

## **ENB-17.02 - Structural Observation**

### **STRUCTURAL OBSERVATION**

*Administrative Rules Adopted by Bureau of Development Services*

ARB-ENB-17.02

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#### **A. Objective**

1. To define the scope of requirements and responsibilities of the engineer of record (EOR) for structural observation when required by the Structural Specialty Code or the Bureau of Development Services, according to the provisions of Section 1702.
2. These requirements and responsibilities are not the same as those of special inspectors for reinforced concrete, structural masonry, structural steel, sprayed on fireproofing, etc. as set out in these Rules. "Engineer of Record" (EOR) as used above is meant to include the engineer or architect (or his authorized representative) that has been responsible for the structural design.

#### **B. References**

Chapter 17, Structural Observation, Structural Specialty Code

#### **C. Definition**

1. Structural observation means the visual observation of the structural system, for general conformance to the approved plans and specifications, at significant construction stages and at completion of the structural system. Structural observation does not include nor waive the responsibility for the inspections required by Structural Specialty Code Sections 108 (building inspections) and Chapter 17 (special inspections).
2. Structural observation as defined in this section is not to be relied upon by others as a guarantee of the work, nor to be construed to relieve the contractor of its obligations and responsibilities under the construction contract, approved permit documents, and applicable workmanship provisions of the Structural Specialty Code and standards referenced by the approved permit documents.
3. Structural observation does not include responsibility for the inspection or superintendence of construction processes, site conditions, operations, equipment, personnel, or the maintenance of a safe place to work or any safety in, on, or about the work site.

#### **D. General**

According to Structural Specialty Code Chapter 17, the owner shall employ the EOR to perform structural observation when one of the following conditions exists:

1. The structure is defined in Table No. 16-K as Occupancy Category I, II, or III, or
2. The structure is required to comply with Section 403, or
3. When so designated by the architect or engineer of record, or
4. When such observation is specifically required by the Bureau of Development Services.

#### **E. Duties and Responsibilities**

1. The general report procedures of Section I.F. of these Rules are also required of the EOR. One observation report is required for each day that the EOR performs an observation. A copy of each observation report shall be maintained at the job site for review by the Bureau of Development Services. The EOR shall send copies of each observation reports to the architect, the special inspector, the owner, the contractor, and the Bureau of Development Services. At the conclusion of the work the EOR shall submit a statement in writing to the Bureau of Development Services stating that the site visits have been made and whether or not any observed deficiencies have been corrected to conform to the approved plans and specifications, or to revised details approved by the Bureau of Development Services.
2. Structural observation of construction does not necessarily have to be "continuous" but should be performed so that close coordination exists among the EOR, the contractor, the inspection/testing agency (where applicable) and the Bureau of Development Services. As part of the inspection and observation program required by Structural Specialty Code Section 106.3.5, the EOR shall indicate on the structural drawings at which stages of construction the observations will occur.
3. The EOR shall monitor the inspection/testing agency's special inspections. This should not be construed to relieve the inspection/testing agency of its obligations according to Title 24, but is intended to assist the Bureau of Development Services in the monitoring of the quality control provisions for the project. The EOR shall review and

evaluate the special inspector's inspection and test reports. In cases of unfavorable reports, the EOR shall initiate prompt action with appropriate parties to seek their resolution.

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**HISTORY**

Filed for inclusion in PPD September 29, 2004.