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October 3, 2024

Official use Only
Rule 5, 682.5(3)

Board of Fire Prevention Regulations
527 CMR 12:00 Interpretation Committee
Department of Fire Services
PO Box 1025, State Road
Stow, MA 01775

Request for interpretation submitted by [REDACTED] on September 11, 2024.

Background:

Request for Interpretation Relative to 527 CMR 12.00, Rule 5, 682.5(3)

Question 1: Rule 5# states References are made in this code to other standards. Those standards, where duly adopted by law or regulation, may be enforced by the appropriate official. They are not considered part of this Code and they are not enforceable under M.G.L. c. 143, Section 3L. For Massachusetts Building Code references, see Appendix A.

Response: No Response.

Question 2: Since the building code is less stringent, does this mean it is not enforceable under M.G.L. c. 141 and 143, Section 3L, and thus electrical installations are still governed by the electrical code?

Response: No Response.

Question 3: (Rule 5#) Since Note 4: references Minimum flood provisions are provided in Building Construction and Safety Code, the international Building Code (IBC), and the International Residential Code for One and Two-Family Dwellings (IRC).) does this mean the code refers to flood provisions, including FEMA regulations, through these building codes?

Response: No Response.

Question 4: (Rule 5#) Since Note 4: references Minimum flood provisions are provided in Building Construction and Safety Code, the international Building Code (IBC), and the International Residential Code for One and Two-Family Dwellings (IRC).) Does this suggest that 527 CMR 12.00, which adopted the NEC and its amendments, no longer applies in situation where the building code's flood provisions in Appendix A take precedence over electrical code requirements?

Response: No Response.

Question 5: Is 682.5(3) of the NEC more restrictive than the Building Code in flood-related situations, specifically in areas subject to storm-driven flooding, compared to 110.11 (Deteriorating Agents, Informational Note No. 4, Minimum Flood Provisions?

Response: No Response.

Question 6: (Rule 5#) Do electricians need to comply with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Environmental Protection (MA DEP) regulations 90.2(D)(5)(c), specifically MGL 310.10, which zones areas subject to flooding, when installing generators and other electrical equipment.

Response: No Response.

Question 7: (Rule 5#) If an electrician uses MA DEP regulations (MGL 310.10) and FEMA flood maps for installations is it standard practice to use these flood-related data historically for electrical equipment installations as well?

Response: No Response.

Question 8: Is the electrical datum plane established in areas that do not fall within tidal zones (1) and (2) based on an equivalent benchmark, such as one determined by seasonal or storm-driven flooding, set by the authority having jurisdiction?

Response: No Response.

Question 9: Who is the authority having jurisdiction under 682.5(3)? Does it default to the most stringent Massachusetts law applicable to flood provisions?

Response: No Response.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Larry S. Fisher

Larry S. Fisher, Chairman
Board of Fire Prevention Regulations

