



**ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

Growth Management Services  
Building Services Division  
Stan DeAngelis, CBO  
Building Official

P.O. Drawer 349  
St. Augustine, FL 32085-0349  
4020 Lewis Speedway  
St. Augustine FL 32084

Phone (904) 827-6800  
Fax (904) 827-6849  
Email [bldcodes@st-johns.fl.us](mailto:bldcodes@st-johns.fl.us)  
[www.co.st-johns.fl.us](http://www.co.st-johns.fl.us)

July 25, 2008

Mo Madani  
Building Codes and Standards Office  
Florida Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-2100

*Amendment*  
*DCA08-DEC-194*  
FILING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
FILED, on this date, with the designated  
Clerk, receipt of which is hereby  
acknowledged.  
*Paula P Ford* 7/25/08  
Paula P. Ford Date  
Commission Clerk

Re: 2007 FBC, Sec. 1609.4.3.

Mr. Madani,

Please accept this letter as an amendment to our application for Declaratory Statement DCA08-DEC-194.

We have requested the DEC Statement, regarding FBC, Sec. 1609.4.3, in preparation for reviewing plans under the 2007 Florida Building Code (FBC). This topic is also addressed in 2007 FBC-R301.2.1.4.

While reviewing the changes in the 2007 FBC, we discovered the new language in the referenced code section and asked for interpretations from staff and a group of local professional engineers. The results were evenly split between two sides:

1. The 20% increase is applied to the entire continuous load path, from the roof sheathing to the foundation.
2. The 20% increase is only applied to the two specific locations stated in the Code language.

This question is important to St. Johns County because the St. Johns River runs the entire length of the County, at a width of over one mile. A great deal of construction is still going on in this Wind Exposure.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Respectfully,

Dan Arlington  
Plans Examiner  
St. Johns County Building Department