


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0307

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	February 13, 2024
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Requirements for Material Covering Foundation Drainage Pipe
Keywords:	Drainage Pipe, Foundation Wall, Sub-surface Drainage
Building Code Reference(s):	9.14.3.3.(4)
Question:	<p>If a foundation drainage pipe is covered with 150 mm of crushed stone or other coarse clean granular material and then backfilled with sand for the remainder of the depth of the foundation wall, is filter cloth required between the crushed stone and sand?</p>
Interpretation:	<p>No.</p> <p>Sentence 9.14.3.3.(4) only provides a requirement for 150 mm of crushed stone or other coarse clean granular material containing not more than 10% of material that would pass a 4 mm sieve on the top and sides of the drain pipe. That said, installing a filter cloth to further protect the ability of the drainage pipe to function properly would be beneficial, however it is not a requirement.</p>
	 <hr/> <p>Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair</p>
<p>The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC and BOABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The Building and Safety Standards Branch, Province of BC and the City of Vancouver participate in the committee's proceedings with respect to interpretations of the BC Building Code. 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 <i>Authority Having Jurisdiction</i>. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.</p>	