STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 06-04


SECTION: 1120 and 1310

QUESTIONS:

1. Are permanently-installed radiant heaters WSEC compliant in covered structures that are not insulated and have one or more sides completely open to the outdoors or large windows that are typically open?

2. If permanently installed radiant heaters do not satisfy semi-heated restrictions of Section 1310.2 (Btu limitation, thermostat location, or temperature limitation), are permanently-installed radiant heaters WSEC compliant in semi-heated structures above work stations?

3. What code section allows or disallows the use of radiant heaters in the situations described above?

ANSWERS:

1. Yes, if the space is enclosed and the heater meets the requirements for semi-heated spaces. If the space is not enclosed, the code is silent on the issue.

2. No. Heaters in enclosed spaces must comply with all requirements for either conditioned spaces or semi-heated spaces.

3. By definition, conditioned or semi-heated spaces are enclosed spaces within a building. If a space is not enclosed, it is not addressed by the Washington State Energy Code. Any heater used within a building must meet the criteria in Section 1310.2 for semi-heated buildings, or Chapter 14.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Kent