



Fire

Proposed Code Modifications

Glitch Modifications

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Total Mods for **Fire** in **Pending Review: 2**

Total Mods for report: 2

Sub Code: Building

Date Submitted 4/30/2013	Section 312.1	Proponent Howard Foreman
Chapter 3	Affects HVHZ No	Attachments No
TAC Recommendation Pending Review		
Commission Action Pending Review		

Related Modifications

Add to 312.1: Upon the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, the requirements of the Building Code shall dictate the characteristics of occupancy, operations and maintenance for this Use and Occupancy Classification and shall be in compliance with the requirements identified within the Code.

Summary of Modification

Small unmanned utility telecommunications structures do not require portable fire extinguishers under the Florida Building Code. The 2010 Florida Fire Prevention Code does not have this Use and Occupancy Classification by default and would require portable fire extinguishers.

Rationale

These facilities pose a minimal fire and life hazard due to the unmanned nature of the structure use. The addition of "unmanned telecommunication equipment facilities" clarifies the appropriate Use and Occupancy classification. This classification aligns itself with basic requirements of Group U structures.

Fiscal Impact Statement

Impact to local entity relative to enforcement of code

Greater cost to local code enforcement entities to review and inspect unnecessary portable fire extinguishers and means of egress elements such as exit signs and emergency lighting for small unmanned telecommunication equipment facilities.

Impact to building and property owners relative to cost of compliance with code

Added cost of purchase, installation, testing, inspection and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers and means of egress elements such as exit signs and emergency lighting in small unmanned telecommunication equipment facilities where it is not needed.

Impact to industry relative to the cost of compliance with code

Telecommunication providers will have higher operating cost in the State of Florida due to fire code language discrepancy. Many hundreds of very small unmanned telecommunications equipment facilities would require unnecessary equipment cost.

Requirements

Has a reasonable and substantial connection with the health, safety, and welfare of the general public

These small telecommunication equipment facilities are unmanned and pose an extremely low risk of human interaction and welfare.

Strengthens or improves the code, and provides equivalent or better products, methods, or systems of construction

Clarification of the proper code application for these structures will eliminate confusion and conflicts between the Building Code and the Fire Code.

Does not discriminate against materials, products, methods, or systems of construction of demonstrated capabilities

This code clarification would in no manner create any discrimination.

Does not degrade the effectiveness of the code

No. It strengthens the language of the existing Building Code.

Is the proposed code modification part of a prior code version? **No**

- (a.) Conflicts within the updated code;
- (b.) Conflicts between the updated code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code adopted pursuant to chapter 633;
- (c.) Unintended results from the integration of previously adopted Florida-specific amendments with the model code;
- (d.) Equivalency of standards;
- (e.) Changes to or inconsistencies with federal or state law;
- (f.) Adoption of an updated edition of the National Electrical Code if the commission finds that delay of implementing the updated edition causes undue hardship to stakeholders or otherwise threatens the public health, safety, and welfare.

312.1 General.

Buildings and structures of an accessory character and miscellaneous structures not classified in any specific occupancy shall be constructed, equipped and maintained to conform to the requirements of this code commensurate with the fire and life hazard incidental to their occupancy. Group U shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Agricultural buildings

Aircraft hangars, accessory to a one- or two-family residence (see Section 412.5)

Barns

Carports

Fences more than 6 feet (1829 mm) in height

Grain silos, accessory to a residential occupancy

Greenhouses

Livestock shelters

Private garages

Retaining walls

Sheds

Stables

Tanks

Towers

Unmanned Telecommunications Equipment Facilities

Date Submitted 4/27/2013	Section 708.3	Proponent T Stafford
Chapter 7	Affects HVHZ No	Attachments No
TAC Recommendation Pending Review		
Commission Action Pending Review		

Related Modifications

Summary of Modification

Corrects a conflict within the updated code. Clarifies fire partition requirements for mini-warehouses.

Rationale

Conflict with updated code. This section is no longer needed. Previous versions of the FBCB required walls separating individual tenant spaces to be separated by fire partitions. This amendment was not submitted for the 2013 FBCB. The IBC does not require walls separating individual tenant spaces to be separated by fire partitions. Therefore walls separating tenants in mini warehouse/self storage buildings are not required to be separated by fire partitions regardless of whether there is a sprinkler system installed. This language, if included, will be confusing to users.

Fiscal Impact Statement

Impact to local entity relative to enforcement of code

No impact to local entities.

Impact to building and property owners relative to cost of compliance with code

No impact to building and property owners.

Impact to industry relative to the cost of compliance with code

No impact to industry.

Requirements

Has a reasonable and substantial connection with the health, safety, and welfare of the general public

Corrects a conflict within the updated code.

Strengthens or improves the code, and provides equivalent or better products, methods, or systems of construction

Corrects a conflict within the updated code.

Does not discriminate against materials, products, methods, or systems of construction of demonstrated capabilities

Corrects a conflict within the updated code.

Does not degrade the effectiveness of the code

Corrects a conflict within the updated code.

Is the proposed code modification part of a prior code version? No

- (a.) Conflicts within the updated code;
- (b.) Conflicts between the updated code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code adopted pursuant to chapter 633;
- (c.) Unintended results from the integration of previously adopted Florida-specific amendments with the model code;
- (d.) Equivalency of standards;
- (e.) Changes to or inconsistencies with federal or state law;
- (f.) Adoption of an updated edition of the National Electrical Code if the commission finds that delay of implementing the updated edition causes undue hardship to stakeholders or otherwise threatens the public health, safety, and welfare.

708.3 Fire resistance rating. Fire partitions shall have a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 1 hour.

Exceptions: 1. – 2. (No Change)

3. ~~In mini-warehouses/self-storage buildings, walls used to separate tenants shall not be required to have fire-resistance rating, provided a sprinkler system meeting the requirements of Ordinary Hazard Group II as defined by NFPA 13, is installed employing quick response heads.~~