



Informal Interpretation Report Number 8832



Date October 13, 2023

Edition 2021

Section 301.2.1.1

Question:

Is it the intent of R301.2.1.1 to allow engineered design for roof deck thickness?

Answer

The 7th Edition Code Change Analysis clarifies this question. The wind design required section has been reorganized to clarify which provisions of the code are applicable to various construction methods. The prescriptive provisions for low wind areas in Chapters 5, 6, and 8 have been deleted. Wind design requirements in the FBCR are generally unchanged but the code now makes it clear which provisions apply. ICC 600 is now only permitted to be used for the design of concrete and masonry walls. Wood frame roofs are required to be designed in accordance with ASCE 7 or in accordance with the AWC WFCM. New exceptions specifically reference applicable sections in the code for the design of footings and foundations, windows and doors, SIPs, wall coverings, roof sheathing, roof coverings, and insulated concrete form construction. Concurrently, section/table R803.2.2 was added outlining the minimum roof sheathing thickness required per wind speed. As the outlined references in R301.2.1.1 are to be used for the overall design, based on wind, the remaining sections, and tables of the code still apply to the specific elements, such as roof sheathing thickness.

Commentary:

The engineer cannot call out a sheathing thickness that does not meet the minimum required in R803.2.2

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.