

ICCPC



2022 GROUP B PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 14 - 21, 2022

KENTUCKY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER
LOUISVILLE, KY

2022 Public Comment Agenda

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Proposed Change as Submitted

Proponents: David Collins, representing Self (dcollins@preview-group.com); Ronald Geren, representing The American Institute of Architects (ron@specsandcodes.com); Paul Karrer, representing The American Institute of Architects (paulkarrer@aia.org)

THIS CODE CHANGE WILL BE HEARD BY THE IBC-STRUCTURAL CODE COMMITTEE. SEE THE TENTATIVE HEARING ORDER FOR THAT COMMITTEE.

2021 International Code Council Performance Code

Revise as follows:

[BS] 903.1 Objective. To safeguard people against illness or injury and to protect the building, facilities, equipment, processes, materials, and contents from damage that could result from accumulation of internal moisture, and to protect an occupancy from damage caused by free -flowing water from another occupancy in the same building or facility. Each occupancy shall be evaluated as to the types of illness or injury they need to be protected from and the level of contaminants that will be allowed.

Reason: This change will expand the required safeguards to the equipment, processes, materials, and contents of the building because these elements of the building are interconnected with the building itself and the performance of the building. Each occupancy group has its own type of occupant. I-2 Occupancy Groups have very different occupants than, say, a typical B Occupancy Group. Therefore, the use of the space should determine the types of illnesses or injuries that the occupants should be protected from, as some may be more serious than others based on the occupant group.

Bibliography: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (2013). "Indoor Environmental Quality: Dampness and Mold in Buildings." Accessed January 4, 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/indoorenv/mold.html>.

Cost Impact: The code change proposal will increase the cost of construction

The broad nature of the existing content in this section could be interpreted to not include some features of the building. The more precise language proposed here addresses building features that may not have been included previously under the original requirement and thus may have a modest cost increase. Whether or not this requirement influences the cost of construction, the application of this requirement should influence operation, maintenance, and health insurance costs once the building is occupied.

The National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) states in its "Dampness and Mold Assessment Tool for Schools and General Buildings":

The health of those who live, attend school, or work in damp buildings has been a growing concern through the years due to a broad range of reported building-related symptoms and illnesses. Research has found that people who spend time in damp buildings are more likely to report health problems such as these:

- Respiratory symptoms (such as in nose, throat, lungs)
- Development or worsening of asthma
- Hypersensitivity pneumonitis (a rare lung disease caused by an immune system response to repeated inhalation of sensitizing substances such as bacteria, fungi, organic dusts, and chemicals)
- Respiratory infections
- Allergic rhinitis (often called "hay fever")
- Bronchitis
- Eczema

Not only are building occupants affected by moisture and dampness, but the durability of the building structure itself can be seriously affected by moisture within the building. The IBC, IMC, IECC, and other I-Codes recognize the potential cost impact of poor designs for moisture management can have, the ICCPC should do no less.

PC5-22

Public Hearing Results

Committee Action:

Disapproved

Committee Reason: Disapproved as the proposal as worded is vague as the last sentence of section 903.1 does not provide clear direction as to how illness would be evaluated. In addition, there was concern with the mixture of concepts of free-flowing water and condensation. (Vote:14-0)

PC5-22

Individual Consideration Agenda

Public Comment 1:

ICCPC: [BS] 903.1

Proponents: Paul Karrer, representing The American Institute of Architects (paulkarrer@aia.org); Ronald Geren, representing American Institute of Architects (ron@specsandcodes.com) requests As Modified by Public Comment

Further modify as follows:

2021 International Code Council Performance Code

[BS] 903.1 Objective. To safeguard people against illness or injury and to protect the building, facilities, equipment, processes, materials, and contents from damage that could result from accumulation of internal moisture, and to protect an occupancy from damage caused by free-flowing water from another occupancy in the same building or facility. ~~Each occupancy shall be evaluated as to the types of illness or injury they need to be protected from and the level of contaminants that will be allowed.~~

Commenter's Reason: This public comment was developed to address concerns or opposition raised by IBC-Structural Committee members during the Group B Committee Action Hearings in Rochester. It removes the originally proposed addition of "free-flowing" water and reverts to the current code language of "free" water because that term is used elsewhere in the ICCPC already. It also removes the originally proposed addition of a sentence attempting to protect occupants against injuries that was considered too broad as well as unclear.

Cost Impact: The net effect of the public comment and code change proposal will increase the cost of construction

The broad nature of the existing content in this section could be interpreted to not include some features of the building. The more precise language proposed here addresses building features that may not have been included previously under the original requirement and thus may have a modest cost increase. Whether or not this requirement influences the cost of construction, the application of this requirement should influence operation, maintenance, and health insurance costs once the building is occupied.

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Public Comment# 3257