



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7508



Date June 01, 2015

Edition 2010

Section 404.4

Question:

Is it the intent of the FBC, Plumbing and Residential Code sections 404.4 and G2415.4 to prohibit fuel gas piping from penetrating building foundation walls at any point below grade? Or, is it the intent to prohibit foundation wall penetrations only?

Answer

International Fuel Gas Code section 404.4 Is very clear, "Gas piping shall enter and exit a building at a point above grade". Section G2415.4 of the Residential Code has the same wording. Gas piping can penetrate foundation walls as long as this occurs above grade. In regard to G2415.6.1 for conduit terminating outdoors, this section lets you know once inside the structure you can run the piping inside walls, floors, attics etc, and the vent on the exterior must be protected from water and insect intrusion.

Commentary:

The confusion on the conduit terminating outdoors occurs where the wording of the code section specifies it "shall be vented above grade to the outdoors" making you think it is OK to exit the building below grade. That is not the case, the code is making it clear the vent must be to the atmosphere, outside, above grade and protected from water and insects.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This

interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.