## BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 06-0093 INTERPRETATION Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date:	June 21, 2011
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006
Subject:	Shut-off Valves for Dwelling Units
Keywords:	Shut-off Valves , Valve Locations
Building Code Reference(s):	7.6.1.3.(1) (2) (4) (5) (7) ; 7.6.1.4. (1) (b)

## Question:

What shut-off valves are required on the Water Distribution System serving a detached one family dwelling unit or a dwelling unit in a building containing multiple dwelling units, and where would the valves be located?

## Interpretation:

The minimum valves required for dwelling units are:

- 1. Sentence 7.6.1.3. (1) requires a valve where the water service pipe enters a building.
- 2. Sentence 7.6.1.3. (2) requires a valve on every pipe that conveys water from a gravity water tank or private water supply system.
- 3. Sentence 7.6.1.3. (4) requires a valve on the water supply pipe to every water closet.
- 4. Sentence 7.6.1.3. (5) indicates in buildings of residential occupancy that contain more than one dwelling unit, a valve shall be installed where the water distribution pipe enters the dwelling unit.
- 5. Sentence 7.6.1.3. (7) requires a valve on the cold water supply pipe to a hot water tank.
- 6. Sentence 7.6.1.4. (1) (b) requires a stop-and-waste cock inside the building when serving an outside hose bib.

Also note that the valve required by Sentence 7.6.1.3.(5) also includes the water distribution pipe serving a secondary suite.

R. J. Light, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.

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