

Technical Note 103

Vandalism of Plastic Pipe under Roads, Rail and Similar Infrastructure

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1 Description

Following routine inspections in 2013 at various locations throughout the state, it has been identified plastic pipes, used for drainage below the roadway, have been subjected to systematic vandalism by fire. These events have been occurring in rural and urban areas.

1.1 Removal of plastic pipe

Effective September 2013, due to the unacceptable level of risk to road users, underground plastic pipes are not to be used in new construction projects.

Effectively MRTS29 *Polyethylene Pipes* has been withdrawn. A memo dated 13 September 2013 was forwarded to Regional Directors and relevant Transport Network Recovery Program officers advising of its withdrawal.

1.2 Exclusions

Grout filled enveloper pipe is not included in the withdrawal of drainage plastic pipes. Additionally, in some rare occasions where polyethylene pipes may be suitable in future, the pipe shall be fully encased in structural concrete and the pipe designed in accordance with AS/NZS 4131.

This Technical Note is not applicable to sub soil drains.

Figure 1.2 – Vandalised pipes



