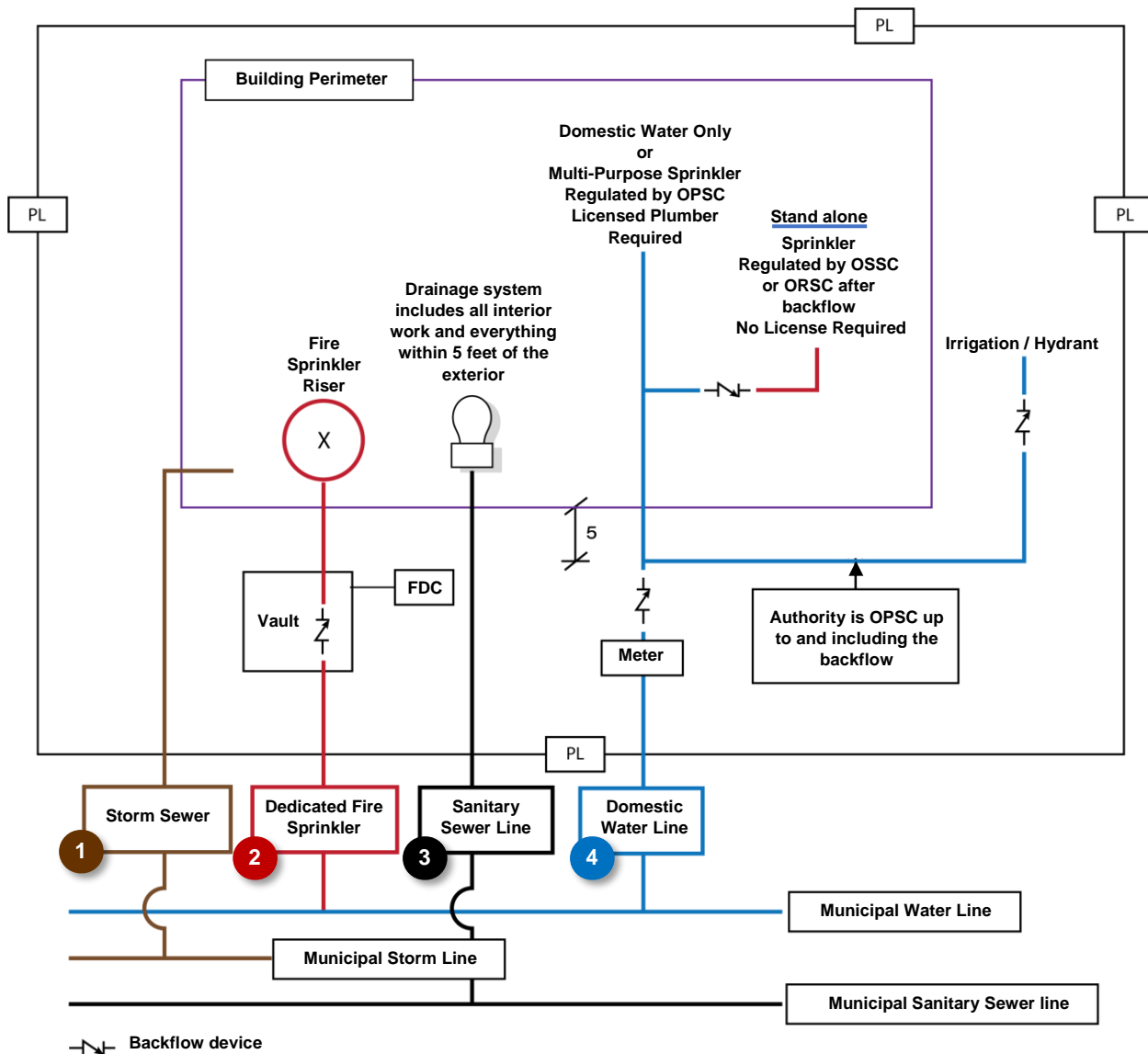


## Water / Sewer Authority and Licensing

The purpose of this technical bulletin is to provide clarification about the regulation of and the licensing of installers for the various water and sewer lines that serve a building site. To that end, this document includes a schematic showing most scenarios as well as clarifying notes.

Please note that unless specifically exempted under OAR 918-780-0035 and section 104.2 of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC), all plumbing work identified as being under the authority of the OPSC, is subject to permit and state surcharge.



**NOTE 1 Storm Sewer line:** Storm sewer inside the building is regulated under the OPSC and requires a licensed plumber. Storm sewer outside of building is regulated by the OPSC to the property line and only requires a Construction Contractors Board license and plumbing business license. An individual installer's license is not required.

**NOTE 2 Dedicated Fire Sprinkler Line:** The municipality has authority up to and including the backflow device. Everything after the backflow is regulated under the Oregon Structural Specialty Code. No Journeyman Plumbing license required.

**NOTE 3 Building Drain/Sanitary Sewer:** The *drainage system* is regulated under the OPSC, and covers everything interior to five feet outside of the building. A licensed plumber is required. Everything beyond five feet from the building is considered *sanitary sewer* and is regulated by the OPSC to the property line. A license clarification for "Sanitary Sewer Licensing" is available on the division website at: [Oregon.gov/bcd/licensing/Documents/Clarifications/pb-sewer-installer-clarification.pdf](http://Oregon.gov/bcd/licensing/Documents/Clarifications/pb-sewer-installer-clarification.pdf)

**NOTE 4 Domestic Water Line/Backflow Device:** Please be aware that the local public works can specify the type of backflow device which establishes the "Premise Isolation" for the "Domestic Water Line."

Note the following two conditions:

**Condition 1:** Where the *local public works owns* the domestic water line backflow device:

- a. Everything upstream and including the domestic water line backflow device *is subject to local public works regulation.*
- b. Everything downstream of the domestic water line backflow device *is regulated by the OPSC.*

**Condition 2:** Where the *property owner owns* the domestic water line backflow device, as specified by the local public works:

- a. Everything downstream of the meter and including the domestic water line backflow device *is regulated by the OPSC.*
- b. Everything upstream of the meter and including the meter *is regulated by the local public works.*

This work requires a licensed plumber except where a stand-alone sprinkler taps off of the domestic water. See note 4 above.

**Contact:**

Andy Skinner

Plumbing Program Chief

[Andrew.J.Skinner@dcbs.oregon.gov](mailto:Andrew.J.Skinner@dcbs.oregon.gov)

503-373-7488

503-586-8407 (cell)