

Message

From: Kevin Hutchings **Irrelevant & Sensitive**
Sent: 20/07/2025 7:55:12 PM
To: Submissions (McCrae Inquiry) [submissions@mccraeinquiry.vic.gov.au]
CC: Georgie Austin (McCrae Inquiry) [georgie.austin@mccraeinquiry.vic.gov.au]
Subject: Pipe Integrity of Previously Failed Pipe.

Attn Board of Inquiry into the McCrae Landslide

I respectfully suggest that the water main on Bayview Rd undergo pressure testing as soon as possible. This main, comprised of both UPVC and asbestos cement (AC) materials, has experienced at least three failures. One incident persisted for more than 60 days, and another likely continued undetected for an even longer duration.

Acoustic leak detection did not identify these two recent leaks, so it is advisable to conduct a pressure test to confirm that no other leaks are present. In addition, one of the flow test engineers report submitted by John Bolch made mention that the characteristics of the larger flow test may suggest a pipe leak or a partially shut valve.

Hopefully, South East Water has already performed this test. If that is the case, was the condition of that section of the network verified as satisfactory?

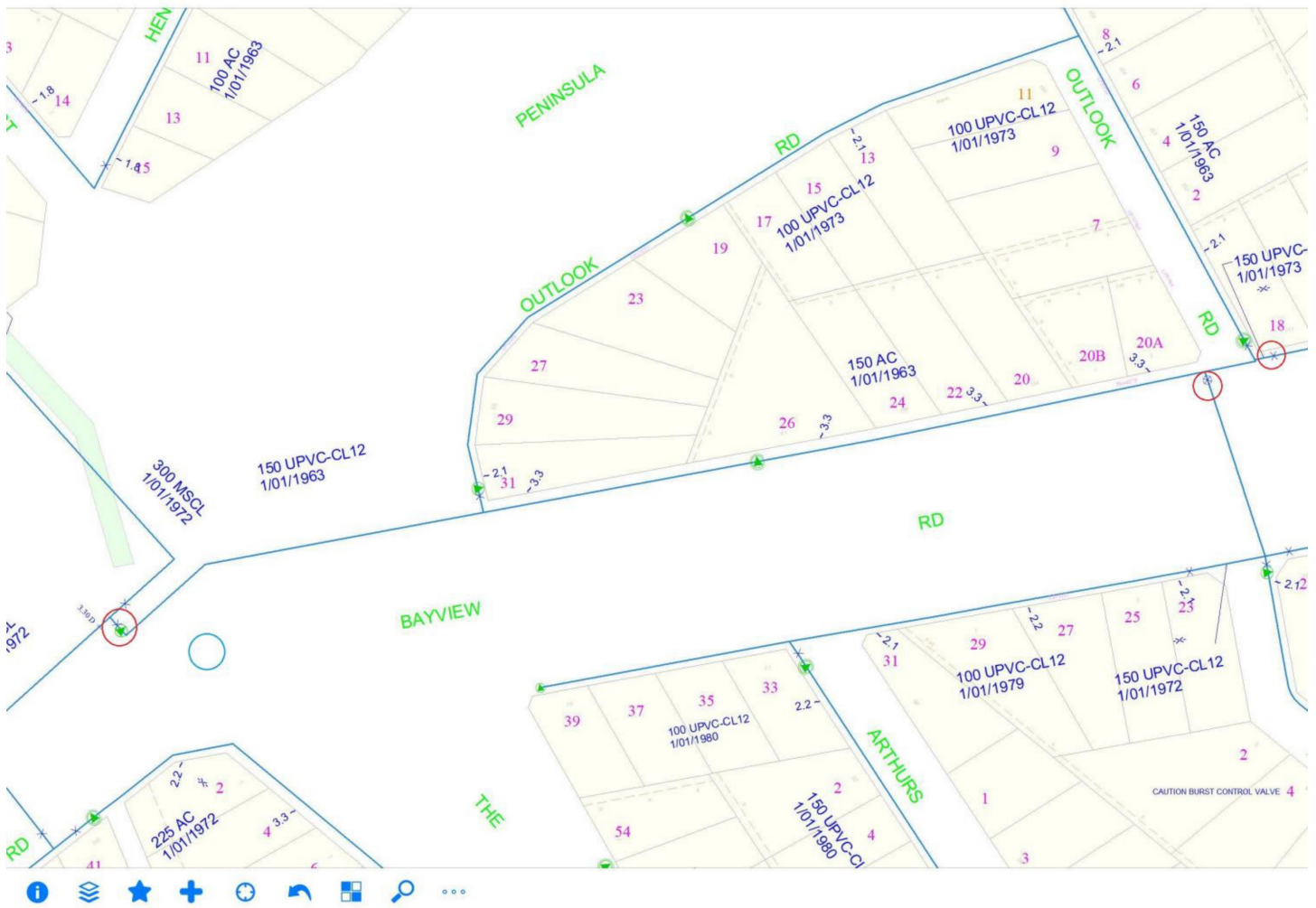
Pressure testing constitutes a standard procedure employed to verify the integrity of water mains by confirming that pipes, joints and fittings are capable of withstanding operational pressures without experiencing leaks or failures. This process is governed by relevant Australian standards, such as AS/NZS 2566.2 and the WSAA Water Supply Code of Australia (WSA 03).

The process involves gradually increasing pressure to the test level, typically 1.25 to 1.5 times the maximum operating pressure, and monitoring for any pressure drops or visible leaks at joints or pipe sections. If AC pipe is used, the required testing pressure may need to be reduced. A stable pressure reading indicates that the test is successful. Only three valves are expected to need closure for this test, and customer meter stop taps may also require closing. This test is often conducted at night to reduce customer inconvenience. The map below identifies potential locations of mains valves to be closed (shown in red) and are selected to minimise customer impact. The blue circle marks the approximate location of the council stormwater pit that has water entering from an unknown source at a constant flow regardless of weather. This has been occurring for at least six months, and the origin of the water or the connecting pipe remains undetermined.

Residents are likely to experience increased reassurance knowing that this pipe is in good condition.

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Map



Regards
Kevin Hutchings
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