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Title 17
CONSTRUCTION
Part I. Uniform Construction Code

Chapter 1. Adoption of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code (Formerly LAC 55:VI.Chapter 3)

§101. Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A)

A. In accordance with the requirements set forth in R.S. 40:1730.28, effective January 1, 2015 the following is hereby adopted as an amendment to the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code. (The "Louisiana State plumbing code" shall replace all references to the "International Plumbing Code" in the following codes.)

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshal, LR 41:2380 (November 2015).

§103. *International Building Code* (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.1)

A. *International Building Code* (IBC), 2012 Edition, not including Chapter 1, Administration, Chapter 11, Accessibility, Chapter 27, Electrical and Chapter 29, Plumbing Systems. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this state. Furthermore, IBC shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the *International Building Code*.

1. Delete Chapter 4, Section 403.5.5, Luminous Egress Path Markings.

2. Amend Chapter 9 to adopt and amend 2012 *International Building Code*, Section 903.2.1.2, Group A-2 (2.). The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.

3. Amend chapter 10, Section 1018.5, Air Movement in corridors. Corridors that require protection under Table 1018.1—Corridor Fire-Resistance Rating, shall not serve as supply, return, exhaust, relief or ventilation air ducts.

4. Amend Chapter 10 Section 1026.5.

a. Exception: exterior stairs or ramps which serve no more than one story above the level of exit discharge and constructed with non-combustible materials or constructed with fire retardant treated lumber, shall be allowed when the fire separation distance is between 5 and 10 feet measured from the exterior edge of the stairway or ramp.

5. Amend Section 1505.1, General. Roof assemblies shall be divided into the classes defined below. Class A, B and C roof assemblies and roof coverings required to be listed by this section shall be tested in accordance with ASTM E 108 or UL 790. In addition, fire-retardant-treated wood roof coverings shall be tested in accordance with ASTM D 2898. The minimum roof coverings installed on buildings shall comply with Table 1505.1 based on the type of construction of the building.

a. Exception: skylights and sloped glazing that comply with Chapter 24 or Section 2610.

6. Table 1505.1a, b

Minimum Roof Covering Classification for Types of Construction								
IA	IB	IIA	IIB	IIIA	IIIB	IV	VA	VB
B	B	B	C[c]	B	C[c]	B	B	C[c]

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m2.

a. Unless otherwise required in accordance with the *International Wildland—Urban Interface Code* or due to the location of the building within a fire district in accordance with Appendix D.

b. Nonclassified roof coverings shall be permitted on buildings of Group R-3 and Group U occupancies, where there is a minimum fire-separation distance of 6 feet measured from the leading edge of the roof.

c. Buildings that are not more than two stories above grade plane and having not more than 6,000 square feet of projected roof area and where there is a minimum 10-foot fire-separation distance from the leading edge of the roof to a lot line on all sides of the building, except for street fronts or public ways, shall be permitted to have roofs of No. 1 cedar or redwood shakes and No. 1 shingles constructed in accordance with Section 1505.7.

7. Amend Section 1509.7, Photovoltaic panels and modules. Rooftop mounted photovoltaic panels and modules shall be designed in accordance with this section.

8. Amend Section 1509.7.1, Wind resistance. Rooftop-mounted photovoltaic panels and modules shall be designed for component and cladding wind loads in accordance with Chapter 16 using an effective wind area based on the dimensions of a single unit frame.

a. Amend Section 1509.7.2, Fire classification. Rooftop-mounted photovoltaic panels and modules shall

have the fire classification in accordance with Section 1505.9.

9. Amend Section 1509.7.3, Installation. Rooftop-mounted photovoltaic panels and modules shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

10. Amend Section 1509.7.4, Photovoltaic panels and modules. Rooftop- mounted photovoltaic panels and modules shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 1703 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

11. Add 1509.7.4.1, Building-integrated photovoltaic products. Building-integrated photovoltaic products installed as the roof covering shall be tested, listed and labeled for fire classification in accordance with Section 1505.1.

12. Add Section 1505.9.7.4.2, Photovoltaic panels and modules. Rooftop mounted photovoltaic panel systems shall be tested, listed and identified with a fire classification in accordance with UL 1703. The fire classification shall comply with Table 1505.1 based on the type of construction of the building.

13. Amend Section 1511.1, Photovoltaic panels and modules. Photovoltaic panels and modules installed upon a roof or as an integral part of a roof assembly shall comply with the requirements of this code and the *International Fire Code*.

14. Add Section 1511.2, Solar photovoltaic power systems. Solar photovoltaic power systems shall be installed in accordance with Sections 1511.2 through 1511.1.1., the *International Building Code* or *International Residential Code*, and NFPA 70.

15. Add Section 1511.2.1, Access and pathways. Roof access, pathways, and spacing requirements shall be provided in accordance with Sections 1511.2.1 through 1511.2.1.1.

a.. Exceptions:

i. detached, nonhabitable Group U structures including, but not limited to, parking shade structures, carports, solar trellises and similar structures;

ii. roof access, pathways and spacing requirements need not be provided where the fire chief has determined that rooftop operations will not be employed.

16. Add Section 1511.2.1.1, Roof access points. Roof access points shall be located in areas that do not require the placement of ground ladders over openings such as windows or doors, and located at strong points of building construction in locations where the access point does not conflict with overhead obstructions such as tree limbs, wires or signs.

17. Add Section 1511.3, Solar photovoltaic systems for Group R-3 buildings. Solar photovoltaic systems for Group R-3 buildings shall comply with Sections 1511.3 through 1511.3.5.

a. Exception:

i. these requirements shall not apply to structures designed and constructed in accordance with the *International Residential Code.*

18. Add Section 1511.3.1, Size of solar photovoltaic array. Each photovoltaic array shall be limited to 150 feet (45 720 mm) by 150 feet (45 720 mm). Multiple arrays shall be separated by a 3-foot-wide (914 mm) clear access pathway.

19. Add Section 1511.3.2, Hip roof layouts. Panels and modules installed on Group R-3 buildings with hip roof layouts shall be located in a manner that provides a 3-foot-wide (914 mm) clear access pathway from the eave to the ridge on each roof slope where panels and modules are located. The access pathway shall be at a location on the building capable of supporting the fire fighters accessing the roof.

a. Exception:

i. these requirements shall not apply to roofs with slopes of two units vertical in 12 units horizontal (2:12) or less.

20. Add Section 1511.3.3, Single-ridge roofs. Panels and modules installed on Group R-3 buildings with a single ridge shall be located in a manner that provides two, 3-foot-wide (914 mm) access pathways from the eave to the ridge on each roof slope where panels and modules are located.

a. Exception:

i. this requirement shall not apply to roofs with slopes of two units vertical in 12 units horizontal (2:12) or less.

21. Add Section 1511.3.4, Roofs with hips and valleys. Panels and modules installed on Group R-3 buildings with roof hips and valleys shall not be located closer than 18 inches (457 mm) to a hip or a valley where panels/ modules are to be placed on both sides of a hip or valley. Where panels are to be located on only one side of a hip or valley that is of equal length, the panels shall be permitted to be placed directly adjacent to the hip or valley.

a. Exception:

i. these requirements shall not apply to roofs with slopes of two units vertical in 12 units horizontal (2:12) or less.

22. Add Section 1511.3.5, Allowance for smoke ventilation operations. Panels and modules installed on Group R-3 buildings shall be located not less than 3 feet (914 mm) from the ridge in order to allow for fire department smoke ventilation operations.

a. Exception:

i. panels and modules shall be permitted to be located up to the roof ridge where an alternative ventilation method *approved* by the fire chief has been provided or where the fire chief has determined vertical ventilation techniques will not be employed.

23. Add Section 1511.4, Other than Group R-3 buildings. Access to systems for buildings, other than those containing Group R-3 occupancies, shall be provided in accordance with Sections 1511.4.1 through 1511.4.2.1.

a. Exception:

i. where it is determined by the fire code official that the roof configuration is similar to that of a Group R-3 occupancy, the residential access and ventilation requirements in Sections 1511.3.1 through 1511.3.5 shall be permitted to be used.

24. Add Section 1511.4.1, Access. There shall be a minimum 6- foot-wide (1829 mm) clear perimeter around the edges of the roof.

a. Exception:

i. where either axis of the building is 250 feet (76 200 mm) or less, the clear perimeter around the edges of the roof shall be permitted to be reduced to a minimum 4 foot wide (1290 mm).

25. Add Section 1511.4.2, Pathways. The solar installation shall be designed to provide designated pathways. The pathways shall meet the following requirements:

a. The pathway shall be over areas capable of supporting fire fighters accessing the roof.

b. The centerline axis pathways shall be provided in both axes of the roof. Centerline axis pathways shall run where the roof structure is capable of supporting fire fighters accessing the roof.

c. Pathways shall be a straight line not less than 4 feet (1290 mm) clear to roof standpipes or ventilation hatches.

d. Pathways shall provide not less than 4 feet (1290 mm) clear around roof access hatch with not less than one singular pathway not less than 4 feet (1290 mm) clear to a parapet or roof edge.

26. Add Section 1511.4.2.1, Smoke ventilation. The solar installation shall be designed to meet the following requirements:

a. Arrays shall be not greater than 150 feet (45 720 mm) by 150 feet (45 720 mm) in distance in either axis in order to create opportunities for fire department smoke ventilation operations.

b. Smoke ventilation options between array sections shall be one of the following:

i. a pathway 8 feet (2438 mm) or greater in width;

ii. a 4-foot (1290 mm) or greater in width pathway and bordering roof skylights or gravity-operated dropout smoke and heat vents on not less than one side;

iii. a 4-foot (1290 mm) or greater in width pathway and bordering all sides of nongravity-operated dropout smoke and heat vents;

iv. a 4-foot (1290 mm) or greater in width pathway and bordering 4-foot by 8-foot (1290 mm by 2438 mm) “venting cutouts” every 20 feet (6096 mm) on alternating sides of the pathway.

27. Amend Chapter 16 Section 1603.1, General. Construction documents shall show the size, section and relative locations of structural members with floor levels, column centers and offsets dimensioned. The design loads and other information pertinent to the structural design required by Sections 1603.1.1 through 1603.1.9 shall be indicated on the construction documents.

a. Exception: Construction documents for buildings constructed in accordance with the conventional light-frame construction provisions of Section 2308 shall indicate the following structural design information:

i. floor and roof live loads;

ii. ground snow load, *Pg;*

iii. basic wind speed (3-second gust), miles per hour (mph) (km/hr) and wind exposure;

iv. seismic design category and site class., unless excepted by Sections 1603.1.5 or 1613.1;

v. flood design data, if located in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3;

vi. design load-bearing values of soils.

28. Amend Chapter 16 Section 1603.1.5, Earthquake design data. The following information related to seismic loads shall be shown, regardless of whether seismic loads govern the design of the lateral-force-resisting system of the building:

a. seismic importance factor, I, and occupancy category;

b. mapped spectral response accelerations, SS and S1;

c. site class;

d. spectral response coefficients, SDS and SD1;

e. seismic design category;

f. basic seismic-force-resisting system(s);

g. design base shear;

h. seismic response coefficient(s), CS;

i. response modification factor(s), R;

g. analysis procedure used;

h. exceptions:

i. construction documents that are not required to be prepared by a registered design professional;

ii. construction documents for structures that are assigned to Seismic Design Category A.

29. Amend Chapter 16, Section 1609.1.2, Protection of Openings. In wind-borne debris regions, glazing in buildings

shall be impact resistant or protected with an impact-resistant covering meeting the requirements of an approved impact-resistant standard or ASTM E 1996 and ASTM E 1886 referenced herein as follows.

a. Glazed openings located within 30 feet (9144 mm) of grade shall meet the requirements of the large missile test of ASTM E 1996.

b. Glazed openings located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above grade shall meet the provisions of the small missile test of ASTM E 1996.

c. Exceptions:

i. wood structural panels with a minimum thickness of 7/16 inch (11.1 mm) and maximum panel span of 8 feet (2438 mm) shall be permitted for opening protection in one- and two-story buildings classified as Risk Category 2. Panels shall be precut so that they shall be attached to the framing surrounding the opening containing the product with the glazed opening. Panels shall be predrilled as required for the anchorage method and shall be secured with the attachment hardware provided. Attachments shall be designed to resist the components and cladding loads determined in accordance with the provisions of ASCE 7, with corrosion-resistant attachment hardware provided and anchors permanently installed on the building. Attachment in accordance with Table 1609.1.2 with corrosion-resistant attachment hardware provided and anchors permanently installed on the building is permitted for buildings with a mean roof height of 45 feet (13 716 mm) or less where V_{asd} determined in accordance with Section 1609.3.1 does not exceed 140 mph (63 m/s).

ii. glazing in Risk Category I buildings as defined in Section 1604.5, including greenhouses that are occupied for growing plants on a production or research basis, without public access shall be permitted to be unprotected;

iii. glazing in Risk Category II, III or IV buildings located over 60 feet (18 288 mm) above the ground and over 30 feet (9144 mm) above aggregate surface roofs located within 1,500 feet (458 m) of the building shall be permitted to be unprotected.

30. Chapter 16 Section 1613.1, Scope. Every structure, and portion thereof, including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments, shall be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions in accordance with ASCE 7, excluding Chapter 14 and Appendix 11A. The seismic design category for a structure is permitted to be determined in accordance with Section 1613 or ASCE 7.

a. Exceptions:

i. detached one- and two-family dwellings, assigned to Seismic Design Category A, B or C, or located where the mapped short-period spectral response acceleration, *SS*, is less than 0.4 g;

ii. the seismic-force-resisting system of wood-frame buildings that conform to the provisions of Section 2308 are not required to be analyzed as specified in this Section;

iii. agricultural storage structures intended only for incidental human occupancy;

iv. structures that require special consideration of their response characteristics and environment that are not addressed by this code or ASCE 7 and for which other regulations provide seismic criteria, such as vehicular bridges, electrical transmission towers, hydraulic structures, buried utility lines and their appurtenances and nuclear reactors;

v. structures that are not required to have a registered design professional in responsible charge;

vi. structures that are assigned to Seismic Design Category A.

b. Amend Chapter 16, Section 1613.1, Scope. Every structure, and portion thereof, including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments, shall be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions in accordance with ASCE 7, excluding Chapter 14 and Appendix 11A. The seismic design category for a structure is permitted to be determined in accordance with Section 1613 or ASCE 7-10. Figure 1613.5(1) shall be replaced with ASCE 7-10 Figure 22-1. Figure 1613.5(2) shall be replaced with ASCE 7-10 Figure 22-2.

31. Amend chapter 23, section 2308.2, exceptions 4. Wind speeds shall not exceed 110 miles per hour (mph)(48.4m/s)(3 second gust) for buildings in exposure category B.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshal, LR 41:2380 (November 2015).

§105. *International Existing Building Code* (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.2)

A. *International Existing Building Code* (IEBC), 2012 Edition, not including Chapter 1, Administration, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January

2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshal, LR 41: 2383 (November 2015).

§107. *International Residential Code*
(Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.3.a)

A.1. *International Residential Code*, 2012 Edition, not including Parts I-Administrative, VII-Plumbing and VIII-Electrical. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this state. The enforcement of such standards shall be mandatory only with respect to new construction, reconstruction, additions to homes previously built to the *International Residential Code*, and extensive alterations. Appendix G, Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs is adopted and at the option of a parish, municipality, or regional planning commission, Section AG105, Barrier Requirements may be altered. Appendix J, Existing Buildings and Structures, may be adopted and enforced only at the option of a parish, municipality, or regional planning commission.

a. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1., Part IV-Energy Conservation of the latest edition of the *International Residential Code* is hereby amended to require that supply and return ducts be insulated to a minimum of R-6. Furthermore, 2012 IRC R301.2.1.1 (Design Criteria) shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the *International Residential Code*:

i. Delete Figure R301.2(4)B and replace all references to this figure with Figure R301.2(4)A.

b. Amend 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1.1 (Design Criteria); R301.2.1.1, Wind limitations and wind design required. The wind provisions of this code shall not apply to the design of buildings where the basic wind speed from Figure R301.2(4)A equals or exceeds 110 miles per hour (49 m/s).

i Exceptions:

(a). for concrete construction, the wind provisions of this code shall apply in accordance with the limitations of Sections R404 and R611;

(b). for structural insulated panels, the wind provisions of this code shall apply in accordance with the limitations of Section R613.

ii. In regions where the basic wind speed shown on Figure R301.2(4)A equals or exceeds 110 miles per hour (49 m/s), the design of buildings for wind loads shall be in accordance with one or more of the following methods:

(a). AF and PA Wood Frame Construction Manual (WFCM);

(b). ICC Standard for Residential Construction in High-Wind Regions (ICC 600);

(c). ASCE Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures (ASCE 7);

(d). AISI Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing—Prescriptive Method for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (AISI S230);

(e). International Building Code; or

(f). SSTD 10-99 Hurricane Resistant Construction Standard.

iii. The elements of design not addressed by the methods in Clauses (i) through (vi) shall be in accordance with the provisions of this code. When ASCE 7 or the *International Building Code* is used for the design of the building, the wind speed map and exposure category requirements as specified in ASCE 7 and the *International Building Code* shall be used.

c. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1.2, Protection of Openings. Exterior glazing in buildings located in windborne debris regions shall be protected from windborne debris. Glazed opening protection for windborne debris shall meet the requirements of the Large Missile Test of ASTM E 1996 and ASTM E 1886 referenced therein. The applicable wind zones for establishing missile types in ASTM E 1996 are shown on Figure R301.2(4)F. Garage door glazed opening protection for windborne debris shall meet the requirements of an approved impact-resisting standard or ANSI/DASMA115.

i. Exceptions:

(a). wood structural panels with a minimum thickness of 7/16 inch (11 mm) and a maximum span of 8 feet (2438 mm) shall be permitted for opening protection in one- and two-story buildings.;

(b). panels shall be precut and attached to the framing surrounding the opening containing the product with the glazed opening;

(c). panels shall be predrilled as required for the anchorage method and shall be secured with the attachment hardware provided;

(d). attachments shall be designed to resist the component and cladding loads determined in accordance with either Table R301.2(2) or ASCE 7, with the permanent corrosion-resistant attachment hardware provided and anchors permanently installed on the building;

(e). attachment in accordance with Table R301.2.1.2 is permitted for buildings with a mean roof height of 33 feet (10 058 mm) or less where wind speeds do not exceed 130 miles per hour (58 m/s).

d. Adopt 2012 IRC Figure R301.2(4)A and delete Figure R301.2(4)B and Figure R301.2(4)C.

e. Adopt 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1.4, Exposure Category.

2. Additionally, Section 302, R302.1, Exterior Walls shall be amended to add the following exception:

a. On lots that are 50 feet or less in width and that contain a one or two family dwelling or townhouse that was in existence prior to October 1, 2005, the following are permitted for rebuilding:

i. a projection 2 feet from the property line with a 1 hour minimum fire-resistance rating on the underside;

ii. a wall 3 feet or more from the property with a 0 hour minimum fire-resistance rating.

3. Amend Section R302.5.1 Opening Protection.

a. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the garage and residence shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb-core steel doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) thick, or 20-minute fire-rated doors.

4. Amend Section R303.4 Mechanical Ventilation. When a blower door test is performed, and the air infiltration rate of a dwelling unit is less than 5 air changes per hour when tested in accordance with the 2009 IRC Section N1102.4.2.1, the dwelling unit shall be provided with whole-house mechanical ventilation in accordance with Section M1507.3.

5. Additionally, IRC shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the *International Residential Code*.

a. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section 313.1 Townhouse Automatic Sprinkler System. Per Act No. 685 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the council shall not adopt or enforce any part of the *International Residential Code* or any other code or regulation that requires a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Further, no municipality or parish shall adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation requiring a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Where no sprinkler system is installed a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall. Electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with the 2011 NEC. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4.

i. Exception: If an owner voluntarily chooses to install an automatic residential fire sprinkler system it shall be installed per Section R313.1.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems for *townhouses* shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D and Table 302.1 (2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire sprinklers may be used for separation requirements.

b. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section 313.2 One- and Two-Family Dwellings Automatic Fire Systems. Per Act No. 685 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Council shall not adopt or enforce any part of the *International Residential Code* or any other code or regulation that requires a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Further, no municipality or parish shall adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation requiring a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings.

i. Exception: if an owner voluntarily choses to install an automatic residential fire sprinkler system it shall be installed per Section R313.2.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D and Table 302.1(2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire sprinklers may be used for separation requirements.

c. Amend Chapter 3, Section R315.2, Where Required in Existing Dwellings. When alterations, repairs or additions occur or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings that have attached garages or in existing dwellings within which fuel fired appliances exist, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Section R315.1.

d. Substitute Chapter 3, Section R317, Dwelling Unit Separation of the 2006 IRC, in lieu of the Section 313, Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems of the 2009 IRC. In addition, Chapter 3, Section R 302.2, Townhouses of the 2009 IRC, is amended as follows.

i. Exceptions:

(a). a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall;

(b). electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with Chapters 34 through 43. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4;

(c). Chapter 3, Section R302.2.4, Structural Independence of the 2009 IRC, is amended as follows: Exception: Number 5, Townhouses, separated by a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall as provided in Section R302.2.

e. Add 2015 IRC Section 324 to the 2012 IRC.

i. Amend Section R324.7.2 Solar photovoltaic systems. Solar photovoltaic systems shall comply with Sections R324.7.2.1 through R324.7.2.5. Installer shall provide structural analysis, from a design professional, of solar panels, components and there loading on existing and new roofs.

f. Adopt 2012 IRC Table 602.3 (1), Fastening Requirements.

g. Amend 2012 IRC Section R703.8, Flashing. Approved corrosion-resistant flashing shall be applied shingle-fashion in a manner to prevent entry of water into the wall cavity or penetration of water to the building structural framing components. Self-adhered membranes used as flashing shall comply with AAMA 711. The flashing shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish.

Approved corrosion-resistant flashings shall be installed at all of the following locations:

i. exterior window and door openings. Flashing at exterior window and door openings shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish or to the water-resistive barrier for subsequent drainage;

ii. at the intersection of chimneys or other masonry construction with frame or stucco walls, with projecting lips on both sides under stucco copings;

iii. under and at the ends of masonry, wood or metal copings and sills;

iv. continuously above all projecting wood trim;

v. where exterior porches, decks or stairs attach to a wall or floor assembly of wood-frame construction;

vi. at wall and roof intersections;

vii. at built-in gutters.

h. Adopt 2012 IRC Section R802.11, Roof tie-down.

i. Adopt 2012 IRC Table R802.11, Rafters.

j. Amend Section R806.1, Ventilation Required.

i. Enclosed attics and enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of roof rafters shall have cross ventilation for each separate space by ventilating openings protected against the entrance of rain or snow. Ventilation openings shall have a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Ventilation openings having a least dimension larger than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) shall be provided with corrosion-resistant wire cloth screening, hardware cloth, or similar material with openings having a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Openings in roof framing members shall conform to the requirements of Section R802.7. Required ventilation openings shall open directly to the outside air.

k. Amend Section R 1006.1, Exterior Air. Factory-built or masonry fireplaces covered in this chapter shall be equipped with an exterior air supply to assure proper fuel combustion.

6. Substitute Chapter 11, Energy Efficiency of the 2009 IRC, in lieu of Chapter 11 Energy Efficiency of the 2012 IRC.

a. Amend Section N1102.3, Access Hatches and Doors. Access doors from *conditioned spaces* to unconditioned spaces shall be weather-stripped and have a minimum insulation value of an R-4.

b. Amend Section N1102.4.2, Air Sealing and Insulation. The air tightness demonstration method of compliance is to be determined by the contractor, design professional or homeowner.

c. Amend Section N1102.4.2.1, Testing Option. Tested air leakage is less than 7 ACH when tested with a blower door at a pressure of 50 pascals (0.007 psi). Testing shall occur after rough in and after installation of penetrations of the building envelope, including penetrations for utilities, plumbing, electrical, ventilation and combustion appliances. When the contractor, design professional or homeowner chooses the blower door testing option, blower door testing shall be performed by individuals certified to perform blower door tests by a nationally recognized organization that trains and provides certification exams for the proper procedures to perform such tests. The responsible BCEO shall accept written blower door test reports from these certified individuals to verify the minimum requirements of Section N1102.4.2.1 Testing Option are attained.

i. During testing:

(a). exterior windows and doors, fireplace and stove doors shall be closed, but not sealed;

(b). dampers shall be closed, but not sealed; including exhaust, intake, makeup air, back draft, and flue dampers;

(c). interior doors shall be open;

(d). exterior openings for continuous ventilation systems and heat recovery ventilators shall be closed and sealed;

(e). heating and cooling system(s) shall be turned off;

(f). HVAC ducts shall not be sealed; and

(g). supply and return registers shall not be sealed.

d. Amend Section N1102.4.3, Fireplaces, New wood-burning fireplaces shall have outdoor combustion air.

e. Amend Section N1103.2.2, Sealing, Ducts, air handlers, filter boxes and building cavities used as ducts shall be sealed. Joints and seams shall comply with section M1601.4. Duct leakage testing shall be performed by individuals certified to perform duct leakage tests by a nationally recognized organization that trains and provides certification exams for the proper procedures to perform such tests. The responsible BCEO shall accept written duct leakage test reports from these certified individuals to verify the minimum requirements of Section N1103.2.2 Sealing are attained.

i. Exception: HVAC Contractors. HVAC contractors, who are not certified to perform duct leakage tests, may perform the test with the responsible BCEO visually verifying test procedures and results on site.

ii. Joints and seams shall comply with section M1601.4. Duct tightness shall be verified by either for the following:

(a). Post-Construction Test. Leakage to outdoors shall be less than or equal to 8 cfm (3.78 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area or a total leakage less than or equal to 12 cfm (5.66 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area when tested at a pressure differential

of 0.1 inch w.g. (25 Pa) across the entire system, including the manufacturer's air handler end closure. All register boots shall be taped or otherwise sealed during the test.

(b). Rough-In Test. Total leakage shall be less than or equal to 6 cfm (2.83 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area when tested at a pressure differential of 0.1 inch w.g. (25 Pa) across the roughed in system, including the manufacturer's air handler enclosure. All register boots shall be taped or otherwise sealed during the test. If the air handler is not installed at the time of the test, total leakage shall be less than or equal to 4 cfm (1.89 L/s) per 100 ft^2 (9.29 m^2) of conditioned floor area.

iii. Exception: duct tightness test is not required if the air handler and all ducts are located within *conditioned space*.

f. Amend Section N1103.8.3, Pool Covers. Pool covers shall not be required to meet the energy efficiency requirements of this Section.

g. Amend Section M1307.3.1, Protection from Impact. Appliances shall not be installed in a location subject to automobile or truck damage except where protected by approved barriers

h. Amend Section M1507.3.1, System Design. The whole-house ventilation system shall consist of a combination of supply and exhaust fans, and associated ducts and controls. Local exhaust and supply fans are permitted to serve as such a system. Outdoor air ducts connected to the return side of an air handler shall be considered to provide supply ventilation.

i. Amend Section M1507.3.2, System Controls. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall be provided with controls that enable manual override and a method of air-flow adjustment.

j. Amend Section M1507.3.3, Mechanical Ventilation Rate. The whole-house mechanical ventilation system shall be able to provide outdoor air at a continuous rate of at least that determined in accordance with Table M1507.3.3(1).

k. Amend Section M1507.4, Minimum Required Local Exhaust. Local exhaust systems shall be designed to have the capacity to exhaust the minimum air flow rate as follows.

i. Kitchen: 100 cfm intermittent or 25 cfm continuous, a balanced ventilation system is required for continuous exhaust.

ii. Bathrooms: exhaust capacity of 50 cfm intermittent or 20 cfm continuous, a balanced ventilation system is required for continuous exhaust.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshall, LR 41:2383 (November 2015).

§109. *International Mechanical Code* (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.4)

A.1. *International Mechanical Code* (IMC), 2012 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

2. Amend Chapter 6 Section 603.4, Metallic ducts. All metallic ducts shall be constructed as specified in the SMACNA HVAC Duct Construction Standards-Metal and Flexible.

a. Exception: ducts installed within single dwelling units shall have a minimum thickness as specified in the 2006 International Mechanical Code Table 603.4.

b. Amend Chapter 6, Section 606.4.1, Supervision. The duct smoke detectors shall be connected to a fire alarm system where a fire alarm system is required by Section 907.2 of the *International Fire Code* or locally adopted fire code. The actuation of a duct smoke detector shall activate a visible and audible supervisory signal at a constantly attended location.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshall, LR 41:2386 (November 2015).

§111. The Louisiana State Plumbing Code (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.5)

A. *The Louisiana State Plumbing Code* [Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code] as amended by the state health officer acting through the Office of Public Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals. Nothing in this Part shall be construed so as to prevent the state health officer from enforcing Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code, the enforcement of which is his statutory and regulatory responsibility.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January

2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshall, LR 41:2386 (November 2015).

§113. *International Fuel Gas Code* (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.6)

A. *International Fuel Gas Code* (IFCG), 2012 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshall, LR 41:2387 (November 2015).

§115. *National Electric Code* (Formerly LAC 55:VI.301.A.7)

A. *National Electric Code* (NEC), 2011 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction in this state. This Code is to become effective on January 1, 2013.

1. Amend and replace 2011 NEC Article 690 with 2014 NEC Article 690.

a. Exception:

i. amend 690.12 to become effective September 1, 2015;

ii. until September 1, 2015, all solar installations shall have an approved manual disconnect located within 5 feet of the array structure to disconnect all DC conductors from the power source.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34:883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 39:1825 (July 2013), LR 39:2512 (September 2013), LR 40:2609 (December 2014), amended by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Fire Marshall, LR 41:2387 (November 2015).

Chapter 3. Preliminary Provisions

§301. Request for Rule Change (Formerly LAC 55:VI.101)

A. Anyone petitioning the undersecretary, Department of Public Safety, for the adoption of, or change of, any rule shall submit in writing to the council administrator at 7979 Independence Boulevard, Suite 106, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, an application containing the following basic information organized and captioned:

1. the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the applicant;

2. a brief description of the facts supporting the applicant's request for the adoption of a rule or the change of a rule that has already been adopted;

3. suggested specific language or language setting forth the substance of the rule or rule change which is being requested;

4. an indication as to whether or not a public hearing is requested;

5. a copy of each and every document upon which the applicant bases his request for a rule or a citation of the information and where it can be easily obtained for review by this office.

B. Whenever the council administrator determines that a public hearing or public hearings should be held prior to the adoption of any rule or rule change, a notice of the meeting date and place and the agenda will be recorded in the *Louisiana Register*; however, whenever that is not possible, a copy of the meeting notice including the date, time, and place, and agenda of the meeting will be mailed to the official journals of the cities of Lafayette, Alexandria, Shreveport, Monroe, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

C. Within 90 days of the request for adoption of or change of a rule, the council administrator will notify the applicant and each individual who request a copy of either his denial of the application or notice of intent to adopt the requested rule.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:290 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008).