



City of Seattle
Department of Planning & Development

2012 SBC Code Solution

SBC Section 106.5.2
SE vs CE for Shoring
Release Date: January 14, 2014
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The following interpretation, policy or code alternate is intended to provide guidance to staff for consistency of review and is subject to change without notice. Application of this interpretation, policy or code alternate to specific projects may vary.

Code Issue:

When is a licensed structural engineer required to stamp shoring plans?

Interpretation/Policy:

A structural engineer's stamp is required on shoring plans for the following conditions:

- Cantilevered soldier piles more than 12' in height
- Tied-back or internally braced shoring of any height
- Shoring that is to become part of the support for a permanent structure, where a structural license is required for the primary permanent structure.

A civil engineer's stamp is permitted on shoring plans for the following conditions:

- Cantilevered soldier piles up to 12' in height
- Soil nailing
- Other reinforced earth systems
- Where the engineer has demonstrated significant experience designing shoring systems comparable in complexity in other parts of the state or country.

Shoring that is to become part of the permanent structure, where a structural license is not otherwise required, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

The requirements for other types of shoring systems, including hybrid systems, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

For questions about whether this code solution applies to your project:

- *If you have submitted a permit application, contact the Building Code plan reviewer assigned to your application*
- *If you have not submitted an application, contact DPD Building Code Technical Support at 206-684-4630 or in person at the Applicant Services Center. Visit the Applicant Services Center website for more information about hours and location http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Permits/Process_Overview/Location_Hours/default.asp*

