
CITY OF CHICAGO

RULES



DEMOLITION BY IMPLOSION



Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot

Acting Commissioner Annette Nance-Holt

BY AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE FIRE COMMISSIONER PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-30-030 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF CHICAGO, THE FOLLOWING RULES REGARDING DEMOLITION BY IMPLOSION ARE ADOPTED HEREIN.

By Order of the Commissioner:

Signed: Annette Nance-Holt

Date: 4/16/21

Acting Commissioner Annette Nance-Holt

Published: April 9, 2021

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RULES REGARDING DEMOLITIONS BY IMPLOSION

Rule No. 1. For purposes of this rules, the following definitions shall apply:

"Code" means the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Fire Department or Commissioner's designee.

"Department" means the Fire Department of the City of Chicago.

"Applicant" means any person that intends to use explosives to demolish a building or other structure by means of implosion.

Rule No. 2. No demolition by implosion shall take place unless the applicant obtains an approval or permit from the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall not issue or an approve a permit to the applicant, unless, in addition to all other application requirements provided in the Code, including Section 15-4-311, and rules promulgated thereunder, the applicant provides:

- a. The applicant's qualifications for and methods of implosion.
- b. A fire prevention and evacuation plan.
- c. A first aid and emergency medical services plan.
- d. A plan for proper disposal of any and all hazardous materials consistent with the rules promulgated by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health.
- e. A statement, and comply with such a statement, that the demolition company hired by the applicant must use privately owned water tank truck vehicles to properly soak and saturate the affected area.
- f. A color photograph, no smaller than 11 inches by 17 inches, showing the collapse zone of the imploded building or structure.
- g. A plan to monitor wind speed prior to the demolition by implosion. The plan must set a base line that wind speeds over a certain amount would delay the demolition by implosion.

Rule No. 3. The applicant must retain an independent consultant with subject matter expertise to determine the maximum wind speed for an implosion to occur safely in the area. A report from the independent consultant will be submitted to and approved by the Commissioner prior to the demolition by implosion.

Rule No. 4. The applicant must follow the following operational requirements:

- (a) Blasting and the use of explosives shall be conducted in accordance with Section 15-20-010, et seq. of the Code.
- (b) The Commissioner will designate the representative(s) of the Department to attend day of operation briefings prior to implosion.
- (c) A fire response team of the Department will be on a standby in a non-hazardous area to address potential fires and dust suppression.
- (d) Immediately after firing the blast, the applicant shall verify with the Department whether there are any unexploded charges remaining.

Rule No. 5. All costs for the Department's service caused by the applicant's demolition by implosion shall be borne by the applicant.

Rule No. 6. The Commissioner shall not issue a permit to the applicant until the Department receives a written notification from the Executive Director of the Office of Emergency Management and Communications that all of permits, certificates, and approvals from all City agencies required to regulate a demolition by implosion have been duly issued. The forgoing City agencies include but are not limited to: the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, the Department of Buildings, the Office of Emergency Management and Communications, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Streets and Sanitation, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Water Management.

Rule No. 7. The Commissioner reserves the right to suspend or revoke a demolition by implosion permit approval issued by the Department for a violation of any provision of the Code, including Chapter 2-30, or these Rules or any other rules promulgated thereunder, including non-compliance with any community notification requirements imposed under Section 15-4-311 of the Code.

Rule No. 8. Nothing in these Rules is intended to limit the powers or authority of the City of Chicago, the Department or the powers or authority of any other City agency; nor are these Rules intended to relieve any person or entity from full compliance with any other provisions of the Code, rules promulgated thereunder by any other City Department, or any applicable law.

Rule No. 9. The provisions of these Rules are severable. If any part of these Rules, in whole or in part, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part or parts which remains.

Rule No. 10. Any application, plan, and documentation required to be submitted to the Department under any provision of these Rules shall be complied by submitting such application, plan or documentation to the Office of Emergency Management and Communications.