



92870 • (714) 996-6891 • S.C.L. #439226

901 VIA RODEO • PLACENTIA, CA •

May 29, 2008

RECEIVED  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT  
BRANCH

2008 JUN -2 P 2: 35

JUN - 3 2008

REAL ESTATE  
SERVICES DIVISION

California Department of General Services  
Real Estate Services Division  
Professional Services Branch, Environmental Services Section  
707 Third Street, Third Floor, MS 509  
West Sacramento, CA 95605-9052

Attn: Valerie Namba, Senior Environmental Planner  
RE: Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Report on PEX Tubing

My comments on the DEIR are as follows:

We have been installing Uponor Wirsbo AquaPEX tubing since 2002. During that time, we have installed approximately 1100 systems and have not had any call backs from end users complaining about taste and odor from their PEX water distribution system. Additionally, since we have been installing PEX water distribution systems we have not had any call backs due to premature failures of the system. We have had numerous failures of copper systems over the past 20 years and in areas where copper is failing, the PEX water distribution system has virtually eliminated any call backs. We continue to replace failing copper systems with PEX tubing, where approved, with great success and to the satisfaction of the end users.

In most applications PEX tubing is being installed above slab, eliminating the concern of permeation of contaminated soils. The exception is the installation of PEX tubing to island sinks. In these applications, we have not experienced any call backs concerning permeation of any chemicals into the potable water system. Since the island sinks are in the interior of the slab, the tubing is virtually protected from coming into contact with harmful contaminants that are applied after the structure is built.

Since we have been installing PEX tubing, we have not experienced any failures of PEX tubing, whether installed in a typical water distribution system or in a recirculation system. I can not state the same thing for copper installations. We have repaired numerous copper systems due to pinhole leaks that have occurred in as little as 24 months.

We strongly encourage the adoption of PEX tubing into the California Plumbing Code.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Hartshorn, President