

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-14-10

November 1, 2010

The following is being offered in response to your letters dated October 6 and 13, 2010 in which you seek a formal interpretation. Your question inquiry was to the application of Sections R104.11, R104.11.1, R104.11.2 and Section R308.8 which could not be located, of the 2003 International Residential Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question:

Do Sections R104.11, R104.11.1, R104.11.2 and R308.8, of the 2003 International Residential Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, allow the building official to require a geothermal air conditioning and heating system to be designed and stamped by a Connecticut Registered Professional Engineer?

Answer:

The referenced Section R308.8 could not be located and is not part of the 2003 International Residential Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code. Sections R104.11, R104.11.1, R104.11.2, of the 2003 International Residential Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, address alternative materials, alternative design and methods of construction and equipment as well as testing provisions and research reports.

Section R106.1, of the 2003 International Residential Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, is the code provision that addresses the building officials authority to request documents from a registered design professional. This code section states in part, *"The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. Where special conditions exist, the building official is authorized to require additional construction documents to be prepared by a registered design professional."* This code section gives the building official the authority to request documents to be prepared by a registered design professional when the permit applicant has not provided sufficient information to determine code compliance with the minimum requirements of the code. The municipal building official can request this information for a geothermal air conditioning and heating system.