



BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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broward.org/CodeAppeals

FBC 7th EDITION (2020) FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#11)

DATE: July 9, 2020
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Interpretation of 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code Mechanical: 301.15; Building: 453.25.4.3.1, 453.25.4.3.2, 1609.1.1 Ex. 8; Fuel Gas: 301.10. Mechanical equipment wind resistance.

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James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 9, 2020, the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following Exception to above sections:

Wind resistance. Mechanical equipment, appliances and supports that are exposed to wind shall be designed and installed to resist the wind pressures determined in accordance with the Florida Building Code, Building.

Exception: Exposed mechanical equipment or appliances fastened to a roof or installed in the ground in compliance with the code using rated stands, platforms, curbs, slabs, walls, or other means are deemed to comply with the winds resistance requirements of the 2007 Florida Building Code, as amended. Further support or enclosure of mechanical equipment or appliances is not required by a state or local official having authority to enforce the Florida Building Code.

Formal Interpretation:

1. Mechanical equipment or appliances themselves, are not required to demonstrate compliance with the wind load requirements of the Florida Building Code and no other shielding, sheltering, or reinforcement of the equipment of appliance is required.
2. Notwithstanding Item 1 above, the mechanical equipment or appliances shall be adequately anchored to the rated stands, platforms, curbs, slabs, walls, or other means of support to resist the wind loads of the 2007 Florida Building Code.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 9, 2016
RE-ISSUED DATE: July 9, 2020
EFFECTIVE DATE: December 31, 2020

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