



Fig. R18.10.7b—Full confinement of diagonally reinforced concrete beam section in coupling beams with diagonally oriented reinforcement. Wall boundary reinforcement shown on one side only for clarity.

18.10.8 Wall piers

18.10.8.1 Wall piers shall satisfy the special moment frame requirements for columns of 18.7.4, 18.7.5, and 18.7.6, with joint faces taken as the top and bottom of the clear height of the wall pier. Alternatively, wall piers with $(l_w/b_w) > 2.5$ shall satisfy (a) through (f):

- (a) Design shear force shall be calculated in accordance with 18.7.6.1 with joint faces taken as the top and bottom of the clear height of the wall pier. If the general building code includes provisions to account for overstrength of the seismic-force-resisting system, the design shear force

R18.10.8 Wall piers

Door and window placements in structural walls sometimes lead to narrow vertical wall segments that are considered to be wall piers. The dimensions defining wall piers are given in **Chapter 2**. Shear failures of wall piers have been observed in previous earthquakes. The intent of this section is to provide sufficient shear strength to wall piers such that inelastic response, if it occurs, will be primarily in flexure. The provisions apply to wall piers designated as part of the seismic-force-resisting system. Provisions for wall piers not designated as part of the seismic-force-resisting system are given in 18.14. The effect of all vertical wall segments on the