How to Evaluate Modification of a Pier and Grade Beam Foundation

The “perimeter” of a pier and grade beam foundation includes both exterior portions and sections under the structure. In the example below, the total existing length of the pier and grade beam foundation = 50’+50’+40’+40’+38’ = 218 feet. To measure the length of the section modified by added piers, multiply the number of piers times the average separation between them (below). In locations where only one pier (anchor, etc.) is being added, count as a modification of four feet.

- Total length of ‘perimeter’: 218’
- Modified length: 4’ + (5+6)/2 x 3 = 20.5’
- Percent modification: (20.5/218) = 9.4%
- Factored modification (10%): .94%