



June 1, 2017

Mo Madani, Program Manager
Building Codes and Standards
Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
2601 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Richard S. Browdy
Chairman, Florida Building Commission
President Browdy & Browdy, Inc.
6944 St. Augustine Road, Suite D
Jacksonville, Florida 32217

Subject: Public Comment on FBC-B, Section 2703 (MOD #6460)

Dear Commission:

Some view any regulation as just a box to check, a "to do" to get past. This cannot be the mindset that consumes the debate about requiring lightning protection systems in Florida. Far too much is at stake. Simply checking the box won't do.

I support FBC-B Section 2703. As a statewide lightning protection contractor since 1973, I have seen lives lost, tens of millions in property damage and vast technology assets destroyed, all due to lightning. Appropriate lightning protection systems would undoubtedly have prevented much of this loss and devastation. Section 2703 addresses this reality succinctly and definitively by requiring compliance with the NFPA 780 standard.

NFPA 780 is the nationally recognized Lightning Protection Standard cited in the FBC. For good reason, it is the Standard already in place for schools, hospitals and nursing facilities. This is testament to the standard and the system's efficacy. NFPA 780 is the approved ANSI standard for lightning protection installations in the United States. NFPA has reviewed and rejected ESE systems.

As a third generation Floridian, I implore you; choose to properly protect our state's people, property and assets, and accept the current language in its approved state. With more than 3,500 strikes per day during Florida's peak rainy season, lightning's danger is clear, present and frequent.

Prevent preventable loss. You can.

Very truly yours,

BONDED LIGHTNING PROTECTION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Dillon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick Dillon
President