



Building Bulletin

Fibreglass Rebar

The City of Kitchener Building Division have been asked about fibreglass reinforcing (fibre-reinforced polymer bars) in lieu of conventional steel reinforcement in concrete for the construction of buildings, which has prompted us to review.

Currently the use of fibreglass rebar is **not** a prescriptive solution in the Ontario Building Code, or the National Building Code of Canada. When new products come on the market (or new applications of existing products) there is usually some time required for the Building Codes to catch up. Until such time that the Building Codes prescriptively reference and accept the use of fibreglass rebar the City of Kitchener will require a valid CCMC Evaluation, BMEC Authorization, or a Ministers Ruling. The City is not aware of fibreglass rebar having any of these approvals currently. As a result, this Bulletin is to provide heads up notice the City is not able to accept fibreglass rebar based on information shared to date and the City does not want designers and contractors caught off guard.

We recognize that these products may have advantages, and staff will be pleased to accept its use in the construction of buildings once the appropriate approvals are in place and/or the Building Codes catch up to prescriptively accept it.

As always thank you for your cooperation and if you have any questions, please contact us.

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