

**Florida Building Commission**  
**Product Approval Ad Hoc Committee**  
**Minutes**

Rosen Plaza Hotel  
9700 International Drive, Orlando, Florida  
November 5, 2001

**Attendees**

Nick D'Andrea, Acting Chair  
Craig Parrino  
Steve Bassett

**Objectives**

- To Identify and Discuss Remaining Product Approval System Issues in Proposed Rule 9B-72 and Florida Statute
- To Develop Recommendations to the Commission for Any Further Changes to the Proposed Rule
- To Receive Public Comment

**Overview**

The meeting was declared open at 3:05 p.m by Nick D'Andrea, acting chair. Mr. D'Andrea discussed the issue of not having a quorum and the process for conducting the meeting. Jeff Blair reviewed the meeting objectives and remaining product approval system issues. During the meeting the Committee and attendees reviewed five issues regarding the product approval rule. Consensus was reached on two of the issues with those present, however three other issues need to be re-addressed and resolved.

**Committee Actions**

The following issues were addressed:

1. Designation of which products must be approved.

***Recommendation:***

All products regulated by the Code must be approved.

2. Designation of quality assurance program requirements for products approved based on evaluations by approved evaluation entities or Florida registered architects and engineers.

Comments on this issue:

- Quality assurance should apply equally to option 2 and 3.
- Make wording for method 2 same as method 3
- Method 3 should include requirement for signing and sealing of the report
- Onerous requirement, duplication of existing conditions

- Costs may be prohibitive for small companies for outside QA
- Recognition of QA entities by the Florida Building Commission should be considered

**Product Approval Ad Hoc Committee**

**November 5, 2001**

**Minutes**

**Page Two**

- Small manufacturers need third party QA program that is cost effective
- Third party may be too restrictive due to unenforceability
- Remove third party QA for local approval only option
- Definition of evaluation report should refer to QA. Define in (14) and (15) on page 4 of the rule
- Internal QA programs need criteria established to meet the intent of the law
- Set QA program criteria instead of third party audit

3. Reconciliation of the statute requirement for “submittal and validation of...reports and listings” for products listed by approved certification agencies.

4. Determination of how the Commission will include products listed by approved certification agencies in the statute required list of products approved for statewide use.

Comments on issues 3 and 4:

- Link submittal to certification agencies databases for standards referenced in the Code where listing indicates compliance to standards referenced in the Code
- The Florida Building Commission should approve products that need approval. Don't require certification agencies to do more than submit listing. Simply maintain certification agency's list. Need submittal by manufacturer to the Commission for approval (for methods 3 and 4).
- Use existing directories. Specify which directories should be listed. Reference specific applicable directories.
- Use least costly method to get products on database
- Certification books currently used is adequate third party certification. Should simply be accepted and listed on the Florida Building Commission web-site. Manufacturers should not be required to submit to the Commission.
- No changes to statute without compelling need. Don't have reason currently to request. State approval is voluntary. Submittals are already in hand. Don't cut the Commission out of the process as is currently required. Reconsider the Commission's decision requiring legislative change.
- Automatically approved but must submit to the Commission (an option).
- Amend law to reflect proposed rule.
- Conform rule to law. Options: (1) Products approved by certification agencies are listed; (2) Require bulk submittal to meet the requirement in law.

- Require certification agency approval process to include product approval.
- Definitions section could be changed, which products are covered and how they apply.

## **Product Approval Ad Hoc Committee**

**November 5, 2001**

### **Minutes**

**Page Three**

- All products regulated by Code must be approved by product approval process 1.1. All products listed in listing directories, if approved certification agencies pre-approved for state-wide use subject to their conditions of use.
- Submit copy of listing with a link to web-site.
- Bulk submittal; electronically. Include new product updates and/or changes.
- Specify who is required to submit in the law.

5. Reconciliation with the statute's intent when it appears to recognize reports and listings, but not certification marks as the basis of approvals.

Comments on this issue:

- Not a problem, leave alone.

### ***Recommendation:***

The Commission should review the remaining issues #2, #3, and #4 and consider assigning them back to the TAC for further discussion.

### **Conclusion**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.