

TO: Commissioners Brown, Carlson, Barofsky, McRae and Schlossberg
FROM: Mike Masters
DATE: June 22, 2022
SUBJECT: Lead and Copper Rule Revisions
OBJECTIVE: For Information

Issue

There are updated drinking water regulations regarding the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions that will impact several of the departments in Water Operations. The following is a summary of those revisions and how we are working across Water Operations to meet the new drinking water regulations.

Background

In December 2021 the Environmental Protection Agency finalized revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. The requirements of this rule constitute the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will have primacy over this rule in Oregon. This rule will become effective in October 2024.

Discussion

There are several different components to the revised Lead and Copper Rule including:

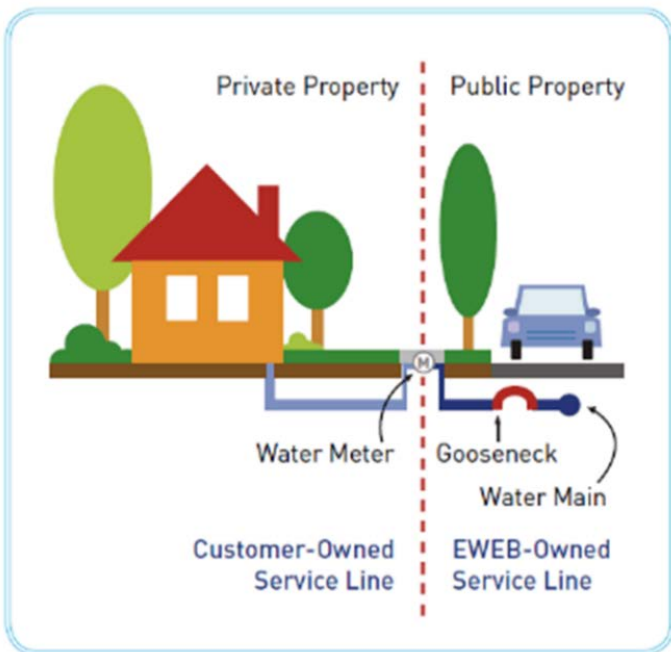
- Water service line inventory
- Sampling protocols
- Corrosion control
- Customer communications
- Regulatory reporting

Each of these components has multiple requirements and involves different departments within Water Operations. Water Operations has been meeting regularly and is working together closely to ensure compliance.

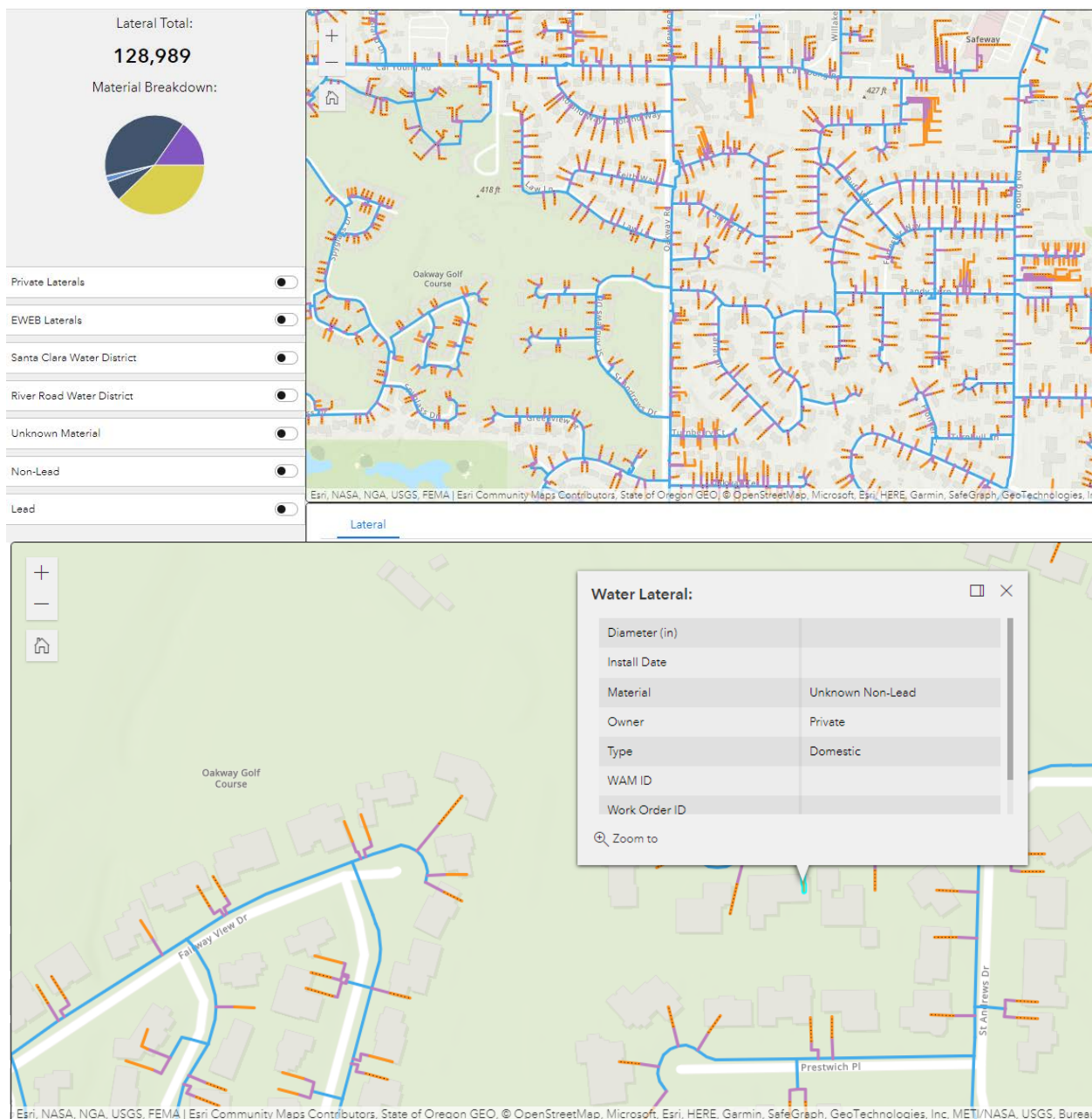
The initial phases of planning will focus on the significantly increased water service line inventory requirements. EWEB is now required to identify the material of all water service lines including **both the utility side of the meter and the customer, or privately owned, side of the meter**. We must submit an initial inventory to OHA by October 2024 along with a written plan outlining steps for finalizing the inventory. Due to the size of our system the inventory must be made publicly available.

EWEB has approximately 64,000 service lines in our distribution system with each line having 2 sides, both utility and customer.

Currently, we have 97% of our utility owned lines identified and 30% of the customer owned lines identified. EWEB has no known lead service lines.



The examples below show a new map application, built by EWEB's GIS department, that will enable us to comply with the service line inventory requirements. We will be able to enter water service line data, track both portions of the water service line, and make this map accessible to our customers.



As our water service line inventory continues to improve, we can use that information to develop the lead and copper sampling plan and the customer communications plan. The Water Operations Division, along with support from other areas of EWEB, will be working to comply with all parts of this revised rule for several years to meet the compliance deadlines.

Recommendation

This memo is for information and awareness only. As we work towards compliance, communication and collaboration with our customers will increase. We will keep the Board routinely apprised of progress.

Requested Board Action

No action requested as this is for information only.