

Willowbrook water lines cut during trench project

A contractor installing a 12-inch sludge line on Forest Hill Rd. accidentally broke water service lines feeding into the Willowbrook Developmental Center complex twice in as many days, forcing service cutoffs to the Institute for Basic Research, which is on the grounds of the center.

Yesterday morning's hour-long cutoff came when the Buzzetta Construction Corp. of Brooklyn, which is a subcontractor for Andrew Catapano Co., accidentally cracked the line supplying water to the institute's sprinkler system.

Wednesday morning the firm sliced through a 6-inch primary service line to the institute and virtually forced the facility—which has a number of pieces of water-cooled equipment—to curtail operations from about 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. while the line was repaired.

A spokesman for the contractor said the accidents apparently occurred because the city records on water lines in the area have proved to be "very vague on locations." The spokesman said workmen only knew "approximately where the lines were."

"Along the course of a job like this water lines are going to be broken," he added. Andrew Catapano has a \$4-million contract with the city to install a several mile long sludge line that will eventually feed into the Port Richmond Treatment Plant.

The Wednesday service line break forced the Institute for Basic Research to shut off its electron microscope, which is water-cooled, and to limit operations in several sterile laboratories where equipment has to be continuously washed. A spokesman for the research facility said workers were able to build up a supply of water in buckets before the service line was shut down for repairs.

Service cutoffs in the area reportedly caused a "reversal of water flow" in the general water main on Forest Hill Rd. causing rust sediment in the line to be kicked up and eventually find its way to household water taps. The city Department of Water Resources the "brown" water condition reported in the area was caused by the sediment and not raw sewage seeping into the general water lines as some residents had feared.

Robert Connelly named to board

Advance Albany Bureau

ALBANY — Gov. Carey yesterday appointed Robert V. Connelly, husband of Assemblywoman Elizabeth Connelly, to the Board of Visitors for Willowbrook Developmental Center.

Connelly, 52, a partner in Henjes Air Cargo Inc. at Kennedy Airport, has been active in the Staten Island Hospital Association and the Staten Island Mental Health Society. His term in the unsalaried board position expires Dec. 31, 1980.

Mrs. Connelly is the chairman of the Assembly Mental Health Committee.