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

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Interpretation Date:	June 18, 2013
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Area and Location of Exposing Building Faces (of Houses)
Keywords:	Glazed openings, limiting distance, exposing building face
Building Code Reference(s):	9.10.15.2; 9.10.15.4.

Question:

It is proposed to construct the exterior wall of a house such that it steps away from the property line in 3 segments (A, B & C) which will have limiting distances of 1.2 m, 2.0 m and 3.0 m, respectively;

- 1. How does Sentence 9.10.15.2.(2) apply to this stepped exposing building face?
- 2. Can EBF's with Limiting distances greater than 2.0 m be subdivided into smaller EBF's (such as segment C in this example)?

Interpretation:

1. In conformance with Sentence 9.10.15.2.(2) since segments A & B have limiting distances of 2.0 m or less, no further subdivision of these EBF's are permitted and the EBF area is determined by adding the EBF area of segments A&B (Figure 1). The combined area of the exposing building faces of segments A&B are used in Table 9.10.15.4. Maximum Area of Glazed Openings in Exterior Walls (of houses), to determine the maximum area of glazed openings permitted in EBF's A & B.

R. J. Light, Committee Chair

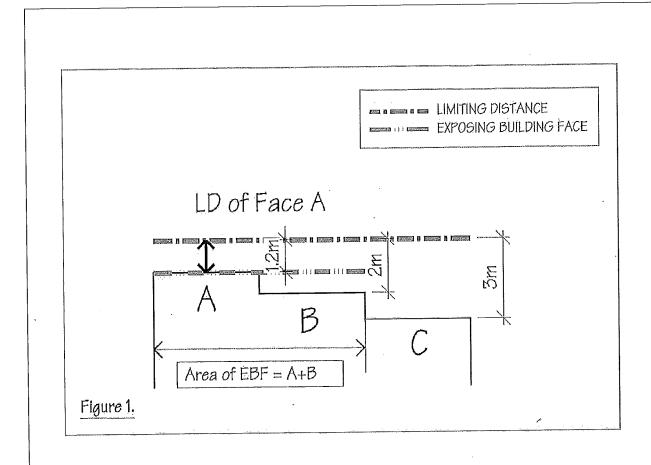
The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should 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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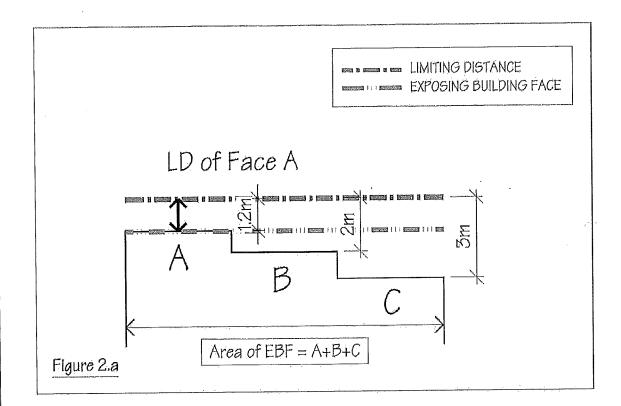
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Interpretation:

2. Yes. For other than houses the code requires the EBF area to be determined by the exterior wall elevation coinciding with an interior fire compartment (Figure 2a). For houses the area of EBF's is not limited provided EBF's have limiting distances greater than 2.0 m (Figure 2b).



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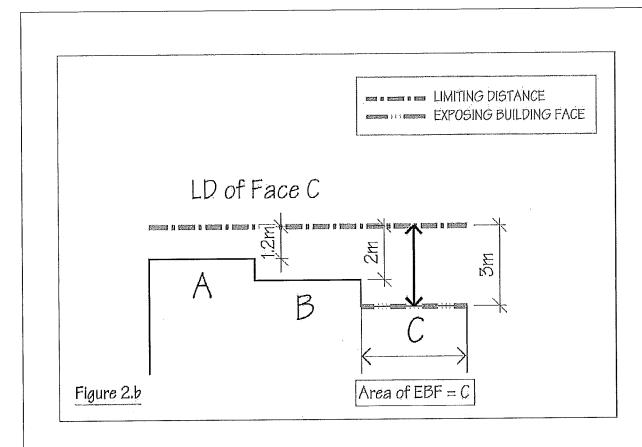
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