



Washington State Building Code Council

Improving the built environment by promoting health, safety and welfare

1500 Jefferson Street SE • P.O. Box 41449 • Olympia, Washington 98504
(360) 407-9280 • fax (360) 586-5366 • e-mail sbcc@ga.wa.gov • www.ga.wa.gov/sbcc

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 13-09

CODE: 2012 Washington State Energy Code, Commercial

SECTION: C403.2.2

QUESTION: Section C403.2.2 of the 2012 Washington State Energy Code does not allow the output capacity of HVAC equipment to exceed the calculated heating and cooling loads. Since it is unlikely that a manufactured chiller, boiler or other piece of HVAC equipment has a rated output capacity that exactly matches the calculated loads for a given building, a literal application of the code would require equipment that was too small to meet the design loads of the building. Under the previous code, equipment capacities were limited to 150% of the design loads. Is the heating and cooling capacity of HVAC equipment allowed to exceed the calculated heating and cooling loads, provided that such equipment is the smallest available capacity equipment provided by the manufacturer?

ANSWER: **Yes. It is reasonable to assume that, lacking an exact fit, the smallest available equipment size that can meet the design load criteria would be allowed.**

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Seattle