

State Building Code Subcommittee of Building Officials
Meeting
Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Department of Accounting and General Services
Comptroller's Conference Room 410
Kalanimoku Building
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

West Hawaii Civic Center
Building "E", First Floor
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Telephone Call-In - 800-910-8278 then 6547519

MINUTES

1. Call to Order - 8:30 a.m.

2. Attendees: Tim Hiu

Doug Haigh

Glen Ueno

Neal Fujii

Jai Ho Cheng (via telephone)

Kraig Stevenson (via telephone)

Shannon Alivado (via telephone)

3. Review 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC):

- Deputy Attorney General, Stella Kam, advised the four county officials of the State Building Code Committee (via email dated December 10, 2013) of the following:

- Individual wastewater systems (IWS) now are uniformly and comprehensively regulated by DOH (enforcement as well as installation requirements). The UPC Appendix K could apply to county regulation of septic installation if counties adopted it, but they haven't done so and show no signs of doing so. In fact, the counties have indicated that they do not intend to take over IWS regulation without extensive funding for this. DOH could change its IWS rules in an effort to make them be consistent with Appendix K of the UPC, but would have to do so repeatedly as the UPC changes. Moreover, changing DOH rules to match each iteration of the UPC would introduce confusion and eliminate the existing statewide uniformity under DOH rules. DOH has already been sued by a septic system owner who thought Appendix K setbacks applied instead of HAR 11-62. Such rule changes do not seem appropriate where Appendix K is not even effective (given the counties haven't adopted it), and where some aspects of the DOH rules are more protective of the environment than Appendix K.

- Non-potable water systems. DOH has indicated that the proposed UPC Ch. 16 looks fine and intends to revise the one part of HAR 11-62 that address this area to conform with UPC Ch. 16. DOH has no further comment.
 - Catchment water systems (potable or non-potable). DOH has no comments on Chapter 17. DOH does not think regulation of catchment water systems, either potable or non-potable, would benefit users significantly or be justified based on the considerable costs and marginal benefits. DOH does not currently have the resources needed to regulate these systems.
- The City & County of Honolulu and the County of Kauai will be executing memorandum of understandings with DOH. County of Hawaii and County of Maui may do the same.
 - Doug Haigh recommended that Appendix H – Private Sewage Disposal System be deleted. This requires further research, but we may also want to delete Appendix K - Potable Rainwater Catchment Systems.
 - This Subcommittee may be amending the administrative portion of Chapter 16 of the State Plumbing Code.
 - Tim Hiu and Shannon Alivado will be meeting with DOH.
 - The General Contractors Association will review the 2012 UPC and submit their proposal to delete certain administrative sections.
4. Adjournment - 8:57 a.m.