BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

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Interpretation Date:	September 16, 2025
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2024
Subject:	DWV Piping in Gas-Permeable Layer
Keywords:	Radon, Gas-Permeable Layer, DWV Piping
Building Code Reference(s):	9.13.4.3.(1), 9.16.2.1.(1)

Question:

Can horizontal underground drain, waste and vent (DWV) piping be located in the 100 mm gas permeable layer required by Sentences 9.13.4.3.(1) and 9.16.2.1.(1)?

Interpretation:

No.

The installation of horizontal DWV piping in the gas permeable layer could impact the effective depressurization of the area below the floor-on-ground. Therefore, the amount of horizontal piping located in this gas permeable layer should be limited to the extent possible and only include the vertical portions of the DWV system necessary to serve the plumbing fixtures contained in the building.

Par Sheke

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.

2025-09-26