STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-24-12

November 30, 2012

The following is in response to your request for formal interpretation dated November 16, 2012.

Scenario:

The water service entering a structure is metallic (copper), then changes over to PEX (non-metallic type piping) after the water meter. At the appliances (sink, boiler, water heater, PEX manifold, etc) metallic stubs are used.

Question:

Are bonding jumpers required for the metallic stubs in order to bond them to the other metal piping of the structure?

Answer:

No. In accordance with Section 250.104(A), of the 2005 National Electrical Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, "metal water piping systems" shall be bonded. Isolated pieces of metal piping are not considered piping systems, they are "pieces" of the system and are not required to be bonded due to the fact that they are isolated from the metal water piping. Nonmetallic water piping is a dielectric which does not allow electrical current to pass.