


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0254

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	June 27, 2023
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018, Book II: Plumbing Systems (BCPC) and BC Building Code Book I: General
Subject:	Protection of Underground Non-Metallic Pipes
Keywords:	Non-Metallic pipes, Underground, DWV
Building Code Reference(s):	2.3.5.2.(1), Note A-2.3.5.2.(1)
Question:	Does Sentence 2.3.5.2.(1) apply to non-metallic pipes other than vitrified clay (ABS DWV for example)?
Interpretation:	<p>No.</p> <p>This Sentence and the referenced Note to this Sentence are specific to vitrified clay pipe.</p> <p>It is worth noting that this Sentence does not appear in the 2015 National Plumbing Code (NPC) on which the 2018 BCPC is based. However, there is an additional requirement in the 2015 NPC for protection of all underground pipes, regardless of material, which requires at least a 75 mm layer of concrete 200 mm wider than the pipe (Clause 2.3.5.1.(1)(b) in the 2015 NPC). This Clause also appears in the 2020 NPC and should then be included in the next edition of the BCPC.</p>
 Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair	

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 *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.