

August 19, 2005

462-05-02

**Chapter 459 (Utility Occupancy Permits)
Charges for Bar Holes**

District Executives

Gary L. Hoffman, P.E. /s/ M.G. Patel for
Deputy Secretary for Highway Administration

The Bureau of Maintenance and Operations has been contacted by representatives of the Utility Industry regarding some discrepancies in the charging of fees for “bar holes.”

After looking into this matter, the following guidance is being provided to the Districts:

- A bar hole is a hole two inches or less in diameter which is placed in the pavement for the purposes of leak detection and/or venting of gases. Generally, there will be multiple bar holes at a leak site.
- The holes are considered part of emergency repair work and will be made under an Emergency Permit Card.
- These holes are filled within 15 days of placement. If there is a need to allow them to remain open more than 15 days, the utility is to notify the District Office.

The placement of bar holes meeting the above listed criteria will be considered to be part of the emergency permit card and will not be subject to the additional inspection fee of \$5 per hole for non-emergency test holes specified in 459.4(b)(6).

Any questions on this matter should be referred to Dan Smyser, of the Bureau of Maintenance and Operations, at 717-787-6227.

462/DRS/kjj (Chapter 459 (UOP), Charges for Bar Holes)
cc: G. L. Hoffman, P.E., Deputy Secretary for Highway Administration
M.G. Patel, P.E., Chief Engineer
Highway Administration Bureau Directors
BOMO Division Chiefs
District Permit Managers

