

GENERAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS AND DEMOLITIONS

Demolition permits can be issued to Demolition Contractors with Class C-21 license and to General Building Contractors with Class B-1 license when the demolition work is part of a construction project and the same contractor will do the construction as specified in the Information Bulletin, P/BC 2017-039 (Demolition of Buildings. See <http://www.ladbs.org/ladbsWeb/information-bulletin>). At times, however, the Department receives requests for demolition permits for structures such as automobile service stations by General Engineering Contractors with Class A license. The issue is whether demolition permits can be issued to a license A holder.

As specified in Section 7056 of the Business and Professions Code of the state of California, a general engineering contractor is a contractor whose principal contracting business is in connection with fixed works requiring specialized engineering knowledge and skill, including the following divisions or subjects: irrigation, drainage, water power, water supply, flood control, inland waterways, harbors, docks and wharves, shipyards and ports, dams and hydroelectric projects, levees, river control and reclamation works, railroads, highways, streets and roads, tunnels, airports and airways, sewers and sewage disposal plants and systems, waste reduction plants, bridges, overpasses, underpasses and other similar works, pipelines and other systems for the transmission of petroleum and other liquid or gaseous substances, parks, playgrounds and other recreational works, refineries, chemical plants and similar industrial plants requiring specialized engineering knowledge and skill, powerhouses, power plants and other utility plants and installations, mines and metallurgical plants, land leveling and earthmoving projects, excavating, grading, trenching, paving and surfacing work and cement and concrete works in connection with the above mentioned fixed works.

Contrary to Class B-1, General Contractor whose principal contracting business is in connection with any "structure built, being built, or to be built", the definition in the State Code does not limit contractors with Class A license to building structures but instead, allows them to do any work as long as it requires "specialized knowledge and skills." Therefore, General Engineering Contractors with Class A license may do demolition of those structures listed above and other similar structures including gasoline service stations.