



OPTIONS FOR QUALIFYING SPECIAL INSPECTION AND TESTING COMPANIES



CBC Chapter 17 provides for the use of Special Inspectors for work listed in the referenced section. Special inspections are mandatory – not optional – requirements of the California Building Code. The purpose of this document is to provide information on how the Town of Danville evaluates the qualifications and acceptability of individual special inspectors and their affiliated companies. The Town of Danville currently offers four options for evaluating special inspectors and their affiliated company.

OPTION ONE: SPECIAL INSPECTION AND OBSERVATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT

If the owner retains the design professional of record (who is responsible for the design of the structural and/or non-structural elements requiring special inspection) to select a special inspection and testing agency/individuals for the project, then the Town of Danville’s Building Official will deem the agency/individuals as qualified under the requirements of California Building Code Chapter 17.

OPTION TWO: RECOGNIZED LISTS

The Town of Danville recognizes and approves special inspection companies that are on the following lists and are current and in good standing:

- Bay Area Special Inspection and Joint Review Committee Recognition List
Note: Companies desiring to be included on this list must apply directly to one of the jurisdictions on the committee. A current recognition list may be obtained from one of the committee member jurisdictions. Committee membership changes periodically. And, the recognition list is updated from time to time. So, owners looking to use this option will need to check for the most current recognition list. Performing a web search of “Bay Area Special Inspection Joint Review Committee Recognition List” will typically provide references to a current list within jurisdiction’s web sites that are on the committee.
- [DSA Laboratory Evaluation and Accreditation List](#)

Owners are encouraged to discuss with potential special inspection companies whether they are on one or more of the lists recognized and to have the special inspection company provide the current recognition list to show they are current and in good standing.

Many special inspection companies belong to the California Council of Testing and Inspection Agencies (CCTIA) organization. CCTIA maintains a membership roster on their web site at www.cctia.org. This is not the same thing as the recognition list discussed above, but the membership list will provide contact information to help owners find qualified special inspection companies for their projects.

OPTION THREE: SPECIAL INSPECTION COMPANY ACCREDITED BY IAS

This option uses the Special Inspector Accreditation Program for agencies offered by International Accreditation Service (IAS), a subsidiary of ICC. The program requires special inspection agencies to operate under a quality system that is documented in a manual and also requires the agency to be assessed in the field to determine if it is competent to perform specific inspections or types of inspections. IAS accreditation is based on the assessment of a special inspection agency's inspection procedures, the competence of its inspection staff, and its reporting procedures. Any company having an IAS accreditation as a special inspection company will be acceptable by the Town of Danville in the area of accreditation provided their accreditation is in good standing and current. Information on this program may be obtained at the following website: <https://www.iasonline.org/services/>

OPTION FOUR: EVALUATION BY QUALITY CONTROL AGENCY

This option utilizes a consulting *Quality Control Agency*, paid for by the company or individual seeking to get prequalified as a special inspection company or individual, to evaluate the qualifications and acceptability of the special inspection company or individual. The Town of Danville does not have the in-house capacity or the expertise to perform qualification review and verification for the purpose of satisfying CBC Chapter 17. Therefore, the Town will utilize a *Quality Control Agency* under these provisions to provide the review and verification, and to present the findings of their review and verification to the Building Official. A written report shall be prepared by the *Quality Control Agency* that addresses the qualification requirements, which may change from time to time. This would require the Town of Danville to go through the process of selecting a *Quality Control Agency* through a competitive procurement process and the contract for such services would require Town Council approval. This process would necessarily take a couple of months to complete.