



City of Richmond

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Bulletin Building Approvals Division

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Cross-linked Polyethylene (PEX) Piping in a Building

No.: BUILDING-17
Date: 2005-10-27
Revised: 2008-08-01

Purpose:

To inform property owners, designers, engineers and contractors of the additional information required on plumbing drawings and specifications submitted for Building Permit when cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) piping is used on the project.

Background:

In the past, issuance of a Building Permit may have been delayed due to the lack of the information on the cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) piping material provided on the plumbing permit drawings. Furthermore, if the piping material was changed from ferrous to PEX during construction, a delay in construction may have occurred as well.

Implementation:

Effective immediately, alongside the information required by Subsection 2.2.6. of Division C Part 2 BC Building Code 2006, plumbing drawings and specifications submitted for a Building Permit shall clearly indicate the following:

- type of piping material to be used, and pipe manufacturer if PEX piping is used;
- ULC, cUL or WH listing number of the fire stop system(s) for the piping penetrations through the fire separations;
- ULC, cUL or WH listing number for the PEX piping running in the wall and floor assemblies required to provide the fire resistance rating; and
- ULC, cUL or WH listing number for the flame spread rating and smoke developed classification for the PEX piping if installed in non-combustible buildings.

In addition to the above, a copy of:

- ULC, cUL or WH listing document for the fire stop system(s) for the piping penetrations through the fire separations;
- ULC, cUL or WH listing document for the PEX piping running in the wall and floor assemblies required to provide the fire resistance rating; and
- ULC, cUL or WH listing document for the flame spread rating and smoke developed classification for the PEX piping if installed in non-combustible buildings,

shall be submitted alongside the drawings and specifications when applying for a new Building Permit or for a revision to a Building Permit due to the change from ferrous to PEX piping during construction.

Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions concerning this bulletin, please contact Alen Postolka, P. Eng., CP, Code Engineer, at 604-276-4283 or Phil Wynne, Plumbing/Gas Supervisor at 604-276-4323.