN**

**SB  
18-004**

**Title: CUTTING DUCTILE IRON PIPE**

Prepared:  
 11/26/2018  
Richard Jones, P.E. CWI Date  
Director, Specifications – Infrastructure Design

Approved:  
 11/26/2018  
Purnima Dharia, P.E. Date  
Assistant Commissioner – Infrastructure Design

**APPLICABILITY:**

- This Specification Bulletin (SB) is effective for projects bid on or after 12/15/2018.

**SUPERSEDEENCE:**

- This SB supersedes the following SBs: **NONE**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

*NONE*

**REVISIONS TO THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STANDARD SEWER AND WATER MAIN SPECIFICATIONS, DATED 7/1/14:**

All references contained below are to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection Standard Sewer and Water Main Specifications, Dated July 1, 2014. Said Standard Sewer and Water Main Specifications are hereby revised as follows:

- a) **Refer** to Page VI-12, Section 60.12 – LAYING DUCTILE IRON PIPE AND FITTINGS, Subsection 62.12.3.(J) – CUTTING PIPE;

**Replace** the Subsection with the following new Subsection:

“(J) CUTTING PIPE - The Contractor, when required, must cut ductile iron pipe. Where any pipe is damaged in cutting, the damaged sections will not be accepted. Undamaged sections and cut portions of straight pipe may be incorporated in the work.

For worker safety and to ensure square clean cuts, the default method for cutting ductile iron pipe in a trench is with a tool or machine that clamps to the pipe, such as:

- Reciprocating “guillotine” pipe saws;
- Rotary wheel type cutting or milling type machines manufactured by CS Unitec (model 580027000), E.H. Wachs (model Trav-L-Cutter), Fein (model RSG 1500 A), or approved equal;

If approved in writing by the Commissioner, the Contractor may opt to cut ductile iron pipe in a trench freehand using a cut-off saw (“cut-off machine” or “power cutter”), abrasive chainsaw,



**Department of  
Design and  
Construction**

**SPECIFICATION  
BULLETIN**

**SB  
18-004**

**Title: CUTTING DUCTILE IRON PIPE**

ring saw, hacksaw, or similar. If the Contractor opts to freehand cut ductile iron pipe, the following requirements must be met, at the Contractor's sole expense:

- Sufficient blocking, to provide a fixed support, must be provided to prevent the pipe section from moving and the joint from binding to prevent the saw blade from kicking back during cutting;
- The trench must be excavated with sufficient width to allow the worker to have a full range motion with the saw – scalloping of the trench walls to accommodate the saw or the worker is not permitted; and
- The trench must be excavated with sufficient depth below the pipe's invert to allow the invert to be cut with the lower portion of the saw's blade (to prevent cutting with the front or upper segments that can result in kickback or the saw climbing).

In all cases, the Contractor must operate the cutting tools in strict compliance with all OSHA requirements and the tool manufacturer's written recommendations and all costs associated with the safe performance of this task are at the Contractor's sole expense.

The use of "squeeze" type cutters, cutting torches, diamond points and dog chisels will not be permitted.

**(NO FURTHER TEXT THIS PAGE)**