

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
BUILDING COMMISSION**

In the Matter of

RUFFIN BUILDING SYSTEMS,

Case #: DCA04-DEC-070

Petitioner.

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**DECLARATORY STATEMENT**

The foregoing proceeding came before the Florida Building Commission (the "Commission") by a petition from Jimmy Werley, of RUFFIN BUILDING SYSTEMS, (the "Petitioner"), which was received on March 24, 2004. Based upon the statements in the Petitions and the materials subsequently submitted, it is hereby ORDERED:

**Findings of Fact**

1. The petition is filed pursuant to Section 120.565, Florida Statutes, and must conform to the requirements of Rule 28-105.002, *Florida Administrative Code*.

2. The Petitioner is requesting clarification relative to whether or not its steel manufactured building product falls under any of the sub categories of Rule 9B-72, *Florida Administrative Code*, and is subject to the State Product Approval System.

3. The Petitioner is the manufacturer of large metal buildings consisting of a specifically designed, integrated set of components and assemblies that function synergistically in the form of a complete building shell. The primary structural frame of these buildings are constructed of hot-rolled and built-up structural steel members which are designed using the "Manual of Steel

Construction.” The secondary framing and panels of the metal building system are constructed of steel that is formed into shapes by roll forming, bending, or pressing light gage materials using the “specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members”.

4. The Petitioner states that it is their opinion that their wall and roof panels do not fall within the scope of Rule 9B-72.010(29), *Florida Administrative Code*, because they are pre-engineered structural elements. Petitioner also states that their wall and roof panels are certified by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) for category MB, Metal Building Systems.

5. The Petitioner states that the strength of the standing-seam roofing (SSR) system is determined using the ASTM E1592-01 test procedure which is a structural capacity test to determine the ability of a panel system, including attachments, to resist uniform static pressure. Additionally, Petitioner states that their SSR systems have been tested and carry the UL 90 wind uplift rating. Note: ASTM E1592 and UL 90 are not listed in Chapter 35 of the Florida Building Code.

### **Conclusions of Law**

1. The Florida Building Commission has the specific statutory authority to interpret the provisions of the Florida Building Code by entering a declaratory statement.

2. Section 2203.1, Florida Building Code, Building Volume, General, states:

The design, fabrication and erection of structural steel for buildings shall conform to the requirements of either AISC Specifications for Structural Steel Buildings – Allowable Stress Design and Plastic Design or the AISC Load and Resistance Factor Design Specification for Structural Steel Buildings or the AISC Specification for the Design of Steel Hollow Structural Sections except as modified by 2212, which was the seismic section in the Standard Building Code

and has been reserved in the Florida Building Code.

3. Section 2204.1, Florida Building Code, Building Volume, Regular cold-formed steel, states:

The design of structural members cold -formed from carbon or low alloy steel shall conform to the AISI Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members. All individual structural members and assembled panels of cold-formed steel construction, except where fabricated of approved corrosion-resistant steel or of steel having corrosion-resistant metallic or other approved coating, shall be protected against corrosion with an acceptable shop coat of paint, enamel or other approved protection.

3. Section 553.842(5), Fla. Stat., (2003) states in part:

Local approval of products or methods or systems of construction may be achieved by the local building official through building plans review and inspection to determine that the product, method, or system of construction complies with the prescriptive standards established in the code.

4. Rule 9B-72.010(29), *Florida Administrative Code*, Sub-category of product means a specific functionality, specifically sub section (c) and (d) state:

(c) For panel walls: sliding, soffits, exterior insulation finish system (EIFS), storefronts, curtain walls, wall louver, glass block membrane, greenhouse, or other;

(d) For roofing products: built up roofing, modified bitumen roof system, single ply roof systems, spray applied polyurethane roof system, roofing fasteners, roofing insulation , asphalt shingles, wood shingles and shakes, roofing slate, roof tile adhesives, cements-adhesives-coatings, liquid applied roof systems, underpayments, non-structural metal roofing, roofing tiles, waterproofing, or other;

5. Section 2204.3.1, Florida Building Code, Building Volume, states:

Steel deck diaphragms shall be made from materials conforming to the requirements of the AISI-CFSD Specification or ASCE 8.

6. Section 2204.3.2, Florida Building Code, Building Volume, states:

Nominal strengths shall be determined in accordance with approved test procedures prepared by a design professional. Design strengths shall be determined by multiplying the nominal strength by a resistance factor (f) of 0.60. The steel deck installation for the building, including fasteners, shall comply with the test assembly arrangement.

7. Section 1504.3, Florida Building Code, Building Volume, Wind resistance of non-ballasted low-slope roofs with slopes less than 2 in 12 (2:12), states:

Roof coverings installed on low slope roofs in accordance with § 1508 that are mechanically attached or adhered to the roof deck shall be designed to resist the design wind load pressures for cladding in Chapter 16. Roof systems with built-up, modified bitumen, fully adhered or mechanically attached single-ply, metal roof panels, and other types of membrane roof coverings shall also be tested in accordance with FM 4450, FM 4470, UL 580, or UL 1897. Individual components of the roof assembly that have not been tested may be substituted when engineering calculations are provided that demonstrate system compliance with Chapter 16.

8. Section 553.842(11), Fla. Stat., states:

Products, other than manufactured buildings, which are custom fabricated or assembled shall not require separate approval under this section provided the component parts have been approved for the fabricated or assembled products use and components meet the standards and requirements of the Florida Building Code which applies to the product's indented use.

9. Petitioner's question requests clarification relative to:

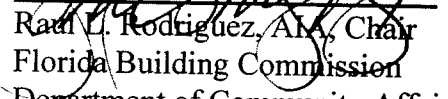
Whether or not their product falls under any of the sub categories of Rule 9B-72. The petitioner is a manufacturer of large metal buildings which consist of a specifically designed, integrated set of components and assemblies that function synergistically in the form of a complete building shell, which is governed by the building code of jurisdiction and recognized design specifications published by the American Institute of Steel Construction AISC and the American Iron and Steel Institute.

10. Petitioner's question is answered as follows:

The buildings in question are custom fabricated buildings in accordance with Section 553.842(11), Fla. Stat. Separate approval for individual buildings per Rule 9B-72 is not required. However, steel deck diaphragms, siding, sheathing, windows, doors, and other structural components listed in Rule 9B-72 are subject to the requirements of Rule 9B-72.

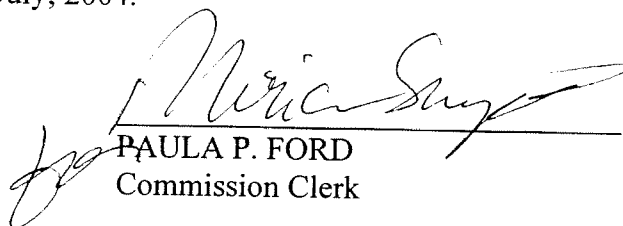
Petitioner and all other interested parties are hereby advised of their right to seek judicial review of this Order in accordance with section 120.68(2)(a), Fla. Stat. (2003), and with Fla. R. App. P. 9.030(b)(1)(C) and 9.110(a). To initiate an appeal, a Notice of Appeal must be filed with Paula P. Ford, Clerk of the Commission, Sadowski Building, 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100, and with the appropriate District Court of Appeal not later than thirty (30) days after this Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission. A Notice of Appeal filed with the District Court of Appeal shall be accompanied by the filing fee specified by section 35.22(3), Fla. Stat. (2003).

DONE AND ORDERED this 07 of July, 2004, in Coral Gables, Miami-Dade County, State of Florida.

  
Raul L. Rodriguez, AIA, Chair  
Florida Building Commission  
Department of Community Affairs  
Sadowski Building  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was sent to the following by  
the method indicated on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2004.

  
PAULA P. FORD  
Commission Clerk

**Via U.S. Mail:**

Jimmy Werley  
Vice President and General Manager  
Ruffin Building Systems  
6914 Highway 2  
Oak Grove, Louisiana 71263-8390

**Via Hand Delivery:**

Mo Madani, CBO  
Planning Manager  
Codes and Standards Section  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100