



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7530**



Date July 15, 2015

Edition 2014

Section Flood elevation

Question:

Is it the intent of the code to raise washer, dryer, water heater above flood criteria to what elevation?

Answer

Yes.

Commentary:

The requester does not indicate if this is an enclosed area, but we assume that it is as washers and dryers are not typically placed in open areas. The placement of electrical appliances below the design flood elevation is prohibited. The use of enclosed areas below the design flood elevation is limited to parking, building access, or storage per Section R322.2.2. Further, the code prohibits the placement of plumbing appliances below the design flood elevation unless they are designed for such locations. In R322.1.6, The definition of plumbing appliance specifically includes clothes washers and water heaters. Protection of the electrical system would encompass not placing a clothes dryer in such a location. As to the required elevation, the answer is above the Design Flood Elevation (DFE).

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.