

First Meeting of Task Force on Radon Resistant Building Codes
Friday December 7, 2012
10:00 AM
Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Fifth Floor Conference Room
1035 Outer Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62704

Present Members: Patrick Daniels, Chairman; Terry Ruhland; Rodman Roeske; Joseph Baber; Angela Tin; Eileen Lowery; Stephen Hunt; Jeff Albertson; Kathy Drea

Absent Members: Phil Chiles; Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins; Speaker of the House Appointee; Minority Leader of the Senate Appointee

Others Present: Melinda Lewis (IEMA Radon Program); John DeRosa (American Lung Association in Illinois)

Meeting Minutes:

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Patrick Daniels called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

- II. Review of Current Standards
 - 1) Distributed documents are identified and described
 - a) Radon Resistant Construction Act
 - b) ASTM Standard E1465
 - c) International Residential Code Appendix F Radon Control Methods (Appendix F)
 - d) Building Radon Out (USEPA guidance for contractors)
 - e) 32 Ill. Adm. Code 422.150

 - 2) Chairman Daniels suggested that task force should use Appendix F as a starting point for creating recommendations for the new code. Justification for this suggestion in the fact that city and counties of Illinois that currently have a radon resistant new construction requirement are directly adopting Appendix F as their guidance for local code officials on installation. Does not believe it is in the interest of the agency to drastically deviate from what is currently being enforced in areas of the state.
 - a) This statement and reasoning was supported by task force members Joseph Baber and Jeff Albertson, code officials from northern Illinois counties that have adopted Appendix F as their guidance.
 - b) All talk force members agreed to begin the recommendation process using Appendix F as a starting point.

- III. Review of Compatibility
 - 1) Chairman Daniels proposed that as a whole group, the task force should review document from beginning and strike or change the items in Appendix F that are in contradiction to the current 32 Ill. Adm. Code 422 regarding radon mitigation protocol. All members agreed to

this plan of action. Mr. Daniels continued outlining areas of the Appendix F document that would need to be addressed by the task force. These sections included:

- a) Section AF103.4.4 Sumps.
- b) Section AF103.5.3 Vent Pipe.
- c) Section AF103.6.1 Vent Pipe. First and second paragraphs.
- d) Section AF103.6.2 Multiple vent pipes.
- e) Section AF103.10 Combination Foundations

IV. Establish Recommendations

- 1) In order that they were discussed by the task force:
 - a) Present members suggested changing AF103.4.4 Sumps by deleting the second sentence states “*Sumps used as the suction point in a sub-slab depressurization system shall have a lid designed to accommodate the vent pipe.*” and replacing it with “*Sump pits shall not be used as a primary suction point in a sub-slab depressurization system*” to establish compatibility with current radon mitigation code.
 - b) Present members suggested changing AF103.5.3 Vent pipe by altering the second sentence from “*The vent pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the roof in a location at least 10 feet (3048 mm) away from any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building that is less than 2 feet (0.610 m) below the exhaust point,...*” to “*The vent pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the highest roof in a location at least 2 feet (3048 mm) above any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building...*” to establish compatibility with current radon mitigation code.
 - c) Present members suggested changing the first paragraph of AF103.6.1 Vent Pipe by replacing “*ASB PVC or equivalent gas tight pipe*” in first sentence with “*Schedule 40 PVC*” and by removing “*...or through a sealed sump cover where the sump is exposed to the sub slab aggregate or connected to it through a drainage system.*” from the end of the first paragraph to establish compatibility with current radon mitigation code.
 - d) Present members suggested changing the second paragraph of AF103.6.1 Vent pipe by altering the first sentence “*The vent pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the roof in a location at least 10 feet (3048 mm) away from any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building that is less than 2 feet (0.610 m) below the exhaust point,...*” to “*The vent pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the highest roof in a location at least 2 feet (3048 mm) above any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building, and 10 feet (3048 mm) from any window or other opening in adjoining or adjacent buildings.*” to establish compatibility with current radon mitigation code.
 - e) Present members suggested changing AF103.6.1 Vent pipe by altering the second sentence from “*... terminates above the roof or each individual vent pipe shall terminate separately above the roof.*” to “*shall terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the*

highest roof in a location at least 2 feet (3048 mm) above any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building, and 10 feet (3048 mm) from any window or other opening in adjoining or adjacent buildings.” to establish compatibility with current radon mitigation code.

- f) Present members suggested changing AF103.10 Combination foundations by adding “... *or be connected with a continuous drain tile loop.*” to the end of the first sentence as well as deleting the entire second sentence and replacing with “*Vent pipes shall connect to a single vent that shall terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the highest roof in a location at least 2 feet (3048 mm) above any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building, and 10 feet (3048 mm) from any window or other opening in adjoining or adjacent buildings.*” to establish compatibility with current radon mitigation code.
- g) Present members suggested changing AF103.12 Power Source by altering the first sentence “...*terminated in an approved box shall be installed during construction in the attic or other anticipated location of vent pipe fans.*” to “... *terminated to a single outlet in an approved box shall be installed during construction in the attic in the anticipated location of vent pipe fans.*”
- h) Present members suggested striking 32 Ill. Adm. Code 422.150.h.7.G from current radon mitigation code.
- i) Present members suggested striking all diagrams included in the Appendix F document because of inconsistency with other recommendations.
- j) Present members suggested that variance language used in 32 ILAC 422 apply to both radon contractors and residential building contractors.
- k) Present members suggested changing AF101.1 General by altering the first sentence “... *jurisdictions where radon resistant construction is required.*” to “*Illinois.*” as well as deleting the entire second paragraph.

V. Voting

- 1) Member Stephen Hunt made a motion to accept all changes suggested during the establish recommendations agenda time as the Task Force on Radon Resistant Building Codes recommendations regarding radon resistant construction in new residential construction to the Governor and Illinois Emergency Management Agency.
- 2) Member Eileen Lowery seconded Mr. Hunt’s motion.
- 3) Chairman Daniels called the vote
- 4) Vote results:
 - a) For: 9 (all)
 - b) Against: 0
 - c) Abstaining: 0

VI. Closing of Meeting

- a. Chairman Daniels adjourned the meeting