

1. A field evaluation label and report or letter issued by a nationally recognized testing laboratory verifying that the specific material, equipment, or method of construction meets the identified standards or has been tested and found to be suitable for the intended use, shall be accepted by the appropriate subcode official as meeting the requirements of (a) above.

2. Reports of engineering findings issued by nationally recognized evaluation service programs, such as, but not limited to, the Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA), the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), the Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCCI), the International Code Council (ICC), and the National Evaluation Service, Inc., shall be accepted by the appropriate subcode official as meeting the requirements of (a) above. The materials, equipment, or assembly shall be installed in accordance with the conditions specified in the report.

(b) Research and investigations: The appropriate subcode official shall require that sufficient technical data be submitted to substantiate the proposed use of any material or assembly, and if it is determined that the evidence submitted is satisfactory proof of performance for the use intended, he may approve its use subject to the requirements of the regulations. The cost of all tests, reports and investigations required under these provisions shall be paid by the applicant.

(c) Research reports: The appropriate subcode official may accept, as supporting data to assist in this determination, duly authenticated research reports from approved authoritative sources for all materials or assemblies proposed for use which are not specifically provided for in the regulations.

Amended by R.1992 d.390, effective October 5, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1844(a), 24 N.J.R. 3515(b).

Reference to exception in 3.8 added.

Amended by R.2003 d.384, effective October 6, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 2422(a), 35 N.J.R. 4712(a).

Rewrote (a).

5:23-3.8 Products violating the Code

(a) The Department shall, after public hearing and in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (P.L. 1968, c.410, as amended), establish and distribute to all enforcing agencies a list of items, devices and materials the regular and intended use of which would violate any provision of the State Uniform Construction Code. A list of such items is set forth in (d) below.

(b) Upon determining that any manufacturer or distributor in the State is selling or offering for retail sale any product on the list which does not have a regular and intended use that does not violate the Code, or any product which may have one or more such non-violative regular and intended use but which is being advertised or promoted for a use that does violate the Code, the Department or any

enforcing agency having jurisdiction shall give written notice of the violation of N.J.S.A. 52:27D-138a(5) to such seller. Such notice shall forbid the further sale or offering for retail sale of such product within the State and shall specify a date and time by which such product shall be removed from display to customers.

(c) Any person who, having received a notice of violation pursuant to this section, continues to sell or offer for retail sale products specified in such notice, shall be deemed to be knowingly selling or offering the product for sale in violation of the Code and shall be subject to penalty as provided by statute, in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.31.

(d) The Commissioner has determined that the following materials and supplies are not in conformance with the State Uniform Construction Code:

1. Building materials and supplies:

i. Wood paneling being used as an interior finish not in conformance with section 803.2 of the building subcode. This section specifies that finish shall be classified in accordance with ASTM E84;

ii. Carpeting used as an interior floor finish material not in conformance with section 805.2 of the building subcode. This section specifies that interior floor finish shall be classified in accordance with ASTM E648; and

2. Electrical materials/supplies:

i. As stated in the National Electric Code (sections 90-7, 110-2, 110-3, and 100), only products listed, labeled, approved, and identified are acceptable. Approval is to be based on tests and listings of testing laboratories such as Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL), Factory Mutual (FM), or Canadian Standards Association/Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (CSA/NRTL), etc.

3. Plumbing materials/supplies:

i. All purpose solvent cement, except transition glues permitted in the plumbing subcode;

ii. Clear PB piping;

iii. Flexible traps and tailpieces;

iv. Sheet and tubular copper and brass trap and tailpiece fittings less than B & S 17 gauge (.045 in.);

v. Water closets requiring in excess of an average of 1.6 gallons per flush, that either have a manufacturer's date stamp of July 1, 1991 or later or were not purchased by the distributor prior to July 1, 1991;

vi. Plumbing fixtures that do not meet the standards listed in the plumbing subcode.

4. Miscellaneous materials and supplies:

i. Portable unvented natural gas, liquified petroleum gas and kerosene heaters when offered for sale for use in buildings for human occupancy, unless they are tested, listed, labeled and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory such as the American Gas Association Laboratories (AGA), Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM);

ii. Urea formaldehyde foam insulation, unless offered for sale for use elsewhere than in buildings.

R.1983 d.296, effective August 1, 1983.

See: 15 N.J.R. 587(a), 15 N.J.R. 1247(a).

Amended by R.1985 d.38, effective February 19, 1985.

See: 16 N.J.R. 3074(a), 17 N.J.R. 421(a).

(d) added.

Amended by R.1987 d.374, effective September 21, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1024(a), 19 N.J.R. 1720(b).

(d)1i and ii: 904.2 was 1404.2; 904.3 was 1404.3.

Amended by R.1990 d.507, effective October 15, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2208(a), 22 N.J.R. 3214(a).

Text conformed to BOCA National Code/1990.

Amended by R.1992 d.47, effective February 3, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3602(a), 24 N.J.R. 405(a).

Low volume water closet exception added at (d)4iii.

Amended by R.1993 d.662, effective December 20, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 3891(a), 25 N.J.R. 5918(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.508, effective December 1, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3762(a), 29 N.J.R. 5062(a).

In (d)2i, added reference to CSA/NRTL standards; in (d)3i, added the exception for transition glues; and inserted (d)3vi.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.8A by R.2003 d.384, effective October 6, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 2422(a), 35 N.J.R. 4712(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.8, Department approval of nonconforming materials, repealed.

5:23-3.9 Interpretations and opinions

(a) Whenever the Commissioner shall, in accordance with applicable provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, make any rule constituting an interpretation of any provision of the regulations, such shall be binding provided, however, that such interpretations shall be prospective in nature. Such interpretations shall not alter the ruling of a subcode official already rendered in a specific instance relating to a specific permit or structure. Requests for interpretations shall be in the form, and submitted in accordance with the procedure, set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:2-2.

(b) In response to a written inquiry or request setting forth a specific factual situation, or upon its own initiative, the Construction Code Element may issue a formal technical opinion to clarify provisions of the adopted subcodes. Such formal technical opinion shall be signed by the Assistant Director of the Element and shall be binding upon the Element and upon other code enforcement agencies and licensed officials. Formal technical opinions shall be prospective in nature, shall be based upon adopted subcodes or upon authoritative test results or standards incorporated by reference into an adopted subcode and shall not alter the ruling of a licensed official already rendered in a specific instance relating to a specific permit or structure, except that any such formal technical opinion may be considered in the context of an appeal from any such ruling.

(c) The Construction Code Element may issue bulletins to provide advice to code enforcing agencies, builders, and designers. Bulletins may be issued when the Element finds that an issue that is in need of clarification is adequately dealt with by existing rules and that rulemaking is therefore not appropriate or necessary. Consultation with the Code Advisory Board shall be required prior to the issuance of any bulletin.

(d) In response to a written or oral inquiry or request setting forth a specific factual situation, a staff member of the Construction Code Element may issue an informal opinion as to the proper application of the regulations if the issue is one with which he has authority to deal. Such informal opinion shall only be in writing if it is issued in response to a written inquiry or request and shall not be binding upon the Element or any other party.

Amended by R.1981 d.454, effective December 7, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 561(a), 13 N.J.R. 886(a).

Section substantially amended.

Administrative Correction: Name change.

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

Amended by R.1995 d.340, effective June 19, 1995.

See: 27 N.J.R. 1512(a), 27 N.J.R. 2388(a).

Redesignated (c) as (d) and added a new (c).

Administrative correction.

See: 31 N.J.R. 4259(a).

5:23-3.10 (Reserved)

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

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

Substantially amended.

Amended by R.1990 d.507, effective October 15, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2208(a), 22 N.J.R. 3214(a).

Text conformed to BOCA National Code/1990.

Recodified to 5:23-4.3A by R.1992 d.272, effective July 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1446(a), 24 N.J.R. 2424(a).

Section was "Enforcing agency classification".

5:23-3.11 Enforcement activities reserved to the Department

(a) Except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11A(b), the Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole plan review agency for the following structures:

1. Electrical generating stations and substations, including nuclear;
2. Incineration plants;
3. Solid waste disposal plants;
4. Class I and Class II structures where required in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.3A and N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.24(a)2ii;
5. Casino hotels;
6. Public mausoleums, vaults, crypts and other structures intended to hold or contain human remains;

7. All premanufactured systems for Class I and Class II structures, other than those authorized to be approved by an inplant inspection agency licensed to perform Class I and Class II plan review as provided in N.J.A.C. 5:23-4A.10, and all on-site installation of Class I and Class II premanufactured construction within the jurisdiction of a local enforcing agency that is not a Class I or Class II agency, as the case may be.

8. Health care facilities, as defined in N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4;

9. Public school facilities, as defined in N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4; and

10. Prototype plans intended for use in more than one municipality.

(b) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole plan review agency for elevators, escalators, and moving walks in structures of Groups other than R-2, R-3, R-4, or R-5 in which the elevator devices are wholly within dwelling units and not accessible to the general public, in all buildings and structures other than those that:

1. Are in a municipality that has an elevator subcode official; and

2. Are otherwise within the plan review jurisdiction of the local enforcing agency.

(c) A permit shall not be issued until the required plans for the building or structure have been released by the department. The Department shall insure that the municipal enforcing agency receives a copy of the released plans.

1. Exception: In the case of a permit application based upon prototype plans released by the Department, it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to submit the items listed at N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.15(e)2ii, including a reference set of plans, the prototype file identification number, the plan number and date of the released prototype plan, to the municipal enforcing agency.

(d) The department may perform field inspections for any of the above projects when it deems such activity appropriate. However, such action shall not relieve the municipality of the obligation to perform field inspections for any project for which the municipality has granted a permit.

(e) Whenever the department shall determine that there exists a violation of these regulations, it shall take appropriate action and shall provide the municipality with copies of all notices, orders, and other applicable information. The department and any municipality may consolidate or take other steps to expedite any matter of which they jointly complain, but in no event shall the owner of any building subject to the act be sanctioned twice for the same violations.

(f) In any case where the department shall notify a municipality that a violation exists, no certificate of occupancy may issue until the department notifies the municipality that the violation has been abated.

(g) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole agency for the enforcement of the Barrier Free Recreation Standards (N.J.A.C. 5:23-7.15 through 7.31). Any complaint of noncompliance with these rules shall be forwarded to the Department.

(h) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole agency having authority to grant variations from the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Abatement Subcode, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-8.4.

(i) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the sole agency for the enforcement of the Playground Safety Subcode (N.J.A.C. 5:23-11) with regard to all matters not within the scope of a construction permit issued by a local enforcing agency; provided, however, that this subsection shall not be construed as prohibiting the Department of Education from including review of compliance with applicable playground requirements in its ongoing district monitoring process.

(j) The Department shall be the sole enforcing agency for the following work:

1. Amusement rides;

2. Ski lifts;

3. Billboards located on land owned or controlled by any State, county or local department, agency, board, commission, authority, or instrumentality; and

4. Liquefied petroleum gas installations, except one- and two-family residential (building subcode Use Groups R-3 and R-5) or vapor delivery installations utilizing containers with an aggregate water capacity of 2,000 gallons or less, which jurisdiction is retained by the municipal enforcing agency.

Amended by R.1981 d.455, effective December 7, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 561(b), 13 N.J.R. 886(b).

Correction: Codification error and (a)6 was missing.

See: 16 N.J.R. 1621(a).

Administrative Change: This section has been divided into 3.11 and 3.11A administratively.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1842(a).

Amended by R.1988 d.352, effective August 1, 1988.

See: 19 N.J.R. 1270(a), 20 N.J.R. 1873(b).

Added (f).

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 requirements added to (a)7.

Amended by R.1990 d.507, effective October 15, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2208(a), 22 N.J.R. 3214(a).

Text conformed to BOCA National Code/1990.

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

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

Enforcement of elevator, moving walk and escalator requirements for other than R-3 and R-4 reserved to Department.

Amended by R.1992 d.147, effective April 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 170(a), 24 N.J.R. 1397(a).

Elevators wholly within R-2 residences exempt.
Amended by R.1992 d.183, effective April 20, 1992.

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

Enforcement of public employees' indoor air quality subcode assigned to DCA.

Amended by R.1994 d.28, effective January 18, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4546(b), 26 N.J.R. 352(a).

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

See: 26 N.J.R. 1073(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.377, effective September 15, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2741(b), 29 N.J.R. 4102(b).

In (g), amended N.J.A.C. references; deleted (g)1; and substantially amended (h).

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

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

In (a), inserted "Except as otherwise provided . . . and (d),"; added

(a)8 and 9; and in (g), amended N.J.A.C. references.

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

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

Added (j).

Amended by R.2000 d.166, effective April 17, 2000.

See: 31 N.J.R. 4151(a), 32 N.J.R. 1376(a).

In (a), changed N.J.A.C. reference; and added (j).

Amended by R.2001 d.127, effective April 16, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 392(a), 33 N.J.R. 1195(a).

In (g), amended the N.J.A.C. reference.

Amended by R.2001 d.141, effective May 7, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3917(a), 33 N.J.R. 746(a), 33 N.J.R. 1399(d).

In (j)6, inserted "or vapor delivery installations utilizing containers with an aggregate water capacity of 2,000 gallons or less," following "(building subcode Use Group R-3/R-4)".

Amended by R.2004 d.67, effective February 17, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 4627(a), 36 N.J.R. 949(b).

In (b), substituted "moving walks in structures of Groups other than R-2, R-3, R-4, or R-5" for "moving walks in Use Groups R-3, R-4, or R-2 structures" preceding "in which the elevator devices are wholly within dwelling units".

Amended by R.2004 d.144, effective April 5, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 4944(a), 36 N.J.R. 1753(a).

Added (a)10; in (c), substituted "released" for "approved" following "enforcing agency receives a copy of the" and added 1.

Administrative correction.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1757(a).

Amended by R.2004 d.260, effective July 6, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 3474(b), 36 N.J.R. 3274(a).

In (j), rewrote 3, deleted former 4 and 5, and recodified former 6 as 4.

Case Notes

Delaware River Port Authority was not subject to Construction Code or anti-discrimination laws. *Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Ass'n, Inc. v. City of Camden*, 111 N.J. 389, 545 A.2d 127 (1988).

5:23-3.11A Public school facility plan review and inspections; Uniform Construction Code enhancements in public school facilities

(a) Plan review for the following types of projects shall be performed by the Department of Community Affairs. Prior to the release of plans for the following types of projects, the Department of Education shall ensure that the plans meet the standards for educational adequacy set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:26:

1. New public school buildings, including the creation of a new public school building through the change of use of an existing building;
2. Additions to existing public school buildings;

3. Alterations changing the total number of instructional spaces, the size of any such spaces or type of any such spaces;

4. Installations of mobile units; or

5. Any site or building change or alteration for the purpose of making the site and school barrier-free pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-7 and accessible to the handicapped pursuant to section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

(b) In lieu of obtaining construction code plan review and release from the Department of Community Affairs, a school district, upon notice to and approval by the Department, may secure construction code plan review and release from a municipal code enforcing agency, pursuant to P.L. 1990, c.23.

1. The municipal code enforcing agency providing construction code plan approval must agree to perform the review and must be appropriately classified for the proposed project in accordance with this chapter.

i. The municipal code enforcing agency in the municipality where the proposed project is to take place shall be given the right of first refusal to review the plans provided that the agency is appropriately classified for the proposed project in accordance with this chapter.

2. The municipal code enforcing agency performing the construction code plan review may require the payment of any municipal plan review fees.

3. No construction permit shall be issued for a public school facility unless and until the final plans and specifications have been released by the Department or an appropriately classified municipal code enforcing agency.

4. The municipal code enforcing agency within the jurisdiction in which the facility is located shall be responsible for construction permit issuance, construction inspection and certificate of occupancy issuance.

5. Amendments to released plans and specifications for reasons other than educational adequacy shall be submitted for review and release to the Department or the municipal code enforcing agency, whichever originally released the plans.

6. Release of the plans by the Department or the municipal code enforcing agency, as the case may be, shall not preclude the enforcing agency doing the inspection from issuing a stop work order in the event of a violation of the code. The enforcing agency doing the inspection shall not, however, issue a stop work order based on its disagreement with the released plans unless the agency that released the plans, be it the Department or another local enforcing agency, agrees that the issuance of such an order is appropriate. In the event that the enforcing agency doing the inspection believes there to be an error in the plans, that enforcing agency shall give prompt notice of the error that is believed to exist to the Department or the municipal agency that reviewed the plans, as the case may be.

iv. Section 3.3.8a is amended to add the following phrase: "Pressure vessels shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the requirements of American Society of Mechanical Engineers, (ASME), Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels, Section VIII/1998. Any pressure vessel that exceeds any of the following, shall meet the requirements of ASME and shall be stamped ASME: A heat input rating of 200,000 BTU per hour; or a water temperature of 200 degrees Fahrenheit; or a nominal water capacity of 120 gallons or any other thresholds of ASME that apply."

v. Section 3.3.11 entitled "septic tank" is deleted in its entirety.

vi. Section 3.11.1 is amended to delete the phrase "approved by the Administrative authority".

vii. Section 3.11.2 is amended to delete the phrase "except as may be otherwise authorized by the administrative authority".

viii. Sections 3.12.1, 3.12.2, 3.12.3, 3.12.4, and 3.12.5 are deleted in their entirety.

5. Chapter 4 of the plumbing subcode entitled, "Joints and Connections" is amended as follows:

i. Section 4.2.17(a) is amended to delete the phrase "or be approved by the administrative authority."

ii. Section 4.3.8(b)(3) is amended to delete the words "be approved by the Administrative Authority if such products are not listed or labeled" and to add the phrase "or as permitted under N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.7."

6. Chapter 5 of the plumbing subcode entitled, "Traps, Cleanouts and Backwater Valves" is amended as follows:

i. Section 5.3.2 is amended to add the phrase "in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.3" after the words "administrative authority" on line 2.

ii. Section 5.3.4 is amended to add the phrase "in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.3" after the words "administrative authority" on line 1.

7. Chapter 6 of the plumbing subcode, entitled "Interceptors," is amended as follows: