

Subject: Windloss Mitigation Rule Roof to Wall Connection Exemption

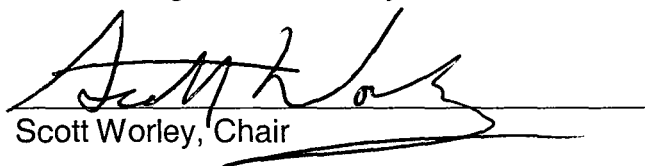
The 2007 Florida Legislation recently passed House Bill 7057, creating Florida Statute 553.844, and resulting in Florida Administrative Code Rule 9B-3.0475. The effect of this work is to require specific measures to mitigate the vulnerabilities of defined, existing, site-built single-family residential structures. One exemption to the requirement of strengthening roof to wall connections is:

“Where it can be demonstrated (by code adoption date documentation and permit issuance date) that roof-to-wall connections and/or roof-to-foundation continuous load path requirements were required at the time of original construction”.

In order to establish a date of code adoption and enforcement, where new construction of site-built single-family dwellings could be deemed to qualify for this exemption, a through review of Building Code Advisory Board archived amendments and archived Standard Building Codes was performed. This review resulted in a finding that a permit application date of January 1, 1988 or later may be deemed to be evidence on face value that an existing, site-built, single-family residential structures was built with the requirements of roof to wall connections and continuous load path requirements from roof to foundation; and therefore qualifies for this exemption in all areas of Palm Beach County where the Building Code Advisory Board model code amendments were adopted.

This advisory is not intended to disqualify any structures whose original construction was earlier than this date, if it can be documented that the required exemption criteria was incorporated. The purpose is to provide a consistent tool whereby the original construction application date may be accepted based on solid documentation as qualifying for this exemption; without the need to investigate the original records of each individual structure.

For Building Code Advisory Board



Scott Worley, Chair