August 20, 2009

Information Bulletin 2009-03 (MH)

TO: MANUFACTURED HOME MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS
COMMERCIAL MODULAR MANUFACTURERS
DIVISION STAFF
BUILDING OFFICIALS

SUBJECT: TITLE 25, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 3,
ARTICLE 2.3, IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION

SUMMARY OF REGULATORY CHANGES:

This Information Bulletin summarizes the recently-approved requirements of Title 25, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Subchapter 2, Article 2.3, “Manufactured Homes, Mobilehomes, Multifamily Manufactured Home and Commercial Modular Ignition-Resistant Construction System” (Article 2.3) for units installed in Wildland-Urban Interface fire hazard areas, both inside and outside of mobilehome parks.

On August 20, 2009, the Article 2.3 emergency regulations become permanent; including all acceptable revisions received from public comment and was made effective upon filing with the Secretary of State. The full text of the regulations and other helpful information is available online at www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/mhp.

The following summarizes the significant changes made to the Article 2.3 regulations effective August 20, 2009, as compared to the emergency regulations that were effective until that date:

- New manufactured homes manufactured on or after January 1, 2006, and prior to September 1, 2008, are exempt from the requirements of Article 2.3 if an application for a permit to install the manufactured home is submitted prior to December 31, 2010. Reference sec. 4200(c)(1).
- Used mobilehomes, manufactured homes, multifamily manufactured homes or commercial modular units manufactured prior to September 1, 2008, are exempt from Article 2.3, section 4200, but must comply with Article 2.3 section 4205 (only). Reference sec. 4200(c)(2).
• Mobilehomes, manufactured homes, and multifamily manufactured homes reinstalled on the same mobilehome park lot or parcel are exempt from Article 2.3 in its entirety. Reference sec. 4200(c)(3).

• Commercial modular structures are exempt from Article 2.3 if installed for temporary use or occupancy for 3 years or less. Reference sec. 4200(c)(4).

• Definitions were added for “used” and “new” manufactured home, mobilehome, multifamily manufactured home or commercial modular units. Reference sections 4202 (d) and (f).

• Section 4205 was added to provide specific new requirements for the construction of commercial modular, manufactured home, mobilehome, and multifamily manufactured home roof systems on units intended for installation in wildland-urban interface fire hazard areas which are different than what is prescribed in Title 24, California Building Code, Part 2 Chapter 7A. In this new section, metal and asphalt roof coverings are allowed to exist as originally constructed; however under-eave attic ventilation must be as prescribed in Article 2.3. New and used manufactured home and multifamily manufactured home roof systems also must comply with the federal Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards, as applicable. Reference sec. 4205.

Questions regarding the permanent regulations should be directed to Manufactured Housing Program staff at (916) 445-3338.

Sincerely,

Kim Strange
Deputy Director