1	NOTICE OF RULE MAKING PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLIC HEARING
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3	NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
4	
5	Notice of Rule-making Proceedings is hereby given by NC Building Code Council in accordance with
6	G.S. 150B-21.5(d).
7	
8	Citation to Existing Rule Affected by this Rule-Making: North Carolina Administrative, Building, Fire,
9	Existing Building and Energy Conservation Code amendments.
10	
11	Authority for Rule-making: G.S. 143-136; 143-138.
12	
13	Reason for Proposed Action: To incorporate changes in the NC State Building Codes as a result of
14	rulemaking petitions filed with the NC Building Code Council and to incorporate changes proposed by the
15	Council.
16	
17	Public Hearing: Tuesday, September 12, 2023, 9:00AM, Albemarle Building, 325 North Salisbury Street,
18	Raleigh, NC 27603, 2 nd Floor Training Room 245. Comments on both the proposed rules and any fiscal
19	impacts will be accepted.
20	
21	Comment Procedures: Written comments may be sent to David B. Rittlinger, Secretary, NC Building
22	Code Council, NC Department of Insurance: Office of the State Fire Marshal, 1429 Rock Quarry Road,
23	Raleigh, NC 27610 (email david.rittlinger@ncdoi.gov). Comments on both the proposed rule and any
24	fiscal impact will be accepted. Comment period expires on October 16, 2023.
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26	Link to Agency Notice:
27	https://www.ncosfm.gov/codes/building-code-council-bcc/bcc-hearing-notices
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29	Statement of Subject Matter:
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31	1. Request from the NC Building Code Council Mechanical Standing Committee to adopt the 2024
32	edition of the North Carolina Mechanical Code as presented by the committee as follows:
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34	The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Mechanical Code to establish the 2024 NC
35	Mechanical Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-1 2024
36	NCMC": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023
37	

- 1 The 2021 International Mechanical Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 2 <u>https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IMC2021P3</u>

- 4 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 5 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 6 Reason Given This amendment is proposed to protect the public by updating the code to current
- 7 standards of practice.
- 8 Fiscal Statement This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 9 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- 10 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

11

- 12 2. Request from the NC Building Code Council Mechanical Standing Committee to adopt the 2024
- 13 edition of the North Carolina Fuel Gas Code as presented by the committee as follows:

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- 15 The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Fuel Gas Code to establish the 2024 NC Fuel Gas
- 16 Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-2 2024 NCFGC":
- 17 <u>https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023</u>

18

- 19 The 2021 International Fuel Gas Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 20 https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IFGC2021P2

21

- 22 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 23 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 24 **Reason Given** This amendment is proposed to protect the public by updating the code to current
- 25 standards of practice.
- 26 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 27 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

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- 30 3. Request from the BCC Electrical Ad-Hoc Committee to adopt the 2023 edition of the North
- 31 Carolina Electrical Code as presented by the committee as follows:

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- The proposed amendments to the 2023 NFPA 70 National Electrical Code to establish the 2023 NC
- 34 Electrical Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-3 2023
- 35 NEC": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023

- 1 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 2 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 3 Reason Given The NEC is amended and published every three years through a consensus process at the
- 4 NFPA. The 2023 NEC is the latest published edition and represents national industry and life-safety
- 5 updates. The newest edition provides the industry with a standard that regulates the newest equipment and
- 6 technology in accordance with the most current practices. The NC Amendments represent changes
- 7 proposed by the Ad-Hoc Committee that complement North Carolina construction methods. Certain
- 8 changes in the Code will both increase and decrease the cost of installation in various circumstances.
- 9 Fiscal Statement This rule is anticipated to decrease and increase construction costs overall. This rule is
- 10 anticipated to increase the cost of a dwelling by \$80 or more. This rule is not expected to affect local and
- state funds. This rule is anticipated to a cause a substantial impact. A fiscal note has not been prepared but
- will be prepared prior to adoption.

- 4. Request from Natalie MacDonald, Chair of the BCC Mechanical Standing Committee to adopt
- and incorporate Chapters 12-23 (Mechanical) of the 2021 edition of the International Residential
- 16 Code, into the 2024 edition of the NC Residential Code as follows:

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- 18 The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Residential Code to establish the 2024 NC Residential
- 19 Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-4A 2024 NCRC
- 20 Chapters 12-23": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023

21

- 22 The 2021 International Residential Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 23 <u>https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IRC2021P2</u>

24

- 25 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 26 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 27 **Reason Given** This amendment is proposed to protect the public by updating the code to current
- 28 standards of practice.
- 29 Fiscal Statement This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 30 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

32

- 5. Request from Natalie MacDonald, Chair of the NC BCC Mechanical Standing Committee to
- 34 adopt and incorporate Chapter 24 (Fuel-Gas) of the 2021 edition of the International Residential
- Code, into the 2024 edition of the NC Residential Code as follows:

- 1 The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Residential Code to establish the 2024 NC Residential
- 2 Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-4B 2024 NCRC
- 3 Chapter 24": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023

- 5 The 2021 International Residential Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 6 https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IRC2021P2

7

- 8 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 9 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 10 **Reason Given** This amendment is proposed to protect the public by updating the code to current
- 11 standards of practice.
- 12 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 13 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- 14 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

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- 16 6. Request from Gloria Shealey, Chair of the NC BCC Energy Standing Committee to adopt and
- incorporate Chapter 11 (Energy) of the 2021 edition of the International Residential Code, into the
- 18 **2024** edition of the NC Residential Code as follows:

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- 20 The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Residential Code to establish the 2024 NC Residential
- 21 Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-5 2024 NCRC
- 22 Chapter 11": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023

23

- 24 The 2021 International Residential Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 25 https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IRC2021P2

26

- 27 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 28 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 29 **Reason Given** This amendment is proposed to protect the public by updating the code to current
- 30 standards of practice.
- 31 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 32 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note and cost benefit analysis has not been prepared but will be prepared prior to adoption.

- 35 7. Request from Gary Embler, Chair of the BCC Residential Standing Committee to adopt and
- 36 incorporate Chapter 11 (Energy) of the 2018 edition of the NC Residential Code, into the 2024
- 37 edition of the NC Residential Code as follows:

- 1 The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Residential Code to establish the 2024 NC Residential
- 2 Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-6A 2018 NCRC
- 3 Chapter 11": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023

- 5 The 2021 International Residential Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 6 https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IRC2021P2

7

- 8 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 9 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 10 **Reason Given** This amendment is proposed to adopt and incorporate Chapter 11 (Energy) of the 2018
- edition of the NC Residential Code, into the 2024 edition of the NC Residential Code.
- 12 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 13 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- 14 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

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- 16 8. Request from Gary Embler, Chair of the BCC Residential Standing Committee to adopt and
- incorporate Chapters 12-23 (Mechanical) of the 2018 edition of the NC Residential Code, into the
- 18 **2024** edition of the NC Residential Code as follows:

19

- 20 The proposed amendments to the 2021 International Residential Code to establish the 2024 NC Residential
- 21 Code can be found at the following link on the NCDOI website. Select the link to "B-6B 2018 NCRC
- 22 Chapters 12-23": https://www.ncosfm.gov/news/events/building-code-council-meeting-june-13-2023

23

- 24 The 2021 International Residential Code can be found at the following link on the ICC website:
- 25 https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IRC2021P2

26

- 27 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 28 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 29 Reason Given This amendment is proposed to adopt and incorporate Chapters 12-23 (Mechanical) of the
- 30 2018 edition of the NC Residential Code, into the 2024 edition of the NC Residential Code.
- 31 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 32 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

- 35 9. Request from Gary Embler, Chair of the BCC Residential Standing Committee to adopt and
- 36 incorporate Chapter 24 (Fuel-Gas) of the 2018 edition of the NC Residential Code, into the 2024
- 37 edition of the NC Residential Code as follows:

- 1 **Exception:** Heating and cooling *equipment* and *appliance* sizing shall not be limited to the capacities
- 2 determined in accordance with ACCA Manual S where either of the following conditions applies:
- 3 1. The specified *equipment* or *appliance* utilizes multistage technology or variable refrigerant flow
- 4 technology and the loads calculated in accordance with the approved heating and cooling calculation
- 5 methodology are within the range of the manufacturer's published capacities for that *equipment* or
- 6 appliance.
- 7 2. The specified *equipment* or *appliance* manufacturer's published capacities cannot satisfy both the total
- 8 and sensible heat gains calculated in accordance with the approved heating and cooling calculation
- 9 methodology and the next larger standard size unit is specified.

- For permitting, inspections, certificate of compliance or certificate of occupancy, verification of
- 12 <u>Calculations for HVAC Systems-ACCA Manual D, ACCA Manual J, ACCA Manual S load and sizing</u>
- 13 <u>calculation submittals and review shall not be required.</u>
- 14 For certificate of compliance or certificate of occupancy, Calculations for HVAC Systems-ACCA Manual
- 15 D, ACCA Manual J, ACCA Manual S load and sizing calculation submittals shall be required.
- 16 For certificate of compliance or certificate of occupancy, Calculations for HVAC Systems-ACCA Manual
- 17 D, ACCA Manual J, ACCA Manual S load and sizing calculation review shall not be required.

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- 19 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 20 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 21 **Reason Given** Protect consumers against incorrectly sized HVAC systems better than the current code
- 22 requirements.
- 23 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 24 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

26

- 27 11. Request from John Clark representing the Woodford Manufacturing Company to amend the
- 28 2024 NC Residential Code, Section P2903.10 as follows:

- 30 **P2903.10 Hose Bibb.** Hose bibbs subject to freezing, including the "frostproof" type, shall be equipped
- 31 with an accessible stop and waste type valve inside the building so that they can be controlled and drained
- 32 during cold periods comply with ASSE 1019.
- 33 Exception: Frostproof hose bibbs installed such that the stem extends through the building insulation into
- 34 an open heated or semiconditioned space need not be separately valved (see Figure P2903.10). Stop and
- 35 waste systems that utilize ASSE 1011 devices may not be used as the vacuum breaker does not
- automatically drain and is subject to freezing.

1 Exception: ASSE 1011 equipped hose bibbs may be used in heated spaces where not exposed to freezing 2 temperatures. 3 4 Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January 5 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date. 6 Reason Given - Being that North Carolina is an area that experiences freezing conditions on a regular 7 basis, we believe that the ASSE 1019 standard should be required. If all hose bibbs complied with this 8 standard, it would protect against back flow and back siphonage, as well as damage to an ASSE 1011 9 device when it does not automatically drain and freezes. 10 Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase 11 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state 12 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared. 13 14 12. Request from Jason Shepherd to amend the 2024 NC Building Code, Section 907.2.3.1 and the 15 2024 NC Fire Code, Section 907.2.3.1 as follows: 16 17 907.2.3.1 Automatic smoke detection systems. An automatic smoke detection system that initiates the 18 occupant notification in accordance with Section 907.5.2.2 shall be installed throughout all stories of Group 19 E buildings. 20 **Exceptions:** 21 1. An automatic smoke detection system shall not be required in Group E occupancies with an occupant 22 load of 50 or less. 23 2. An automatic smoke detection system shall not be required in Group E occupancies that are protected 24 with an approved automatic sprinkler systems installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. 25 3. An automatic smoke detection system shall not be required in licensed day care facilities complying with 26 Section 431. 27 28 907.2.3.1 Automatic smoke detection systems. An automatic smoke detection system that initiates the 29 occupant notification in accordance with Section 907.5.2.2 shall be installed throughout all stories of Group 30 E buildings. 31 **Exceptions:** 32 1. An automatic smoke detection system shall not be required in Group E occupancies with an occupant 33 load of 50 or less.

2. An automatic smoke detection system shall not be required in Group E occupancies that are protected

3. An automatic smoke detection system shall not be required in licensed day care facilities complying with

with an approved automatic sprinkler systems installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

Section 431 of the *International Building Code*.

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- 1 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 2 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 3 Reason Given Community school buildings are the most important facilities in our local communities.
- 4 Current required manual fire alarm systems do not provide adequate notification when the building isn't
- 5 occupied. Due to the increase of introducing kitchen appliances in these buildings, there are documented
- 6 fires that have happened, and this instance was discovered by a motion detector burglar alarm. If fires occur
- 7 in these occupancies without prompt notification to responding agencies, we have the potential to lose a
- 8 valuable community structure. Risk reduction is driving this code change. It is imperative we maintain a
- 9 healthy community by providing early detection in these facilities where we have a chance for responding
- 10 firefighters to act in earlier stages of fire development.
- 11 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to increase construction costs overall. This rule is not
- 12 anticipated to increase the cost of a dwelling by \$80 or more. This rule is expected to affect local funds,
- 13 but not state funds. This rule is not anticipated to a cause a substantial impact. A fiscal note has not been
- prepared but will be prepared prior to adoption.

- 13. Request from the Fire Code Revision Committee to amend the 2024 NC Building Code and 2024
- 17 NC Fire Code, Sections 1010.2.14, 1010.2.14.4 and 1010.2.1 as follows:

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- 19 **1010.2.1 Unlatching.** The unlatching of any door or leaf for egress shall require not more than one motion
- in a single linear or rotational direction to release all latching and all locking devices.
- 21 Exceptions:
- 22 1. Places of detention or restraint.
- 2. Where manually operated bolt locks are permitted by Section 1010.2.5.
- 24 3. Doors with automatic flush bolts as permitted by Section 1010.2.4, Item 4.
- 25 4. Doors from individual dwelling units and sleeping units of Group R occupancies as permitted by Section
- 26 1010.2.4, Item 5.
- 27 5. Group E classrooms identified by the local school administration as having one or more students that
- 28 require restraint to preserve the safety of the student or students shall be permitted to have latching devices
- 29 that require a maximum of two motions to unlatch the door from the egress side.

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31 1010.2.14 Controlled egress doors in Groups I-1, I-2, and R-4, and E.

- 33 <u>1010.2.14.4 Group E Classrooms.</u> Electric locking systems, including electro-mechanical locking systems
- 34 and electromagnetic locking systems, shall be permitted to be installed on exit or exit access doors leading
- 35 from Group E classrooms and day care classrooms within a Group E occupancy where identified and
- 36 documented by the local school administration as having one or more students that require restraint to
- 37 preserve the safety of the student or students and meeting all of the following:

- 1. The building is equipped with a *fire alarm system* in accordance with Section 907.2.3 (Section 907.2.3,
- 2 Exception 1 is not applicable).
- 3 2. The door locks shall unlock on actuation of the *fire alarm system* and remain unlocked until the *fire*
- 4 *alarm system* has been reset.
- 5 3. The door locks shall unlock on loss of power controlling the lock or lock mechanism.
- 4. A building occupant shall not be required to pass through more than one door equipped with a controlled
- 7 egress locking system before entering an exit.
- 8 5. The procedures for unlocking the doors shall be described and approved as part of the emergency
- 9 planning and preparedness required by Chapter 4 of the *International Fire Code*.
- 10 6. Staff within the rooms equipped with controlled egress shall have the keys, codes or other means
- 11 <u>necessary to operate the locking systems.</u>
- 12 7. When operated, the locking system shall remain unlocked for not less than 30 seconds.
- 8. Emergency lighting shall be provided at the door.
- 9. The door locking system units shall be listed in accordance with UL 294.

- 16 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 17 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 18 **Reason Given** This amendment is proposed to provide a safe method of preventing children with
- 19 disabilities that have the propensity to elope from classrooms from eloping and thus endangering their
- 20 lives.
- 21 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 22 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

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- 25 14. Request from Jason Shepherd representing the Durham County Fire Marshal to amend the 2024
- 26 NC Fire Code, Section 105.5.32 as follows:

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- 28 **105.5.32 Mobile food preparation vehicles.** (optional permit). An operational permit is required for
- 29 mobile food preparation vehicles equipped with appliances that produce smoke or grease-laden vapors.
- 30 Permits shall originate from the commissary address where the mobile food preparation vehicle is
- 31 <u>associated.</u>

- 33 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January
- 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date.
- 35 **Reason Given** Providing clarity to the operational permitting for mobile food preparations vehicles. I am
- 36 proposing this to prevent confusion on permitting of vehicles since they travel across multiple jurisdictions
- 37 for work.

1 Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase 2 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state 3 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared. 4 5 15. Request from Jason Shepherd representing the Durham County Fire Marshal to amend the 2024 NC Fire Code, Sections 319.11.1 and 319.11.13 as follows: 6 7 8 319.11.1 Stability. Mobile food preparation vehicles shall be stabilized against movement when parked for 9 food prep operations in accordance with Section 319.11.1.1 through 319.11.1.23. 10 11 **319.11.1.3 Mobile cooking operations.** *Mobile food preparation vehicles* shall be separated from 12 buildings, structures, canopies, tents, combustible materials, vehicles, and other cooking operations by a 13 minimum of 10 feet (3048mm). Exhaust shall be directed away from openings, air intakes and away from 14 any means of egress. 15 16 Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is January 17 1, 2025, unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date. 18 **Reason Given** – Providing additional safety measures for operating mobile food preparations vehicles. 19 Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase 20 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state 21 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared. 22 23 **NOTICE:** 24 **Appeals and Interpretations** of the North Carolina State Building Codes are published online at the 25 following link. 26 https://www.ncosfm.gov/interpretations 27 28 **NOTICE:** 29 Amendments of the North Carolina State Building Codes are published online at the following link. 30 https://www.ncosfm.gov/codes/codes-current-and-past 31 32 **NOTICE:** 33 **Objections and Legislative Review** requests may be made to the NC Office of Administrative Hearings in 34 accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) after Rules are adopted by the Building Code Council.

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http://www.ncoah.com/rules/