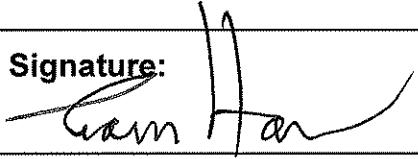


DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION
City and County of San Francisco
1660 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Building Code Interpretation
General 005
Earth to Wood Contact

Subject: Earth to wood contact	Date: November 5, 2007
San Francisco Building Code Sections: 2304.11.2	Code Year: 2007
Approved By: Isam Hasenin, P.E., C.B.O., Director	Signature: 
Question: Is it allowable for floor joists or other floor assembly members to be in contact with or to be embedded in earth?	

Answer: Yes, reduced clearances (or embedment) from earth to floor joists of treated wood or wood having a natural resistance to decay is specifically allowed in Section 2304.11.2. Under certain circumstances described in Section 2304.11.2, the entire floor assembly up to and including the sub-floor must also be treated wood or wood having a natural resistance to decay.
<small>This Code Application and Interpretation is subject to change at any time. To determine if this interpretation is still current, please call (415) 558-6205 or visit our website http://www.sfgov.org/site/dbi</small>