



July 3, 2008

Moisture content in wood framing members

Purpose of the rule:

This temporary rule clarifies the requirements for contractors documenting moisture content in construction materials and providing that information to the local jurisdiction.

This temporary rule was presented to the Residential Structures Board meeting on July 2, 2008 and will become effective July 3, 2008.

Citation:

Amend: OAR 918-480-0010

History:

The 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC) requires contractors to provide written acknowledgment of the moisture content of wood framing members to the local jurisdiction. Confusion has arisen over the enforcement of this provision, causing disruption of construction projects. This temporary rule change clarifies and simplifies the compliance process and ensures construction projects are not disrupted until permanent rules are adopted by the division.

The division presented the rule to the Residential Structures Board, who suggested that the appropriate time for the notice to be received by jurisdictions was at the time of the insulation/vapor barrier inspection required under section R109.1.5.2 of the ORSC.

The rule amends the code to clarify:

- The process for a contractor or an owner to provide notification to the building official of compliance with the moisture content requirements for wood framing members; and
- That the moisture content of wood framing members is not subject to inspection by local jurisdictions.

Contact:

If you have questions or need further information, please contact Structural Program Chief Richard Rogers at 503-378-4472, or Richard.Rogers@state.or.us.



Secretary of State
Certificate and Order for Filing
TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
A Statement of Need and Justification accompanies this form..

I certify that the attached copies* are true, full and correct copies of the TEMPORARY Rule(s) adopted on [Upon Filing] by the
Date prior to or same as filing date

Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division 918
Agency and Division Administrative Rules Chapter Number

Shauna M. Parker PO Box 14470 Salem, OR 97309 (503) 373-7438
Rules Coordinator Address Telephone

to become effective [July 3, 2008] through [December 30, 2008].
Date upon filing or later A maximum of 180 days including the effective date.

RULE CAPTION

Amends rules and Oregon Residential Specialty Code sections relating to moisture content in construction materials.
Not more than 15 words that reasonably identifies the subject matter of the agency's intended action.

RULEMAKING ACTION

List each rule number separately, 000-000-0000.

Secure approval of new rule numbers (Adopted rules) with the Administrative Rules Unit prior to filing

ADOPT:

AMEND: 918-480-0010

SUSPEND:

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.020, 455.110, 455.525 & 455.610

Other Auth.:

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.610

RULE SUMMARY

Rule amends the Oregon Residential Specialty Code in order to clarify a provision that requires contractors to provide written notification that the moisture content of wood framing members does not exceed 19%. Clarifies that moisture content of wood framing members is not subject to inspection by the authority having jurisdiction.

Mark Long

Authorized Signer Printed name Date

*With this original and Statement of Need, file one photocopy of certificate, one paper copy of rules listed in Rulemaking Actions, and electronic copy of rules. ARC 940-2005

STATEMENT OF NEED AND JUSTIFICATION

A Certificate and Order for Filing Temporary Administrative Rules accompanies this form.

Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division
Agency and Division

918

Administrative Rules Chapter Number

In the Matter of: Amending OAR 918-480-0010.

Rule Caption: (Not more than 15 words that reasonably identifies the subject matter of the agency’s intended action.)

Amends rules and Oregon Residential Specialty Code sections relating to moisture content in construction materials.

Statutory Authority: ORS 455.610

Other Authority:

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.610

Need for the Temporary Rule(s):

The code provision requiring contractors to provide written notification of wood framing members moisture content was added to the Oregon Residential Specialty code during the most recent code cycle. There has been some confusion and inconsistent enforcement relating to this provision among different jurisdictions. The confusion has given rise to different requirements in different jurisdictions, causing disruption of construction projects. Thus, this rule change will clarify and simplify the compliance process and ensure construction projects are not disrupted.

Documents Relied Upon, and where they are available: 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code; temporary rule; and supporting documents are available from the division’s rules coordinator located at 1535 Edgewater Street NW, Salem, OR 97304 and are available on the division’s website: www.bcd.oregon.gov.

Justification of Temporary Rule(s):

Mold growth in homes poses a threat to public health. Since contractor compliance with code requirements concerning moisture content is critical to protecting public health, this rule needs to be clarified as soon as possible. Clarification of the rules will also ensure that these code provisions are uniformly applied throughout the state and avoid unnecessary delay of construction projects due to different enforcement methodologies. Clarification will also provide predictability for contractors seeking to comply with moisture content verification for wooden framing members.

Mark Long

Authorized Signer

Printed name

Date

ORSC Moisture Content Temporary Rule
Effective: 7/3/08

918-480-0010

Amendments to the Oregon Residential Specialty Code

(1) The **Oregon Residential Specialty Code** is adopted and amended pursuant to OAR chapter 918, division 8. Amendments adopted for inclusion into the **Oregon Residential Specialty Code** are placed in this rule, showing the section reference, a descriptive caption and a short description of the amendment.

(2) Effective April 1, 2008:

(a) The **2006 Edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code** as published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and amended by the division are adopted as the plumbing provisions of the **Oregon Residential Specialty Code**; and

(b) The **2008 Edition of the NFPA 70, National Electrical Code** and amended by the division are adopted as the electrical provisions of the **Oregon Residential Specialty Code**. See OAR chapter 918, division 305 for Oregon amendments to **NFPA 70, National Electrical Code**.

(c) Effective April 1, 2007 Appendix N, Low-Rise Multiple-Family Dwelling Construction is moved from the 2005 Oregon Residential Specialty Code to the **2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code**.

(3) During the phase-in period established in OAR 918-480-0005(3), plans designed to the **2005 Oregon Residential Specialty Code** must use the plumbing and electrical provisions included in that 2005 code; plans designed to the **2008 Oregon Specialty Residential Specialty Code** must use the plumbing and electrical provisions adopted in this rule.

(4) Effective July 3, 2008, the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code is amended as follows:

(a) Section R 109.1.4.1 is deleted and replaced with the following: The requirement in R318.2 that all moisture-sensitive wood framing members used in construction shall have a moisture content of not more than 19 percent of the weight of dry wood framing members is not subject to inspection by the authority having jurisdiction.

(b) Section R318.2 is amended to read: Moisture content. Prior to issuance of the insulation/vapor barrier approval required by R109.1.5.2 of this code:

(A) All moisture-sensitive wood framing members used in construction shall have a moisture content of not more than 19 percent of the weight of dry wood framing members.

(B) The general contractor or the owner who was issued the structural permit shall notify the building official on a division approved form that the contractor or the owner who was issued the structural permit is aware of and has taken steps to meet the requirement in paragraph (A).

[Publications: Publications referenced are available for review at the division. See division web site for information on where to purchase publications.]

Stat. Auth.: ORS 455.020, 455.110, 455.525 & 455.610

Stats. Implemented: ORS 455.610

Hist.: BCA 18-1993, f. 8-24-93, cert. ef. 8-29-93; BCA 28-1993, f. 10-22-93, cert. ef. 1-1-94; BCA 29-1993, f. 11-24-93, cert. ef. 12-1-93; BCD 6-1995, f. 3-31-95, cert. ef. 4-1-95; BCD 3-1996, f. 2-2-96, cert. ef. 4-1-96; BCD 22-1996(Temp), f. 10-1-96, cert. ef. 10-4-96; BCD 5-1997, f. 3-21-97, cert. ef. 4-1-97; Administrative Reformatting 1-19-98; BCD 3-1998, f. 1-29-98, cert. ef. 4-1-98; BCD 19-1998, f. 9-30-98, cert. ef. 10-1-98; BCD 3-2000, f. 1-14-00 cert. ef. 4-1-00; BCD 19-2000(Temp), f.& cert. ef. 8-15-00 thru 2-10-01; BCD 32-2000, f. 12-27-00, cert. ef. 1-1-01; BCD 3-2001, f. 2-9-01, cert. ef. 3-1-01; BCD 2-2002, f. 3-5-02, cert. ef. 4-1-02; BCD 22-2002(Temp), f. 9-13-02 cert. ef. 10-1-02 thru 3-29-03; BCD 30-2002, f. 12-6-02, cert. ef. 1-1-03; BCD 1-2003(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 1-10-03 thru 3-31-03; BCD 33-2002, f. 12-20-02 cert. ef. 4-1-03; BCD 15-2004, f. 9-10-04, cert. ef. 10-1-04; BCD 5-2005, f. & cert. ef. 3-28-05; BCD 9-2006, f. 6-30-06, cert. ef. 7-1-06; BCD 1-2007, f. 2-15-07, cert. ef. 4-1-07; BCD 5-2008, f. 2-22-08, cert. ef. 4-1-08

Moisture Content Acknowledgement Form

I, _____, am the general contractor or the owner-builder at the following address:

Street Address

City

Permit#

If applicable:

Subdivision/Lot

and/or

Map and Tax Lot

To conform with the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC), Section R318.2, I am notifying the building official that I am aware of the moisture content requirement of ORSC Section R318.2 and have taken steps to meet this code requirement. [Section R318.2 is provided for reference.]

Section R318.2 Moisture content. Prior to issuance of the insulation/vapor barrier approval required by R109.1.5.2 of this code:

(A) All moisture-sensitive wood framing members used in construction shall have a moisture content of not more than 19 percent of the weight of dry wood framing members.

(B) The general contractor or the owner who was issued the structural permit shall notify the building official on a division approved form that the contractor or the owner who was issued the structural permit is aware of and has taken steps to meet the requirement in paragraph (A).

Signature

Date