



## ROOF DEAD LOAD DESIGN CONSIDERING FUTURE RE-ROOFING

### *ISSUE:*

In accordance with Section 1510.3 of the 2008 Los Angeles County Building Code, re-roofing shall not exceed two layers (existing plus new) on roofs with asphalt or wood shingles.

There are some structural engineers and architects that are not aware of these requirements and do not consider the weight of future additional roofing layers in their roof dead load calculations. For example, the design weight of an asphalt or wood shingle roof covering (where re-roofing is allowed) should be 4 psf instead of the actual weight of approximately 2 psf.

Since approved residential plans in our field offices are kept for only 90-days from the date of completion of construction, design information on an existing roof will not be available when an applicant applies for a re-roofing permit years in the future. We are therefore implementing a policy to help eradicate future confusion and to expedite permit issuance.

### *POLICY:*

We will instruct applicants to account for the potential weight of re-roofing materials in their calculations as part of the original design.

Due to the possibility of re-roofing an asphalt or wood shake roof with lightweight clay tile, which has a typical minimum design load of 6 psf, **our procedure will be to ask design professionals to use a minimum 6 psf roofing material dead load in their calculations.** Note that for roofing materials like clay or concrete tiles, where re-roofing is not permitted, the design engineer shall use the actual weight of one layer of roofing material.

If the design professional is adamant about using only a minimum 4 psf roof material dead load, it will be our policy to place a note on the job jacket and to add a hold on the address in DAPTS indicating that the design weight of the roof material used was 4 psf. With this permanent record, if the house is re-roofed in the future with lightweight tile or some other heavier material, engineering analysis will be required to verify the adequacy of the roof framing system. The design professional should be made aware of this policy during the plan check process.

We will not accept a note on the plans or a letter from the designer indicating that the existing roofing layer will be removed prior to re-roofing since new owners may not receive that information and these records are often discarded when the project is finished.

RECOMMENDED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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Supersedes BCM 1606 Article 1 dated 07-23-07