



TOWN OF TRUCKEE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION

PEX Piping

PURPOSE: To clarify the use of PEX piping for water distribution systems

BACKGROUND:

PEX is not presently allowed by the 2001 California Plumbing Code (CPC) or the 2007 edition. Neither the Building Standards Commission (who adopts the code), Housing and Community Development Department (HCD adopts provisions that regulate all dwelling units, hotels, motels, dwellings and apartments) nor the Department of State Architect (DSA regulates all publicly accessible buildings) have adopted the PEX piping provisions.

Reportedly, over 250 of the approximately 500 jurisdictions in California have adopted the use of PEX piping as an alternate piping material. Section 301.2 of the CPC allows local jurisdictions to approve alternate methods and materials where it is demonstrated that the proposed material is at least the equivalent of that prescribed in the Code for quality, strength, effectiveness, durability and safety or that they conform to other acceptable nationally recognized plumbing standards.

PEX piping is a tested, listed and approved plumbing method in the Uniform Plumbing Code and International Plumbing Codes. Both codes are used nation and world wide.

Former Chief Building Official Bill Miller approved several different brands of PEX piping beginning in the year 2000 including Kitelex PEX, Rehau PEX and Aquapex piping. There have been no adverse effects with the use of PEX piping in Truckee.

PROCEDURE:

The previously approved PEX piping methods remain acceptable alternate piping within the Town of Truckee. Inspectors are to assure that the products are installed in accordance with their listings.