

Our code committee was formed to help provide an unofficial interpretation of the Ohio Plumbing Code.

Mission Statement

“Promote uniform application of the plumbing code and closer cooperation among inspectors, building departments, health departments, design consultants, plumbing and mechanical contractors.”

Committee Members

Chair - Lisa Humble

Frank A. Brykalski, Eric Helms, David Hudson, David Driggs, Wyatt Simons

John Baumgartner, Edward Doehne, Phil Hagan, Robert LeMaitre,

Stephen O'Regan, Tim Rice, James Richardson Jr.

Guidelines for Code Committee

1.0 Interpretations Committees

1.1 Purpose: The purpose of the OAPI Code Advisory Committee is to provide technical support by processing an unofficial interpretation for the various sections of the Ohio Plumbing Code. Committee Interpretations represent the opinion of OAPI. The final authority of code interpretations is the responsibility of the code official. This policy is not intended to obligate the final decision made by the code official.

1.2 Membership: The Code Advisory Committee is appointed by the OAPI Board.

1.3 Responsibilities: The responsibilities of the Code Advisory Committee are to review and ballot the interpretations in accordance with the procedures herein.

1.4 Secretariat: The Code Advisory Committee shall have a single Secretariat appointed by the OAPI Board. All correspondence relating to committee interpretation of codes shall be directed to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall be responsible for the processing of interpretation request, distribution of interpretations, posting to web site and any other related tasks as necessary.

2.0 Submittal of Committee Interpretation Requests

2.1 Intent: Any interested person or group may submit a request for a committee interpretation, which will be duly considered when in conformance with these rules of procedure.

2.2 Form and Content: Interpretation requests shall be submitted in writing by US mail, email or fax to the Secretariat. Questions should be written on our form in such a manner that they can be answered, either yes or no. Each request shall be clearly identified with name, mailing address and telephone number of the requesting party. Questions not clearly phrased will be rewritten by the Secretariat for accuracy and conciseness, subject to review by the party requesting the interpretation.

2.3 Code Reference: Interpretation requests shall identify the publication year of the International Code in question. The two most recent editions of an International Code are eligible for interpretation. Questions shall address one or more specific code sections. Questions addressing separate topics shall be clearly identified as such.

2.4 Limitations: Committee interpretations are intended to clarify issues which are not addressed directly by the literal text of the Code and are interpretive in nature. A request for a Committee Interpretation will not be processed if it involves:

1. A determination of compliance of a specific product, design or installation;
2. A determination of compliance of an equivalency of protection;
3. A specific construction project;
4. Judgment or knowledge not readily available in the written request or which can only be acquired as a result of an on-site inspection, or
5. Code text that clearly provides the requested information.

3.0 Processing of Committee Interpretation Requests

3.1 Intent: Processing of interpretation requests is intended to provide that each request complies with these procedures, that the interpretation reflects the intent of the code, and that the interpretation is processed in a timely manner.

3.2 Preparation: The Secretariat processes each request, providing answers and reasons for the answers to the interpretation questions, and distributes the request to the Code Advisory Committee for review and comment. The Secretariat shall include any written comments with the draft response and submit to the committee for their deliberation and ballot.

3.3 Ballot Return: Committee members must vote approval or disapproval and return the ballot within 10 calendar days from time of receipt. A disapproval vote of the interpretation must be accompanied by the reason for disapproval.

4.0 Committee Voting

4.1 First Ballot: A unanimous approval vote by the committee is required for the interpretation to be approved on the first ballot. If one or more committee member votes for disapproval on the first ballot, the interpretation request is returned to the committee for re-balloting, with the reasons as given by the members voting for disapproval.

4.2 Second Ballot: Ten or more approval votes (2/3) are required on the second ballot for acceptance. If there are less than ten approval votes, the interpretation request shall be considered unresolved pending action in 4.3.

4.3 Unresolved Interpretations: Unresolved requests for interpretations shall be rewritten by the Secretariat, after due consideration of negative comments, and resubmitted for voting in accordance with 4.1 and 4.2. Should this re-voting fail to gain the necessary ten positive votes, the Secretariat shall notify the requesting party, citing the negative comments as reason for failure to reach a committee consensus, and a committee interpretation shall not be issued.

5.0 Publication

5.1 Interpretation Publication: Committee interpretations shall be compiled by the Secretariat and submitted to the OAPI Board for their approval to release for publication.