

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-11-99

February 15, 2000

The following is offered in response to your letter in which you seek official interpretations to the following questions. The code in effect at the time of your request was the 1994 State Building Code, upon which these responses are based.

Question: “Why does the replacement of one foot of wood clapboard siding require a permit?”

Answer: Wood clapboard is a material for which requirements are set forth in the code (at Article 21 in the BOCA National Building Code/1990 portion of the 1994 State Building Code and at Section R-503 in the 1989 CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code portion of the 1994 State Building Code). As I have stated to you in the past, in general, if provisions are set forth in the code for the installation of a material or equipment, a permit is required for the installation or replacement of such material or equipment. When any question regarding the need for a permit arises, it is always best to consult with your local building official prior to beginning work.

Question: “If the Connecticut Building Code sets forth those items of work which require a permit, why would the code provisions setting forth such items require “official interpretations” at all?”

Answer : Official interpretations are issued, by request, to clear up items that are not understood by those seeking the interpretation.

Question: “What role does a State Building Official have in developing the Connecticut Building Code?”

Answer: Subsection (a) of Section 29-252 of the Connecticut General Statutes contains the following language: “The State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards Committee shall, jointly, with the approval of the Commissioner of Public Safety, adopt and administer a State Building Code for the purpose of regulating the design, construction and use of buildings or structures to be erected and the alteration of buildings or structures already erected and make such amendments thereto as they, from time to time, deem necessary or desirable.”