

Equivalencies

2.5.1.2.1)

...shall submit sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the proposed equivalent will provide the level of performance required by this code.

Questions to be answered by an equivalency report

- What is the actual code requirement and what is its intent?
- Why is meeting the code requirement difficult?
- What equivalent measures are proposed?
- How are the measures equivalent?
- Does the design affect other consultant's designs? i.e.: architectural, mechanical.

What is the actual code requirement?

- The report must describe the actual requirements clearly.
- Are the code references correct?
- Are all referenced documents included as appendices?
- Is the interpretation of the requirement and its intent, as we understand it?

Why is meeting code difficult?

- Are the non-conforming items described clearly?
- Is this a request for a justifiable equivalency, or is it an opinion that the items required by code are illogical or unnecessary?

What equivalent measures are proposed?

- Is there a description of the equivalent measure and information on how it works?
- Is required technical data included?

How are measures equivalent?

- Are proposed equivalent features in addition to requirements of BCBC, or would they apply anyway?
- Is there a logical connection between the requirement and the equivalent feature?
- Do the proposed additional features balance against the actual BCBC requirements?
- Does the report conclude with a statement that the proposed features provide a level of safety equivalent or better than the actual code requirement?

Does the equivalency affect other consultant's designs?

- Have the equivalent features been included in the relevant consultant's design?