

Plumbing Board
c/o Department of Labor and Industry
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NOTICE OF FINAL INTERPRETATION

On June 15, 2016, the Minnesota Plumbing Board issued a Final Interpretation, which is printed below, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§ 326B.435, subd. 2(a)(4), and 326B.127, subd. 5.

Any person aggrieved by this Final Interpretation may appeal it within 30 days of its issuance in accordance with Minnesota Statutes chapter 14.

Questions may be directed to Suzanne Todnem, telephone number: 651-284-5851, email: suzanne.todnem@state.mn.us.

FINAL INTERPRETATION

Inquiry:	PB0085
Subject:	Use of polyethylene piping for building supply piping.
Code Reference:	Minnesota Plumbing Code: 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) section 204, Table 604.1, and IS 7 (2.6.1), as incorporated in the Minnesota Plumbing Code by Minnesota Rule, part 4714.0050.
Submitted by:	David Henrich, Bergerson Caswell, Inc/Minnesota Water Well Association 5115 Industrial Street Maple Plain, MN 55359
Approved by:	Minnesota Plumbing Board, by John Parizek, Chair
Date Received:	May 16, 2016
Issue Date:	June 15, 2016

Background: On May 11, 2016, the Minnesota Plumbing Board (“Board”) issued a Final Interpretation regarding the definition of “Building Supply” in the Minnesota Plumbing Code. Specifically, the question was, “Is the pipe supplying water to a water meter or pressure tank inside the building considered part of the building supply?” The Board answered “yes.” After the Board issued the May 11, 2016 Final Interpretation, Mr. Henrich submitted a Request for Interpretation asking for further clarification regarding the use of polyethylene (“PE”) piping for building supply piping and whether the pipe could extend inside a structure to the water meter or pressure tank. That is, although the Board clarified the definition, there was a conflicting part of the Minnesota Plumbing Code, namely Installation Standard 7 (“IS 7”), section 2.6.1, which prohibits PE piping to be installed below or inside a building or structure.

Table 604.1 of the Plumbing Code allows PE piping to be used for Building Supply piping. As clarified in the May 11, 2016 Final Interpretation issued by the Board, Building Supply includes the portion of the pipe that supplies water to a water meter or pressure tank inside a building. That is, one continuous pipe, the Building Supply, can go from the water source to the water meter or pressure tank inside a building. Mr. Henrich asked the Board to further interpret the Plumbing Code as adopted to resolve the conflict between Table 604.1 and Building Supply as interpreted by the Board and IS 7, section 2.6.1.

Question: Based on the Plumbing Board's May 11, 2016, Final Interpretation, can polyethylene piping, when used for building supply, be installed inside and under buildings?

Answer: Yes.

Commentary: This request for interpretation was considered at the June 14, 2016, special meeting of the Minnesota Plumbing Board. All parties had an opportunity to be heard. As required by Minnesota Statutes § 326B.127, subd. 5, the Minnesota Plumbing Board will consider this final interpretation for adoption as part of the Minnesota Plumbing Code.

Date: June 15, 2016



John Parizek, Chair
Minnesota Plumbing Board