



Inspectron, Inc.
BUILDING OFFICIAL –
Code Compliance Inspections
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Bearing Pin Piers

Inspectron, Inc. (“Inspectron”) provides the following handout to builders inquiring about using bearing pin pier supports (Diamond Pier, Handi-Pier, etc.) for exterior decks. Inspectron will evaluate proposals proposing the use of pin piers as an Alternate Material or Method under Minnesota Rule part 1300.0110, Subpart 13.

In accordance with Minnesota Rule part 1300.0110, Subpart 13, any alternate material, design, or method of construction shall be submitted to the building official for review.

A completed alternate request must document how the design complies with the intent of the code, and how the material, method, or work is at least equivalent to that prescribed in the code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety.

A completed alternate design request must be submitted in writing to Inspectron and should include the following information:

- 1) The name of project, project number and site location.
 - a) Include the presumptive load bearing soil capacity of the soil at the site.
- 2) An overview statement that summarizes why the proposed alternate is being requested.
- 3) Cite the applicable code(s) and/or standard(s) to which you are seeking an alternative to.
- 4) Explain how this alternate complies with the intent of the code.
- 5) Describe how this alternate material, method, or work is at least the equivalent of that prescribed in the code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire-resistance, durability, and safety.
- 6) List any foreseen difficulties which may hinder the compliance with the specific code application noted in item 5.
- 7) Elaborate on each and include details regarding costs, hardships, technical difficulty, and/or impracticality of literal code compliance.
- 8) Produce the specifics of the alternate being proposed. Include supporting technical details, all applicable test results, product listing, or alternate compliance standards and necessary plans.
- 9) Attach any additional documentation, reports, plans and/or illustrations to support your request.
 - a) Attach applicable nationally recognized Standard for material and/or installation.
 - b) Attach available 3rd party testing or listing documents of products.
 - c) Attach manufacturer’s recommendation of materials and/or installation instructions.
 - d) Attach engineering analysis when necessary and helpful for review.

i) Inspectron reserves the right to require:

- (1) soil verification provided by a Soils Engineer licensed in the State of Minnesota;
- (2) structural Engineering to verify the structural assemblies and components meet or exceed the requirements of the Minnesota State Building Code and lateral load resistance, uplift, frost protection, change in water table, and other applicable code requirements.

10) Sign and date the written request.

All projects will be evaluated individually and are site specific.

Inspectron reserves the right conduct a site inspection.

A site inspection may also be requested by a builder seeking to expedite, verify, or supplement the information provided above. Requested site inspections will be invoiced to builder at a flat fee of \$125.00 per visit.

Inspectron reserves the right to update the requirements above at any time.