

**STRUCTURAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING FROM TALLAHASSEE
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May 26, 2021

10:00 A.M.

Minutes

STRUCTURAL TAC PRESENT:

David Compton, Chairman
Siavash Farvardin
Jaime Gascon
Do Y. Kim
Daniel Lavrich

CW Macomber
Steve Orłowski
Craig Parrino
Gordon Thomas

STRUCTURAL TAC NOT PRESENT:

Michael Bourré

Michael Guerasio

STAFF PRESENT:

Mo Madani
Tom Campbell
Jim Hammers

Justin Vogel
Chris Howell

MEETING FACILITATION:

The meeting was facilitated by Jeff Blair from Facilitated Solutions, LLC. Consultation, Process Design & Facilitation. Information at: facilitatedsolutions.org

Welcome:

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Blair welcomed everyone to the teleconference/webinar meeting of the Structural TAC.

Roll Call:

Mr. Blair performed roll call for the Structural TAC. A quorum was determined with 9 members present at roll call.

Agenda:

Chairman Compton asked for a motion to approve the agenda for May 26, 2021 as posted if there were no changes.

Mr. Lavrich entered a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting as posted. Mr. Gascon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9 to 0.

Approval of Minutes from March 30, 2021:

Mr. Lavrich entered a motion to approve the minutes from the March 30, 2021 meeting as posted. Mr. Orłowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9 to 0.

DS 2021-064 by Paul Danforth of GFA International Inc.:

Paul Danforth, Corporate VP for GFA as the petitioner provided additional information on the request for the declaratory statement, including detail of project in question.

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs staff were present on the call to answer any questions or concerns.

Mr. Madani provided background on the petition and the full staff analysis including the petitioner's responses to the questions.

Question 1:

As it pertains to the modular home described in Project #1, do the locations set forth in R317.1.1 through R317.1.7 ("Required Locations") encompass all locations requiring wood treatment as contemplated by Section R318.1.8?

DS 2021-064 by Paul Danforth of GFA International Inc.(cont.):

Answer:

Option #1/Petitioner: It is GFA's position that the code is vague and ambiguous regarding the locations to which the wood treatment is to be applied. It is GFA's position that if a registered termiticide formulated and registered as a wood treatment is selected as the method for subterranean termite prevention in accordance with R318.1.8, then only the wood located in areas required by Section R317.1.1 through R317.1.7 must be treated ("Required Locations")

Question 1 (cont.):

Option #2/Staff: As per the definition of the term "Registered Termiticide" of Chapter 2 Definition and Section R318.1.8 of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Residential, the application/required locations and specification of wood treatment termiticide as contemplated by Section R318.1.8 must be as required by label direction for use and as listed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Question 2:

As it pertains to the modular home described in Project #1, if the wood in locations set forth in R317.1.1 through R317.1.7 ("Required Locations") is treated in accordance with Section R318.1.8, is soil applied pesticides OR baiting systems in accordance with R318.1.1 through R318.1.7 required?

Answer:

Option #1/Petitioner: It is GFA's position that R318.1.8 is very clear in that if a registered termiticide formulated and registered as wood treatment is used for subterranean termite prevention, the Sections R318.1.1 through R318.1.6 Do Not Apply. In other words, soil applied pesticides or baiting systems in accordance with R318.1.1 through R318.1.7 are not required. In other words, wood treatment is an approved stand-alone method of subterranean termite prevention. This is further supported by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services.

Option #2/Staff: As per the definition of the term "Registered Termiticide" of Chapter 2 Definition and Section R318.1.8 of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Residential, the application/required locations and specification of wood treatment termiticide as contemplated by Section R 318.1.8 must be as required by label direction for use and as listed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. In addition, as per Section R318.1.8, if a registered wood treatment termiticide is used for subterranean termite prevention, Structural TAC

DS 2021-064 by Paul Danforth of GFA International Inc.(cont.):

Section R318.1.1 through R318.1.6 of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Residential do not apply.

Question 3:

R317 requires protection of wood and wood-based products from decay in the locations specified in R317.1.1 to R317.1.7 by the use of naturally durable wood or wood that is preservative-treated in accordance with AWPA U1 for the species, product, preservative, and end use. Wood which is preservative-treated in accordance with AWPA U1 provides termite protection labeled for use as a preventative treatment. Is the use of preservative treated wood in accordance with the provisions of Section R317.1 an approved method of subterranean termite control?

Answer:

Option #1/Petitioner: R317 requires protection of wood and wood-based products from decay in locations specified in R317.1.1 to R317.1.7 by use of naturally durable wood or wood that is preservative-treated in accordance with AWPA U1 for the species, product, preservative, and end use. It is GFA's position that wood that is preservative-treated in accordance with AWPA U1 not only provides protection against decay but also provides protection against subterranean termite protection (Attachment 3)

Option #2/Staff: The answer to the Petitioner's question is no. As per the current listing of approved termiticides AWPA U1 is not an approved wood treatment termiticide. Note a letter from m Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services was attached for the petitioner.

Mr. Danforth added that this issue was somewhat covered by a DOAF informal interpretation report #8013 dated 8/25/2017. He then provided the TAC with the actual question and interpretation that followed.

Comments/Questions TAC:

Mr. Gascon noted that the AWPA-U I as listed in the analysis and responses, however, he wanted to know if AWPA-U4 was included as it was mentioned in the DAC response letter.

Mr. Madani stated neither AWPA-UI nor U4 is noted DAC's list.

Public Comment: None

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DS 2021-064 by Paul Danforth of GFA International Inc.(cont.):

Motion:

Mr. Lavrich entered a motion to adopt the staff analysis for all three questions. Mr. Parrino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9 to 0.

General Comments:

Mr. Madani thanked DAC for their contribution on this declaratory statement.

Mr. Blair stated he was the facilitator for the DAC meeting when this issue was addressed in 2002.

Adjournment:

Chairman Compton thanked everyone for their participation, and there being no further business before the TAC the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.