



BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

FBC 5th Edition (2014)

FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#10)

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DATE: May 18, 2015

TO: All Building Officials

FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers

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Board Attorney

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

Board Administrative Director

James DiPietro

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At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Codes:

1. FBC, Energy Conservation, Sections R101.4.7.

R101.4.7 Building systems and components. Thermal efficiency standards are set for the following building systems and components where new products are installed or replaced in existing buildings, and for which a permit must be obtained. New products shall meet the minimum efficiencies allowed by this code for the following systems and components:

- Heating, ventilating or air conditioning systems.
- Service water or pool heating systems.
- Lighting systems.
- Replacement fenestration.

Exceptions:

4. Replacement equipment that would require extensive revisions to other systems, equipment or elements of a building where such replacement is a like-for-like replacement, such as through-the-wall condensing units and PTACs, chillers, and cooling towers in confined spaces.

Formal Interpretation:

The replacement of existing Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers that will require the alteration of building walls; as determined by the Building Official or his or her representative, qualifies under the exception 4 to the FBC Energy Conservation 5th Edition section R101.4.7. As consequence this application needs not meet the minimum SEER required in Section R303.1.2 and Table 405.5.2(1) of said Code as long as the replacement is a "like for like" as stated in the above Exception.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

*****PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER******