

13. "Radon Hazard Subcode" which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-10 and when referred to in subchapter 10 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

14. "Playground safety subcode" which may be cited throughout this chapter as N.J.A.C. 5:23-11 and, when

referred to in subchapter 11 of this chapter, may be cited as "this subchapter."

15. "Elevator Safety Subcode" which may be cited throughout the rules as N.J.A.C. 5:23-12 and when referred to in subchapter 12 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

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16. "Optional elevator inspection program" which may be cited throughout the rules as N.J.A.C. 5:23-12A and, when referred to in subchapter 12A of this chapter, may be cited as "this subchapter."

Amended by R.1978 d.350, eff. October 1, 1978.

See: 10 N.J.R. 378(a), 10 N.J.R. 469(f).

Amended by R.1987 d.509, effective December 7, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1264(a), 19 N.J.R. 2270(a).

(b) substantially amended.

Amended by R.1990 d.226, effective May 7, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 3696(a), 22 N.J.R. 1356(a).

Added 9 and 10 to (b).

Amended by R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b).

Text added at (b)5.

Amended by R.1990 d.562, effective November 19, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2629(c), 22 N.J.R. 3482(d).

Added reference to N.J.A.C. 7:14B.

Amended by R.1991 d.325, effective July 1, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 805(a), 23 N.J.R. 2046(a).

Text on elevators added at (b).

Amended by R.1992 d.183, effective April 20, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 167(a), 24 N.J.R. 1475(b).

Reference to Indoor Air Quality Subcode added at (b)12.

Amended by R.1994 d.96, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 5388(a), 26 N.J.R. 1073(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).

Deleted (b)14.

Amended by R.1998 d.28, effective January 5, 1998.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3603(a), 30 N.J.R. 129(a).

In (b)9, substituted "Rehabilitation Subcode" for "Tax Exemptions".

Amended by R.1998 d.480, effective September 21, 1998.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1119(b), 30 N.J.R. 3461(a).

In (b), added 16.

Amended by R.1999 d.351, effective October 18, 1999.

See: 31 N.J.R. 1838(a), 31 N.J.R. 3082(a).

Rewrote (b)14.

#### Case Notes

Councilperson violated local ethics law; project manager for private construction company. *Bleeker v. Local Finance Board*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (CAF) 122.

#### 5:23-1.2 Authority

These regulations are promulgated by the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs pursuant to the authority of the "State Uniform Construction Code Act" (P.L. 1975, c.217, as amended).

#### 5:23-1.3 Intent and purpose

(a) It is the intent and purpose of the regulations:

1. To encourage innovation and economy in construction and to provide requirements for construction and construction materials consistent with nationally recognized standards.

2. To formulate such requirements, to the extent practicable, in terms of performance objectives, so as to make adequate performance for the use intended as the test of acceptability.

3. To permit to the fullest extent feasible the use of modern technical methods, devices and improvements, including premanufactured systems, consistent with rea-

sonable requirements for the health, safety and welfare of occupants or users of buildings and structures.

4. To eliminate restrictive, obsolete, conflicting and unnecessary construction regulations that tend to unnecessarily increase construction costs or retard the use of new materials, products or methods of construction, or provide preferential treatment to types or classes of materials or products or methods of construction.

5. To insure adequate maintenance of buildings and structures throughout the State and to adequately protect the health, safety and welfare of the people.

6. To eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and fees in the review of construction plans and the inspection of construction.

#### Case Notes

Intent is elimination of construction regulations by local government units. *Home Builders League of South Jersey, Inc. v. Evesham Twp.*, 174 N.J.Super. 252, 416 A.2d 81 (Law Div.1980).

Uniform Construction Code codified in regulations. *Bureau of Construction Code Enforcement v. Hasbrouck Heights*, 4 N.J.A.R. 282 (1983).

#### 5:23-1.4 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Alteration" means the rearrangement of any space by the construction of walls or partitions, the addition or elimination of any door or window, the extension or rearrangement of any system, the installation of any additional equipment or fixtures and any work which affects a primary structural component.

"Building" means a structure enclosed with exterior walls or fire walls, built, erected and framed of component structural parts, designed for the housing shelter, enclosure and support of individuals, animals or property of any kind. When used herein, building and structure shall be interchangeable except where the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Building subcode official" means a qualified person appointed by the municipal appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant to the act and the regulations to enforce the provisions of the building subcode within the jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

"Business day" means any day of the year, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

"Certificate of approval" means a certificate issued pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-2 upon completion of work that requires a construction permit but not a certificate of occupancy.

“Certificate of compliance” means the certificate provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2 and 12, indicating that potentially hazardous equipment is being maintained in accordance with the Act and this chapter.

“Certificate of continued occupancy” means the certificate provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2, indicating that as a result of a general inspection of the visible parts of the building, no violations of N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.14 have been determined to have occurred and no unsafe conditions violative of N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.32 have been found, and that the existing use of the building has heretofore lawfully existed.

“Certificate of occupancy” means the certificate provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2, indicating that the construction authorized by the construction permit has been completed in accordance with the construction permit, the act and the regulations.

“Change of use” means a change from one use to another use in a building or tenancy or portion thereof.

“Class I structure” means a structure not listed in N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.3A(d)1i through v or 2ii through xx.

“Class II structure” means a structure listed in N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.3A(d)2ii through xx.

“Class III structure” means a structure listed in N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.3A(d)1i through v.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs.

“Construction Board of Appeals” means the board provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:23A.

“Construction documents” means and includes all of the written, graphic and pictorial documents prepared or assembled for describing the design, location and physical characteristics of the elements of the project necessary for obtaining a permit. The construction documents shall be drawn to an appropriate scale. When used herein or in the adopted subcodes, the terms “construction documents” and “plans” and/or “specifications” shall be interchangeable, except where the context clearly indicate otherwise.

“Construction official” means a qualified person appointed by the municipal appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant to the act and the regulations to enforce and administer the regulations within the jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

“Construction permit” means an authorization to begin work subject to the conditions established in subchapter 2 of this chapter.

“Department” means the Department of Community Affairs.

“Effective date” means, in the case of a new rule, amendment or repeal, the date of promulgation in the New Jersey Register. The effective date of a readoption is the date of filing with the Office of Administrative Law.

“Electrical subcode official” means a qualified person appointed by the municipal appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant to the act and the regulations to enforce and provisions of the electrical subcode within the jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

“Elevator” or “elevator device” means a hoisting and lowering device equipped with a car or platform which moves in guides for the transportation of individuals or freight in a substantially vertical direction through successive floors or levels of a building or structure; or a power driven, inclined, continuous stairway used for raising or lowering passengers; or a type of passenger carrying device on which passengers stand or walk, and in which the passenger carrying surface remains parallel to its direction of motion and is uninterrupted. This includes, but it is not limited to, elevators, escalators, moving walks, dumbwaiters, wheelchair lifts, manlifts, stairway chairlifts and any device within the scope of ASME A17.1 (Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators) or ASME A90.1 (Safety Standards for Belt Manlifts).

“Elevator subcode official” means a qualified person appointed by the municipal appointing authority or the Commissioner, pursuant to the Act and this chapter, to enforce the provisions of any subcode specifically designated for such enforcement in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3, within the jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

“Enforcing agency” means the municipal or State administrative entity charged with the administration and enforcement of the regulations consisting of the construction official, subcode officials and assistants thereto appointed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:27D-126 of the act and the regulations.

“Equipment” means plumbing, heating, electrical, ventilating, air conditioning, refrigerating and fire prevention equipment, and elevators, dumb waiters, escalators, boilers, pressure vessels and other mechanical facilities or installations, which are related to building services and shall not include manufacturing, production or process equipment, but which shall include connections from building service to process equipment.

“Facility” for the purpose of applying for an annual permit means exclusive of a hotel/casino, a building or group of buildings under common ownership or control and whose maintenance work is performed under the direct supervision of a maintenance supervisor.

“Fire protection subcode official” means a qualified person appointed by the appropriate appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant to the act and the regulations to enforce those portions of any subcode, specifically designated for such enforcement in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3, within the jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

"Health care facility" means the facility or institution, whether public or private, engaged principally in providing services for health maintenance organizations, diagnosis or treatment of human disease, pain, injury, deformity or physical condition, including but not limited to a general hospital, special hospital, mental hospital, public health center, diagnostic center, treatment center, rehabilitation center, extended care facility, skilled nursing home, nursing home, intermediate care facility, tuberculosis hospital, chronic disease hospital, maternity hospital, outpatient clinic, dispensary, home health care agency, home for the sheltered care of adult persons, and bioanalytical laboratory or central services facility serving one or more such institutions, but excluding institutions that provide healing solely by prayer.

1. This definition shall not be deemed to include nurses, doctors, or other staff housing not attached in accordance with minimum fire separation standards in the building subcode; administrative offices not attached in accordance with minimum fire separation standards in the building subcode; parking garages, or other such facilities for which the Federal government does not impose standards as a condition of funding.

"Hearing examiner" means a person appointed by the commissioner to conduct hearings, summarize evidence and make findings of fact.

"Lead abatement" means a process designed either to mitigate or to eliminate permanently lead-based paint hazards on a premises and includes, but is not limited to: the removal of lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust; the containment or encapsulation of lead-based paint; the replacement of lead-painted surfaces or fixtures; the removal or covering of lead-contaminated soil; and all preparation, cleanup, disposal and post-abatement clearance testing activities associated with such measures. "Lead abatement" shall not include painting, woodworking, structural renovation or other indoor or outdoor contracting services that may result in the disturbance of paint, unless it is evident from the statements and/or actions of a person or persons authorizing or performing such services that an objective of the work is the mitigation or permanent elimination of a lead-based paint hazard.

"Lead evaluation" means a surface-by-surface investigation to determine the presence and condition of lead-based paint and the provision of a report explaining the results of the investigation, including, but not limited to, hazards and recommendations for abatement.

"Maintenance" means the replacement or mending of existing work with equivalent materials or the provision of additional work or material for the purpose of the safety, healthfulness and upkeep of the structure and the adherence to such other standards of upkeep as are required in the interest of public safety, health and welfare.

"Major work" means any construction work for which any prior approvals are required, any construction of a new structure not previously occupied and any construction work other than ordinary repairs otherwise not qualifying as "minor work" or a "small job".

"Manufactured home" means a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which in the traveling mode, is eight body feet or more in width, or 40 body feet or more in length, or, when erected on site, is 320 or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air conditioning and electrical systems contained therein; except that such term shall also include any structure which meets all of the requirements of this paragraph except the size requirements and with respect to which the manufacturer has voluntarily filed a certification required by the Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and complies with the standards established under 42 U.S.C. Section 5401 et seq.

"Minor work" means construction work undertaken in existing structures, requiring no prior approvals and no plan review, not altering in any way the structural members of a building and meeting the definition set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.17A.

"Municipality" means any city, borough, town, township or village.

"Municipal Procedures Manual" means the book established by the Commissioner, effective January 1, 1984, and any subsequent revisions, detailing the steps to be followed in completing, processing and filing the standards forms, logs and reports required for administration and enforcement of the State Uniform Construction Code.

"Operative date" means the date upon which the Department and local enforcing agencies shall enforce, and all parties shall comply with, an effective rule. Unless otherwise provided in the notice of adoption published in the New Jersey Register, the effective date is the operative date.

"Ordinary maintenance" means restoration or improvement of a routine or usual nature which is done by replacing a part of, or putting together, something that is worn or broken in a building, electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation or air conditioning system and meeting the definition set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.7.

"Owner" means the owner or owners in fee of the property or a lesser estate therein, a mortgagee or vendee in possession, an assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or any other person, firm or corporation, directly or indirectly in control of a building, structure or real property and shall include any subdivision thereof of the State.

“Plumbing subcode official” means a qualified person appointed by the municipal appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant to the act and the regulations to enforce the provisions of the plumbing subcode within the jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

“Premanufactured system” or “premanufactured construction” means an assembly of materials or products that is intended to comprise all or part of a building or structure and that is assembled off-site by a repetitive process under circumstances intended to insure uniformity of quality and material content. The term shall include, but not be limited to, manufactured homes and industrialized/modular buildings.

“Primary function space” means a room or space housing a major activity for which the building or tenancy is intended, including, but not limited to, office area, auditorium, assembly space, dining room, bar or lounge, warehouse, factory, dwelling, care, confinement, retail, and educational spaces, but not including kitchens, bathrooms, storage rooms or other spaces supporting a primary function space. A building or tenancy may contain more than one primary function space.

“Prior approvals” means the necessary certifications or approvals issued or authorized by any Federal or State agency, or any political subdivision of the State, which are not inconsistent with this chapter and which are conditions precedent to the issuance of a construction permit or a certificate of occupancy or approval, as the case may be. Prior approvals shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Zoning;
2. Soil erosion and sediment control;
3. Highway curb cuts;
4. Water and sewer treatment works approvals;
5. Coastal areas facilities review;
6. Compliance of underground storage tank systems with N.J.A.C. 7:14B;
  - i. An approval granted by the Department of Environmental Protection or the construction official by authority of N.J.A.C. 7:14B shall be deemed to be a prior approval;
7. Educational adequacy review of public school facilities under N.J.A.C. 6:22;
8. Pinelands review; and
9. Compliance of abandoned wells with N.J.A.C. 7:9-9.
  - i. Compliance with N.J.A.C. 7:9-9.1 shall be evidenced by a certification issued by a well driller licensed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

“Private inplant inspection agency”, or “evaluation and inspection agency”, means a business entity authorized pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-4 or 4A to approve premanufactured construction.

“Private on-site inspection and plan review agencies” means a business entity authorized pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-4 to act in lieu of a subcode official.

“Public school facility” means any building or part thereof used by a local, regional or consolidated board of education as a primary or secondary school.

“Reconstruction” means any project where the extent and nature of the work is such that the work area cannot be occupied while the work is in progress and where a new certificate of occupancy is required before the work area can be reoccupied. Reconstruction may include repair, renovation, alteration or any combination thereof. Reconstruction shall not include projects comprised only of floor finish replacement, painting or wallpapering, or the replacement of equipment or furnishings. Asbestos hazard abatement and lead hazard abatement projects shall not be classified as reconstruction solely because occupancy of the work area is not permitted.

“Rehabilitation” means the repair, renovation, alteration or reconstruction of any building or structure.

“Renovation” means the removal and replacement or covering of existing interior or exterior finish, trim, doors, windows, or other materials with new materials that serve the same purpose and do not change the configuration of space. Renovation shall include the replacement of equipment or fixtures.

“Repair” means the restoration to a good or sound condition of materials, systems and/or components that are worn, deteriorated or broken using materials or components identical to or closely similar to the existing.

“Small job” means construction work requiring no prior approvals and the total cost of which is under \$5,000. A “small job” may involve more than one trade and may require plan review.

“State sponsored code change proposal” means any proposed amendment or code change adopted by the commissioner in accordance with subsection c. of section 6 of the act as amended for the purpose of presenting such proposed amendment or code change at any of the periodic code change hearings held by the National Model Code adoption agencies, the codes of which have been adopted as subcodes under the Act. For purposes of this definition a State sponsored code change proposal may also oppose any code change under consideration by a model code agency.

“Stop construction order” means the order provided for in N.J.S.A. 52:27D-132 of the act and N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.

"Structure" means a combination of materials to form a construction for occupancy, use or ornamentation, whether installed on, above, or below the surface of a parcel of land; provided, the word "structure" shall be construed when used herein as though followed by the words "or part or parts thereof and all equipment therein" unless the context clearly requires a different meaning.

"Subcode" means any of the national model codes, parts thereof or other codes or standards as adopted by reference in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3 or as set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-7, 8, 10 and 12.

"Tenancy" means an entire building, or that portion of a building or story, which is or is intended to be under the control of a single owner or tenant.

"Use" means that portion of a building or tenancy which is devoted to a single use group or special use or occupancy, as defined in the building subcode, or as established by the provisions of any other subcode for the purpose of specifying special requirements applicable to that portion of a building or tenancy.

"Work area" means any entire use, primary function space or tenancy comprising all or part of a reconstruction project as delineated on the approved permit application and/or plans.

As amended, R.1977 d.256, effective August 1, 1977.

See: 9 N.J.R. 164(a), 9 N.J.R. 358(a).

As amended, R.1978 d.162, effective June 1, 1978.

See: 10 N.J.R. 141(a), 10 N.J.R. 225(a).

As amended, R.1981 d.133, effective May 7, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 119(a), 13 N.J.R. 258(c).

"Certificate of continued occupancy" and "prior approvals" recodified.

As amended, R.1982 d.7, effective February 1, 1982.

See: 13 N.J.R. 717(a), 14 N.J.R. 142(a).

"Manufactured home" was "mobile home", and definition substantially amended. Added "or premanufactured construction" to "premanufactured system", and added "The terms . . . homes".

As amended, R.1983 d.611, eff. January 3, 1984.

See: 15 N.J.R. 1789(a), 16 N.J.R. 45(b).

Added definitions of "major work", "minor work", "municipal procedures manual", "ordinary repair" and "small job".

As amended, R.1984 d.120, effective April 16, 1984.

See: 16 N.J.R. 179(a), 16 N.J.R. 873(a).

"Certificate of occupancy" added "N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4 have . . . been found" to definitions.

Amended by R.1985 d.351, effective July 15, 1985.

See: 17 N.J.R. 1029(a), 17 N.J.R. 1756(b).

Definition for "Facility" added.

Amended by R.1990 d.57, effective February 5, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 3345(b), 22 N.J.R. 350(b).

Reference to compliance with N.J. Underground Storage of Hazardous Substances Act, and deletion of language excluding "public school buildings" from definitions of "building" and "structure".

Amended by R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b).

Industrialized/modular buildings added to definition of premanufactured system.

Amended by R.1991 d.325, effective July 1, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 805(a), 23 N.J.R. 2046(a).

Definitions of certificate of approval, elevator and elevator subcode official added.

Amended by R.1992 d.244, effective June 15, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1147(a), 24 N.J.R. 2243(a).

Definitions added for Class I, II and III structures.

Amended by R.1993 d.420, effective September 7, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 2158(a), 25 N.J.R. 4072(a).

Amended by R.1993 d.580, effective November 15, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 3692(a), 25 N.J.R. 5145(c).

Administrative Correction.

See: 26 N.J.R. 2779(c).

Amended by R.1995 d.381, effective July 17, 1995.

See: 27 N.J.R. 970(a), 27 N.J.R. 2715(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.544, effective October 16, 1995.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2827(a), 27 N.J.R. 3933(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.190, effective April 15, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 320(a), 28 N.J.R. 1981(a).

Added "construction documents".

Amended by R.1996 d.236, effective May 20, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4050(a), 28 N.J.R. 2586(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.323, effective July 15, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 28 N.J.R. 2112(a), 28 N.J.R. 3549(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).

Amended "Prior approvals" and "Subcode".

Amended by R.1997 d.417, effective October 6, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3387(a), 29 N.J.R. 4285(a).

Amended "Prior approvals" and "Public school facility".

Amended by R.1998 d.28, effective January 5, 1998.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3603(a), 30 N.J.R. 129(a).

In list of definitions, added "Alteration", "Change of use", "Primary function space", "Reconstruction", "Rehabilitation", "Renovation", "Repair", "Tenancy", "Use", "Work area".

Amended by R.1999 d.424, effective December 6, 1999.

See: 31 N.J.R. 2428(a), 31 N.J.R. 4001(c).

Changed "Ordinary repair" definition to "Ordinary maintenance".

#### Case Notes

Citation to definitions of construction permit and certificate of occupancy. Home Builders League of South Jersey, Inc. v. Evesham Twp., 174 N.J.Super. 252, 416 A.2d 81 (Law Div.1980).

Citation to mobile home definition in former regulation (similar to present manufactured home definition); mobile homes acceptable form of moderate cost housing. Southern Burlington County N.A.A.C.P. v. Twp. of Mt. Laurel, 161 N.J.Super. 317, 391 A.2d 935 (Law Div.1978) affirmed in part, reversed in part 92 N.J. 158, 456 A.2d 390, on remand 207 N.J.Super 169, 504 A.2d 66.

Applicant for construction permit must provide assurances that necessary prior approvals obtained. Riggins v. Pinelands Commission, 8 N.J.A.R. 441 (1985).

#### 5:23-1.5 Effective date

(a) The provisions of the regulations shall take effect on January 1, 1977. All construction regulations incorporated in any act of the State of New Jersey, or of any municipality presently in effect, or validly promulgated or enacted by any board, department, commission or agency thereof, shall continue in effect until January 1, 1977, and shall thereafter be superseded and of no further force and effect. Any law or regulation addressing areas for which the commissioner shall not have promulgated a subcode may continue in effect until such time as a subcode therefor is adopted.

#### (b) Exceptions include:

1. This section shall not apply to those aspects of the act which were capable of taking effect on the effective date of the act.

2. This section shall not apply to those parts of N.J.A.C. 5:23-4 which require the adoption of a resolution or other action prior to the effective date. Such section shall take effect upon adoption.

3. This section shall not apply to laws or regulations specifically saved by the act or the regulations.

#### 5:23-1.6 Grace period

(a) For a period of six months following the operative date of a subcode revision, applicants may submit a complete permit application, including all prior approvals, to be reviewed under the code in force immediately preceding the subcode revision. Provided that the application is complete, the construction official and applicable subcode officials shall perform the plan review and issue construction permit(s) based on the code in force immediately prior to the operative date of the subcode revision. This grace period shall apply only to revisions of subcodes.

(b) In the case of a project under review for which a permit has not been issued on the operative date of any subcode revision, review shall continue and permits shall be issued based on the code in force immediately prior to the operative date of the subcode revision.

As amended, R. 1978 d.350, eff. October 1, 1978.

See: 10 N.J.R. 378(a), 10 N.J.R. 469(f).

As amended, R.1984 d.267, eff. June 14, 1984 to expire August 13, 1984.

See: 16 N.J.R. 1812(a).

New (c) added.

Readoption: R.1984 d.382, eff. August 13, 1984, to expire April 1, 1988.

See: 16 N.J.R. 1812(a), 16 N.J.R. 2356(d).

Administrative Correction to (b): Changed "receive" to "received".

See: 22 N.J.R. 2503(b).

Amended by R.1993 d.353, effective July 19, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1629(a), 25 N.J.R. 3147(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.544, effective October 16, 1995.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2827(a), 27 N.J.R. 3933(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.303, effective July 21, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1437(b), 29 N.J.R. 3247(a).

Amended section name; rewrote (a); and substantially amended (b).

#### 5:23-1.7 Validity

(a) If any provision of the regulations or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall not effect other provisions or applications of the regulations which can be given effect, and to this end the provisions of the regulations are severable.

(b) Nothing contained in the act or the regulations shall be deemed to affect, repeal, or invalidate local zoning ordinances or the regulation or licensing of any trade or profession engaged in construction work.

## SUBCHAPTER 2. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT; PROCESS

#### 5:23-2.1 Title; scope; intent

(a) This part of the regulations, adopted pursuant to authority of the State Uniform Construction Code Act, and entitled "Administration and enforcement; process", shall be known and may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-2, and when referred to in subchapter 2 of this chapter, may be cited as this subchapter.

(b) Unless otherwise specifically provided, all references to article or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such article, section or provision of this subchapter.

(c) Except as is otherwise specified, these regulations shall control all matters concerning the construction, alteration, addition, repair, removal, demolition, use, location and occupancy of all buildings and structures and their service equipment as herein defined, and shall apply to existing or proposed buildings and structures in the State of New Jersey.

(d) The regulations shall be construed to secure its expressed intent, which is to insure public safety, health and welfare insofar as they are affected by building construction, through structural strength, adequate egress facilities, sanitary equipment, light and ventilation, and fire safety; and, in general, to secure safety to life and property from all hazards incident to the design, erection, repair, removal, demolition or use and occupancy of buildings, structures or premises.

#### 5:23-2.2 Matter covered

(a) The provisions of the regulations shall apply to all buildings and structures and their appurtenant construction, including vaults, area and street projections, and accessory additions; and shall apply with equal force to municipal, county, State and private buildings, except where such buildings are otherwise specifically provided for by the regulations.

(b) A building or structure shall not be constructed, extended, repaired, removed, renovated, altered or reconstructed in violation of these provisions, except that no permit shall be required for ordinary repairs as provided herein, and except further that the raising, lowering or moving of a building or structure on the same lot, as a unit, necessitated by a change in legal grade or widening of a street, shall be permitted, provided the building or structure is not otherwise altered or its use or occupancy changed.

1. Any new work, such as foundations or utility connections shall, however, be in accordance with the regulations.

(c) Any requirement essential for structural, fire or sanitary safety of a building or structure, or essential for the safety of the occupants thereof, and which is not specifically covered by the regulations, shall be determined by the construction official, and appropriate subcode official.

(d) The continuation of occupancy or use of a building or structure, or of a part thereof, contrary to the provisions of the regulations, shall be deemed a violation and subject to the remedies prescribed in this subchapter.

i. Copies of this code may be obtained from BOCA International, 4051 West Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, Illinois 60478-5795.

ii. The International Fuel Gas Code/2000 may be known and cited as the "fuel gas subcode."

2. Any references to the International Building Code, International Plumbing Code, ICC Electrical Code, International Fire Code or the International Energy Conservation Code listed in Chapter 7 shall be considered a reference to the appropriate adopted building, plumbing, electrical, BOCA National Fire Prevention Code-1996 or energy subcode in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.

3. Anywhere the term "code" appears, shall be a reference to "subcode" as defined in N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4 for any of the adopted national model codes as appropriate.

(b) The following chapters, sections or pages of the International Fuel Gas Code/2000 are amended as follows:

1. Chapter 1 of the fuel gas subcode, entitled "Administration" is deleted in its entirety.

2. Chapter 2 of the fuel gas subcode, entitled "Definitions," is amended as follows:

i. Section 201.3 is amended to delete the words "International Building Code, ICC Electrical Code, International Fire Code, International Plumbing Code," and in lieu thereof substitute "building, electrical, fire protection, and plumbing subcodes."

ii. The definition of the term "alteration" is deleted and the definition found in N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4 is substituted;

iii. The definition of the term "approved" is deleted;

iv. The definition of the term "code" is deleted;

v. The definition of the term “code official” is deleted, and the following language is substituted: “For the purpose of the fuel gas subcode, the term “code official” shall mean the appropriate subcode official as designated in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.4.”

vi. The definition of the term “unlisted boiler” is deleted.

3. Chapter 3 of the fuel gas subcode, entitled “General Regulations,” is amended as follows:

i. Section 301.1 is amended to delete the words “in accordance with Section 101.2.”

ii. Section 301.3 is amended to delete the words “in accordance with Section 105” on lines 2 and 4.

iii. Section 301.9 is deleted.

iv. Section 305.1. Delete the second paragraph in its entirety.

v. Section 306.2 is amended to delete the dimension 35 and substitute 36.

vi. Section 307.1 is amended to delete “approved plumbing fixture” on line 3 and insert the following: “drywell, sump pump, floor drain, or drainage system below floor.”

vii. Section 307.2 is deleted.

viii. Section 308.3 is amended to delete the words “308.3.1 through 308.3.6” and substitute in lieu thereof “308.3.1, 308.3.2 and 308.3.4 through 308.3.6.”

ix. Section 308.3.3 is deleted.

x. Section 308.4 is amended to delete the words “308.4.1 through 308.4.8” on line 3 and substitute in lieu thereof “308.4.1 through 308.4.6 and 308.4.8.”

xi. Section 308.4.7 is deleted.

xii. Section 308.4.8. Delete “or 308.4.7” on line 2.

4. Chapter 4 of the fuel gas subcode, entitled “Gas Piping Installation,” is amended as follows:

i. Section 401.2 is amended to add the following: “Delete in its entirety Section 3-2.5 “Installation of Containers on Roofs of Buildings” in NFPA—58, 1998 Edition.” Installation of LP-Gas containers on roofs of buildings shall be strictly prohibited.

ii. Section 403.3 is deleted.

5. Chapter 5 of the fuel gas code, entitled “Chimneys and Vents,” is amended as follows:

i. Section 503.5.6 is amended to replace the words “cleaned and free of obstructions” with the words “inspected in accordance with the chimney certification program as provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.20(c).”

ii. Section 503.5.6, exception: Delete the exception in its entirety.

6. Chapter 6 of the fuel gas code, entitled “Specific Appliances” is amended as follows:

i. Section 622.2 is deleted.

ii. Section 622.3 is deleted.

iii. Section 626.10 is deleted.

7. Chapter 7 of the fuel gas code, entitled “Referenced Standards,” is amended as follows:

i. Under the heading “Codes,” amend the following titles:

(1) Delete “IBC-2000 International Building Code.”

(2) Delete “IFC-2000 International Fire Code” and substitute the following: “BOCA National Fire Prevention Code/1996.”

(3) Delete “IECC-2000 International Energy Conservation Code.”

(4) Delete “IPC-2000 International Plumbing Code.”

(5) Delete “IEC-2000 Electrical Code.”

8. Appendices A, B, and C of the fuel gas subcode are informative and are not part of the subcode itself.

New Rule, R.2001 d.196, effective June 18, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 6(a), 33 N.J.R. 2090(a).

Administrative correction.

See: 33 N.J.R. 3310(a).

## SUBCHAPTER 3A. STATE-JURISDICTION SUBCODES

### Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123 and 124.

### Source and Effective Date

R.2001 d.303, effective September 4, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1991(a), 33 N.J.R. 2989(a).

### 5:23-3A.1 Scope

This subchapter shall govern the enforcement by the Department of Community Affairs of the State Uniform Construction Code, in conjunction with other rules administered by the Department, in facilities and installations for which the Department is the sole enforcing agency, as set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11(j).

### 5:23-3A.2 Subcodes established

(a) All provisions of adopted model codes that are applicable to the construction, alteration, installation, erection or demolition of carnival-amusement rides or ski lifts shall be designated collectively as the amusement ride subcode.

(b) All provisions of adopted model codes that are applicable to the construction, alteration, installation, erection or demolition of high pressure boilers, pressure vessels or refrigeration systems shall be designated collectively as the boiler, pressure vessel and refrigeration subcode.

(c) The amusement ride subcode and the boiler, pressure vessel and refrigeration subcode shall be known, and may be designated, as "State-jurisdiction subcodes."

#### SUBCHAPTER 4. ENFORCING AGENCIES; DUTIES; POWERS; PROCEDURES

##### 5:23-4.1 Title; scope; intent

(a) This subchapter, adopted pursuant to authority of the State Uniform Construction Code Act and entitled "Enforcing agencies; duties; powers; procedures", shall be known and may be cited through the regulation as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4," and when referred to in this part of the regulations, may be cited as "this subchapter".

(b) Unless otherwise specifically provided, all references to article or section numbers or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such article, section or provision of this subchapter.

(c) This subchapter and N.J.A.C. 5:23-4A, 4B, 4C shall control matters related to: the structure, organization, and procedures of municipal, State, and interlocal enforcing agencies; their interrelationships; the structure, organization, and procedures of boards of appeal; the approval of premanufactured construction; private enforcing agencies; and the establishment of fees.

(d) This subchapter seeks to provide an efficient administrative structure for enforcing agencies and boards of appeal, through which delay in the construction process can be reduced, uniformity of systems and procedures encouraged, and the public health and safety protected. Such intent shall be given full effect in the construction of any specific provision of this subchapter.

Amended by R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990.  
See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b).

Reference to subchapter 4A added to (c).  
Amended by R.1994 d.96, effective February 22, 1994.  
See: 26 N.J.R. 1073(a).

##### Law Review and Journal Commentaries

Municipal employees—Construction Code Officials. Judith Nallin, 135 N.J.L.J. No. 14, 50 (1993).

##### Case Notes

Citation to former N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.9 on enforcement. Newark Health Welfare Dept. v. Rogers, 179 N.J.Super. 389, 432 A.2d 135 (Ch.Div.1981).

City must proceed against property through its own ordinances rather than seek common law public nuisance injunction where no local board of health established and nuisance not proven. Newark Health & Welfare Dept. v. Rogers, 179 N.J.Super. 389, 432 A.2d 135 (Ch.Div. 1981).

##### 5:23-4.2 Matters covered; exceptions

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) below, the provisions of this subchapter shall apply to all agencies with an enforcement responsibility under the act and regulations.

(b) Rules concerning exceptions are:

1. Interstate agencies: This subchapter shall not apply to agencies created by Interstate Compact. Such agencies shall administer and enforce the subcodes, under such rules and regulations as they may develop, pursuant to authority of the State Uniform Construction Code Act, and any other applicable law of this State.

2. Department of Education:

i. When final plans for the construction or alteration of a public school facility have been submitted to the Department of Education, and approved under the standards for educational adequacy set forth at N.J.A.C. 6:22, and have been submitted for review to, and released by, either the Department of Community Affairs or a construction official of an enforcing agency, such plans shall be filed with the enforcing agency of the municipality in which the public school facility is located.

ii. The enforcing agency shall inspect any construction or alteration of a public school facility in the same manner as any other building or structure subject to the code for the purpose of determining if there are any violations of the educational enhancement and adequacy requirements as set forth at N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11A(c) and (d) or any other provision of the State Uniform Construction Code.

(c) Rules concerning matters not specifically provided for are:

1. Any type or class of enforcing agency or board of appeals, the procedures of which are developed in this subchapter, may individually adopt further rules for their internal governance, not inconsistent with any specific provision of this subchapter, or with its stated intent.

Amended by R.1991 d.309, effective June 17, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 1084(a), 23 N.J.R. 1922(a).

Rule conformed to P.L. 1990 c.23; reference to N.J.A.C. 6:22 added.  
Amended by R.1997 d.417, effective October 6, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3387(a), 29 N.J.R. 4285(a).

In (b)2i, substituted "educational adequacy" for "facility adequacy", inserted "either the Department or" preceding "a construction official"; and substantially amended (b)2ii.

Amended by R.2000 d.166, effective April 17, 2000.  
See: 31 N.J.R. 4151(a), 32 N.J.R. 1376(a).

Rewrote (b)2ii.

**5:23-4.3 Municipal enforcing agencies—establishment****(a) Notice of intention to establish:**

1. Any municipality seeking to establish and operate an enforcing agency, pursuant to the act and the regulations, shall first notify the department of its intent to establish such an agency by registered and certified mail, return receipt requested, not later than one month prior to the effective date of the regulations. Such notice, in the form of a resolution of the governing body, shall state that enforcement will be carried out either by the municipal enforcing agency or by interlocal agreement. The resolution shall also state the extent to which the municipality anticipates that private on-site agencies will be utilized. The resolution shall state the address of the enforcing agency and the board of appeals, if different. Such resolution shall additionally state whether a board of appeals will be appointed within the municipality, whether an intermunicipal joint board of appeals will be established or whether appeals will be left to the jurisdiction of the county.

2. Any municipality which shall not choose to establish and operate an enforcing agency pursuant to the act and the regulations shall notify the department of this intent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, not later than one month prior to the effective date of the regulations. Such notice, in the form of a resolution of the governing body, shall state that the governing body requests that the department assume the task of administration and enforcement.

3. A municipality may, by resolution, provide for the employment of an elevator subcode official, licensed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-5, to perform inspections and witness tests within its jurisdiction. If a municipality fails to employ such an official by July 1, 1992, the Department shall have exclusive jurisdiction to review plans and witness tests for, and inspect elevators within, the municipality. Thereafter, a municipality may acquire such jurisdiction by enacting the necessary resolution and employing an elevator subcode official, but the transfer of jurisdiction to the municipality shall not be effective until 120 calendar days after a certified copy of the resolution is received by the Department.