



Question/Issue

Owners of sport courts want them to be constructed using post-tensioned slabs to help alleviate cracking. The question is, “Do these engineered slabs require plan review and permits?”

Background

Post-tensioned slabs on ground for sport courts are constructed with minimal prestress to prevent cracking and typically do not support exterior loads (like buildings). However, proper design of the slab, installation of the tendons, placement of concrete and tendon stressing are still important if the slab is to perform properly. It is also important to mark the slab as post-tensioned so care can be taken when drilling through or demolishing the slab.

Policy

Sport courts do not support buildings nor is there any life safety issue when failure (cracking) occurs. Post-tensioned slabs on ground for the use of sport courts do not require plan review, permits or inspections from P&D staff.

In lieu of a permit for these courts, P&D Recommends:

- Engaging only a Post-Tension Institute (PTI) certified contractor to construct the slab
- Requiring contractor to stamp the slab or place a permanent placard for future reference