

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

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INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date: May 21, 2003

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 1998

Subject: Clothes Washer Standpipe

Keywords: Clothes Washer , Standpipe

Building Code Reference(s): 7.4.10.3. (1) 7.4.10. Table 7.4.9.3.

Question:

In the 1992 BCPC Subsection 4.10 - Table 4.9.A at the bottom of the table indicated a note (1) that related to Clothes washers which stated " (1) The trap inlet shall be fitted with a vertical standpipe of not less than 600mm (24 inches) in height when measured from the trap weir. "

The present 1998 BCBC - Subsection 7.4.10. and Table 7.4.9.3. have no reference to this measurement

Where an installation exists with a standpipe that is between 400mm (16 inches) and 900mm (36 inches) above the trap weir, what dimension should be used?

Interpretation:

A trap and standpipe for clothes washers must be adequate to perform positive drainage from all such fixtures without spillage from the necessary indirect connection where the hose is inserted into the vertical standpipe.

Consideration must be given to the fact that the clothes washer is a pumped discharge which will flow at a much greater volume than a gravity fixture discharge.

A requirement for a vertical standpipe of minimum 600mm (24 inches) to 900mm (36 inches) above the trap weir would be considered both functional and reasonable to avoid spillage at the indirect connection.

This would be consistent with the manufacturers instructions for clothes washers which should be consulted if the make and model are known.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair