

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

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

File No: 06-0063

INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date:	June 15, 2010
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006
Subject:	Decks
Keywords:	Deck, roofing
Building Code Reference(s):	9.26.1.1.(2)

Question:

Does an impermeable surfaced deck have to comply with Section 9.26 if it does not serve as a roof over habitable area?

Interpretation:

Yes, if the deck does not provide free drainage.

Division B, Sentence 9.26.1.1.(2) states that roofs shall include platforms that effectively serve as roofs with respect to the accumulation or drainage of precipitation.

Appendix A-9.26.1.1.(2) further clarifies the meaning of the phrase "effectively serve as roofs". Platforms, such as decks or balconies, that do not permit the free drainage of water through their surface, are considered as roofs since water will pond on the surface. Such platforms have to comply with Section 9.26.

However, if the surface of the deck slopes to the outside edges and water can freely drain over the edge; such deck is not considered as a roof and does not have to comply with Section 9.26.


R. J. Light, Committee Chair

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