

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 06-0035

INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date: June 17, 2008

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 2006

Subject: Building Drain Vent

Keywords: Building Drain , Vent size

Building Code Reference(s): 7.5.8.4. (5)

Question:

Sentence 7.5.8.4. (5) states " Every building drain shall be provided with at least one vent that is not less than 3 inches in size.

Does this mean that all building drains, including those in single family dwellings require a 3 inch vent from the base of the stack through the roof?

Interpretation:

Yes

Rationale provided through the NRC Code Change Proposal process indicated that additional venting capacity was required for municipal sewer systems, therefore each building drain must be provided with at least one vent that is minimum 3 inch size.

Sentence 7.5.8.4. (5) has no exclusions therefore, all buildings including single family dwellings must be provided with this minimum venting requirement. The location of the 3 inch vent however, is left to the discretion of the installer and therefore could be in the form of another required vent serving other fixtures (i.e. continuous vent, stack vent, etc.).

It appears that this requirement was intended to address sanitary building drains as storm building drains are trapped either by a building sump or a storm system trap as required by Sentence 7.4.5.2. (3). A Code Change Proposal would be required to have this revision made to the code.


R. J. Light, Committee Chair

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