

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS

Uniform Construction Code

Plumbing Subcode

Adopted Amendment: N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.15

Proposed: August 17, 2015, at 47 N.J.R. 2021(a).

Adopted: December 4, 2015, by Charles A. Richman, Commissioner,

Department of Community Affairs.

Filed: December 4, 2015, as R.2016 d.001, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 52:27D-124.

Effective Date: January 4, 2016.

Expiration Date: March 25, 2022.

Summary of Public Comments and Agency Responses:

Comments were received from Dan O’Gorman; Clint Davison, PE; and David J. Scofield, Johnson & Urban, LLC.

COMMENT: The Department should adopt the plumbing subcode, as proposed, without delay.

The Division of Codes and Standards did exceptional work on this proposal.

RESPONSE: The Department thanks the commenters for this expression of support.

COMMENT: Additional amendments should be made to allow for the use of PP-R and PP-RCT polypropylene pipe and fittings materials. Aquatherm and several other manufacturers/distributors currently market and sell PP-R and PP-RCT polypropylene pipe/fitting products throughout the U.S. PP-R and PP-RCT polypropylene pipe/fittings provide

a much higher pressure rating than the older polypropylene resins, PP-B and PP-H. In addition, PP-R and PP-RCT polypropylene pipe can be manufactured with a fiber-core layer which limits thermal expansion, giving the pipe thermal expansion characteristics which are similar to that of metallic piping. Both PP-R and PP-RCT polypropylene materials are allowed under the Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Mechanical Code, the International Plumbing Code, and the International Mechanical Code. Through these codes, PP-R and PP-RCT resin pipe/fittings have been made acceptable piping materials for both potable and non-potable water applications throughout the U.S. Amendments should be made to the following tables and sections of the plumbing subcode to accommodate the use of these materials: Table 3.1.3, Parts III and IV, Table 3.4, Part III, Table 3.4.2, Table 3.4.3, Section 4.2.14, Appendices B.7, B.9.8, and L.

RESPONSE: The assertion that the pipe/fittings in question are already allowed under the model codes cited above is not correct. These changes will be in the 2018 editions. The proponents of these products should also submit a code change proposal for inclusion in the 2018 edition of the National Standard Plumbing Code if they have not already done so. The updated editions of the model codes will be considered by the Department when they are promulgated.

Federal Standards Statement

No Federal standards analysis is required because the amendments are not being adopted under the authority of, or in order to implement, comply with, or participate in any program established under Federal law or any State statute that incorporates or refers to a Federal law, standards, or requirements.

Full text of the adoption follows:

TEXT