

**MECHANICAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TELECONFERENCE MEETING FROM TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**

**WEB URL <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/533378925>**

**AUDIO: DIAL-IN NUMBER 1 866-899-4679**

**CONFERENCE CODE: 533-378-925**

**November 20, 2019**

**10:00 A.M.**

## **Minutes**

### **MECHANICAL TAC PRESENT:**

Oscar Calleja  
Joseph Crum  
Elizabeth Goll  
Daniel Griffin

Fred Stoeger for Alex Hernandez  
Don Pittman  
Pete Quintela

### **MECHANICAL TAC NOT PRESENT**

Gary Griffin

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Mo Madani  
Justin Vogel  
Jim Hammers

Thomas Campbell  
Chris Howell  
Norman Bellamy

**Welcome:**

**Time: 10:00 p.m.**

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Bellamy performed roll call for the Mechanical TAC. A quorum was determined with 6 members present at roll call.

**Agenda Approval:**

Commissioner Calleja asked for a motion to approve the agenda as posted if there were no changes.

Mr. Pittman entered a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting as posted. Mr. Quintella seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

**Approval of the Minutes from July 31, 2019:**

Commissioner Calleja asked for a motion to approve the minutes as posted if there were no changes.

Mr. Pittman entered a motion to approve the minutes from the July 31, 2019 meeting as posted. Mr. Quintella seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

**To Consider and discuss the following Declaratory Statement:**

Mr. Crum joined the call bringing the quorum to 7 members.

**DS 2019-064 by William G. Thames, Jr., of Arbor Properties, Inc.**

Mr. Madani presented the background on the petition and provided the full staff analysis as follows with two possible answers for the TAC.

Mr. Reeves of Arbor Properties was present on the call to answer any questions for the petitioner.

Question: Does venting the electric clothes dryer in question into a breezeway, specifically depicted in exhibit "A", meet the requirement of section 504.1 with regard to exhausting electric clothes dryer exhaust outside of the building?

**DS 2019-064 by William G. Thames, Jr., of Arbor Properties, Inc. (cont.):**

Answer Option #1/Petitioner: We believe the answer to the question is “Yes.” Exhausting the dryer vent into the open breezeway depicted in exhibit “A” does meet the requirements of section 504.1. In fact, Arbor has constructed over 700 units across Leon County, the City of Tallahassee, Bay County, the City of Lynn Haven, and the City of Panama City that feature dryer vents in the breezeway that satisfy section 504.1.

Option #2/Staff: The answer to Petitioner’s question is yes. Exhausting the dryer vent into the open breezeway of the project in question does meet the venting requirement of section 504.1 of the 6th Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Mechanical.

**TAC Comments:**

Commissioner Calleja asked for clarification of why this declaratory statement was being requested. He also stated he was concerned that 501.3 is not included in the request and that he wanted to be sure that they are addressing the issue to bring a resolution for the builder.

Mr. Reeves with Arbor Properties advised that there were some questions from the building department in Tallahassee and they were requested to bring the issue to the TAC and the Commission for clarification.

Mr. Madani stated we can add to the answer under Option #2 “Compliance with 501.3 is not required.”

Mr. Quintella stated he was concerned over 501.3 regarding doorways and public nuisances from the dryers venting into the breezeway and he is opposed to the answer. He stated the hazards including lint flowing in the breezeway and other environmental issues.

Mr. Madani further explained the definitions in the code that were used to come to this response. He further stated you cannot apply the general and the specific provisions when addressing the code. Mr. Madani stated in this case you would apply the specific provision in “Section 504.1”.

Commissioner Calleja asked that the language in the answer be changed from open breezeway to open ended hallway.

Mr. Stoeger expressed his concerns of 501.3 including walkways and breezeways.

Mr. Madani further explained that this part of the code is general and is for all mechanical exhaust systems and there is specific language for clothes dryers in 504.1.

**DS 2019-064 by William G. Thames, Jr., of Arbor Properties, Inc. (cont.):**

**TAC Comments (cont.):**

Commissioner Calleja stated he wanted the answer to be clear with the amendments as discussed.

Mr. Pittman stated he researched the question and the way the code reads this is the only definition that fits the narrative.

Mr. Crum stated he agreed.

Mr. Stoeger stated that the limit is 4 vents in the breezeway for this construction.

Mr. Madani stated yes for this building project, should there be different request with more venting there would need to be another request to address, we can only answer based on the information provided.

Mr. Pittman entered a motion to approve the staff analysis as modified, changing open breezeway to open ended hallway and to add in "Compliance with 501.3 is not required" to the full analysis. Mr. Crum seconded the motion.

**Full Staff analysis modified:**

The answer to Petitioner's question is yes. Exhausting the dryer vent into the open ended hallway of the project in question does meet the venting requirement of section 504.1 of the 6th Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Mechanical. Compliance with 501.3 is not required.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Pasi stated he was concerned about winds bringing dryer lint blowing where there may be children or the elderly. He stated he is concerned about combustion.

Mr. Madani stated this is listed as all electric and this would not be a problem.

Commissioner Calleja stated the pictures are from previous projects and that they are all electric, including the water heaters.

Gordan Thames, the petitioner stated this project called for all electric systems and they have been using this process for many projects.

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**DS 2019-064 by William G. Thames, Jr., of Arbor Properties, Inc. (cont.):**

**Public Comment (cont.):**

Commissioner Calleja read the motion again that was entered and seconded. He then called for the vote. The motion passed with a vote 6 in favor and 1 against.

**Final Roll Call:**

Mr. Bellamy performed the final roll call. All 7 members were remaining on the line.

**Adjourn: 10:45 a.m.**