



DID YOU KNOW....?

The Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act (the "Act") requires that all water systems providing water for human consumption use materials, devices and components that meet the new "lead-free" requirement described below.

More specifically, the Act changes the definition of "lead-free" from a weighted lead content of 8 percent or less to a weighted average of less than or equal to 0.25 percent for surfaces in contact with potable water. It also establishes a formula to calculate the weighted average lead content. Any materials used for installation or repair must be lead-free, including pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings and plumbing fixtures. The law does not change the definition of "lead-free" for solder or flux (0.2 percent lead).

The law specifically exempts:

- Non-potable water uses such as pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, or fixtures, including back-flow preventers, used exclusively for manufacturing, industrial process, irrigation, outdoor watering or any other uses where water is not intended for human consumption.
- Toilets, bidets, urinals, fill valves, flushometer valves, tub fillers, shower valves, service saddles or water distribution main gate valves that are at least two inches in diameter.

Rate orders/ordinances include specific plumbing material prohibitions, and therefore, should be amended to meet the requirements set forth in the Act. In addition, it may be appropriate to consider any cost impact this change may have on plumbing supplies and materials utilized by water suppliers.

For more information regarding the Act or about JRPB, please feel free to contact our office or visit our website at www.jrpblaw.com.

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