

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

File No: 98-0110

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date: April 21, 2004

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 1998

Subject: Sprinkler system water supply

Keywords: Sprinklers, water supply

Building Code Reference(s): 3.2.5.13., 7.6.1.3.(1)

Question:

Does Sentence 3.2.5.13.(4) apply only to the water supply required for the sprinkler system where a building contains fewer than 9 sprinklers?

Interpretation:

Yes.

Where a building contains fewer than 9 sprinklers Sentence 3.2.5.13.(4) explicitly permits the water supply for the sprinkler system to be supplied by the domestic water system for the building provided the required flow for the sprinklers could be met by the domestic system.

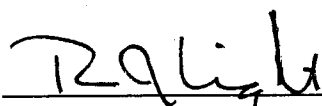
Other aspects of the sprinkler system design must comply with the requirements that are given in Article 3.2.5.13. Sentences (1), (2), (3), (6), (7) and (8). For example, where the building is required to be sprinklered in conformance with Sentence 3.2.5.13.(1), the sprinkler system is required to comply with NFPA 13. If that system has fewer than 9 sprinklers then Sentence 3.2.5.13.(4) permits the sprinkler system to be supplied from the domestic water system for the building.

The designer will also need to consider the arrangement of control valves as required by Sentences 3.2.5.13.(5) and 7.6.1.3.(1). (See drawing on Page 2)

BCAB Decision #1389 should also be referenced regarding the water service entry valve.

Consideration should also be given to the supervision of control valves as specified by the appropriate NFPA Standard.

In addition the designer must also reference Part 7 for the necessary backflow prevention requirements.



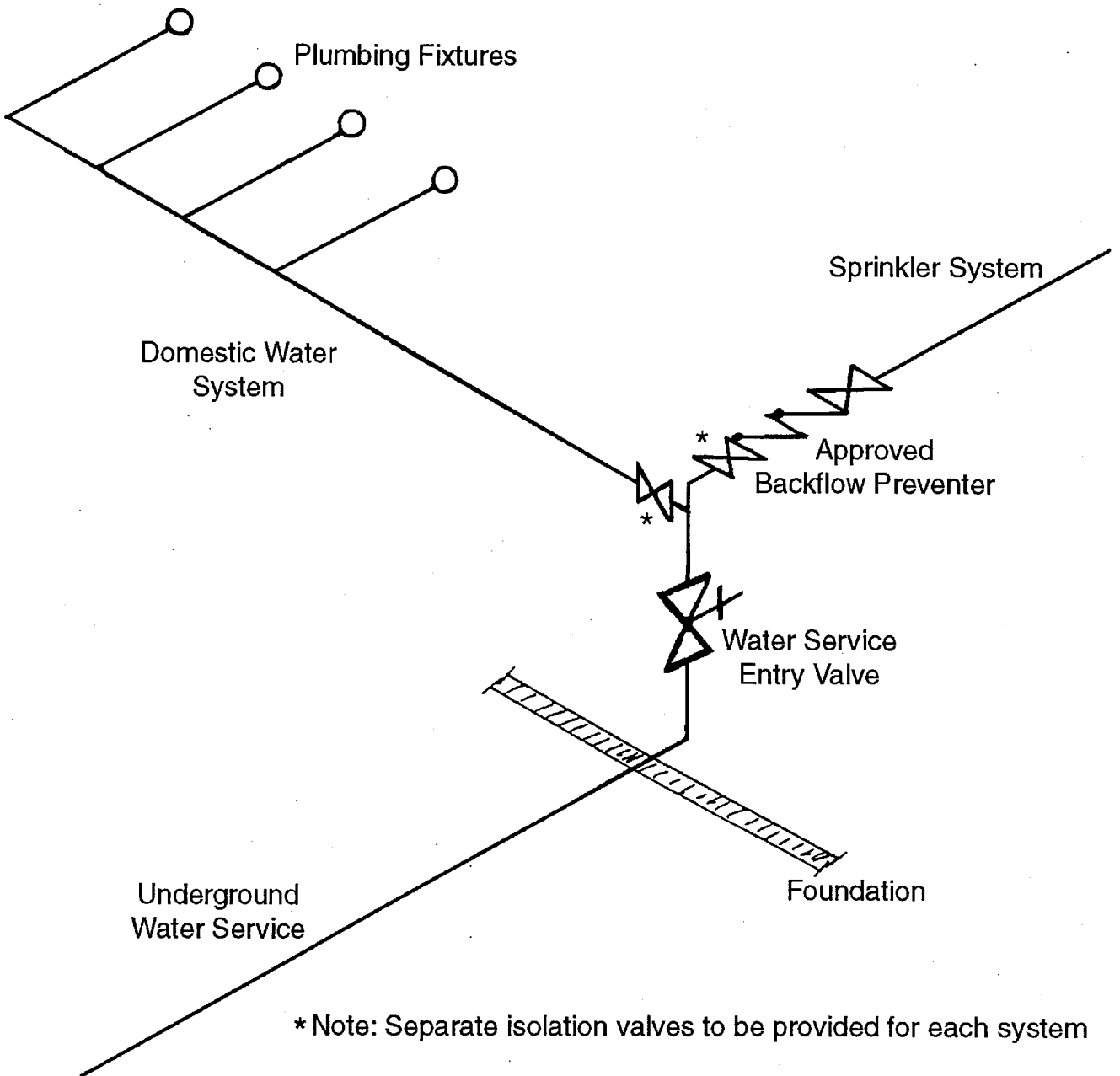
R. J. Light, Committee Chair

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* Note: Separate isolation valves to be provided for each system

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