



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ONE COMMERCE PLAZA
99 WASHINGTON AVENUE
ALBANY, NY 12231-0001

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

CESAR A. PERALES
SECRETARY OF STATE

To whom it may concern,

June 4, 2012

Re: REVISED MEMO - Log Homes and 2010 ECCCNY Section 102.1.1

The New York State Department of State, Division of Code Enforcement and Administration supports an approach which may be allowed by a municipality for permitting log home construction based upon the International Code Council's ICC-400-2012 *"Standard on the Design and Construction of Log Structures"* as a permitted *Above Code Program* as described in Section 102.1.1 of the current Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State (ECCCNY) 2010. *This letter supersedes all prior correspondence on this subject.*

This allowance for the Log home industry should bridge the gap from the present date until the subsequent ECCCNY is in full effect, which anticipated in early 2015. The ECCCNY 2015 is fully anticipated to include the provisions of ICC-400-2012, and also, *the accompanying health and life safety code provisions indentified on page #2 this letter.* The combination of prescriptive allowance for traditional log walls (the 2012 Log home standard ICC-400 Table including 5 or 7 inch walls) in combination with the mandatory blower door testing provision as found in the 2012 IECC and IRC, as a permitted "Above Code Program" currently allowed by the ECCCNY 2010, *Section 102.1.1 Above Code Programs*, and in our opinion, shall be permitted to be used by the municipality as allowed for in the current code.

In order to be considered an Above Code Program the Prescriptive allowance for ICC-400 and Section 402.2 above should be combined with the following mandatory language, and additional requirements noted on page 2 of this letter:

402.4 Air Leakage (Mandatory)

402.4.1.2 Testing. The building or dwelling unit shall be tested and verified as having an air leakage rate of not exceeding 3 air changes per hour (ACH50). Testing shall be conducted with a blower door at a pressure of 0.2 inches water gauge (or 50 Pascals). Where required by the code official, testing shall be conducted by an approved third party. A written report of the results of the test shall be signed by the party conducting the test and provided to the code official. Testing shall be performed at any time after creation of all penetrations of the building thermal envelope.

During the interim period, prior to the 2015 code update, a person qualified to the satisfaction of the code enforcement official may perform the blower door test.

Additionally please note, there are applicable requirements for *Whole House Mechanical Ventilation*, which can be found in *The International Residential Code- 2012, Section M1507.3*. For simplification, a *portion* of these ventilation rates are included in Tabular form below. Please refer to the IRC 2012 for building parameters exceeding this partial table.

Required Continuous Whole House Mechanical System Airflow Rate Requirements

Dwelling Unit sq.ft. Floor Area	1 Bedroom	2-3 bedrooms	4-5 Bedrooms
<1500	30 cfm	45 cfm	60 cfm
1501- 3000	45 cfm	60 cfm	75 cfm
3001 - 4500	60 cfm	75 cfm	90 cfm

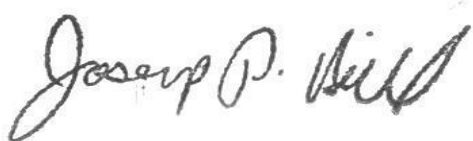
Separate from general ventilation requirements, where Kitchens (or other areas) are provided with exhaust fans in excess of 400 cfm, make-up air must be provided at a rate equal to the exhaust air. Makeup air systems shall be provided with a means of closure, and shall be automatically controlled to start and operate simultaneously with the exhaust system.

Lastly, current Energy Code provisions, ECCCNY 2010 (as well as inclusive provisions of the IECC 2012), create conditions which *may* meet the definition of “*Unusually tight construction*” (Refer to Chapter 2 of the RCNYS-2010 for definitions). **Additional health and life safety provisions** of the Residential Code of New York State (RCNYS) 2010 must **be provided where applicable as follows**;

RCNYS 2010;

Chapter 17 – Combustion Air,

Chapter 24- Combustion, Ventilation and Dilution Air.



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