

Technical Information Service, and that NIST will no longer be able to support the standards by answering implementation questions or updating the FIPS when the voluntary industry standards are revised. NIST will continue to provide relevant information on standards and guidelines by means of electronic dissemination methods, and will keep references to the withdrawn FIPS on its FIPS Web pages.

Authority: Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-106), the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-347), and Appendix III to Office of Management and Budget Circular A-130.

Executive Order 12866: This notice has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Dated: February 2, 2005.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Acting Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

International Code Council: The Update Process for the International Codes

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public hearings on U.S. Model Codes.

SUMMARY: The International Code Council (ICC), under whose auspices the International Codes ("I-Codes") are developed, maintains a process for updating these model codes based on receipt of proposals from interested individuals and organizations. The ICC's 14 separately published codes are comprehensively updated and re-published every three years with a Supplement published between each edition. The most current versions of the I-Codes are the 2003 Editions and 2004 Supplements.

Each structured 18-month code development cycle includes two separate public sessions, both open to public participation and observation. The first of the two sessions is the Code Development Hearing during which balanced committees initially review, discuss and vote on an opinion on each proposal for change to the model codes.

Attendees to this hearing are eligible to raise objection to and call for a vote of the ICC members assembled regarding the committee's opinion. The results of the Code Development Hearing are made available for public review and comment prior to the second public session. Public comments received by the ICC are published and distributed for public review. At the second session, entitled the Final Action Hearing, public comments are reviewed and discussed and final voting is conducted to determine which proposals are adopted into the I-Codes.

The purpose of this notice is to invite the public participation in the Code Development Hearing. The publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of ICC is being undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the codes or standards referenced in the notice.

Session Dates: The Code Development Hearings of the 2004/2005 Code Development Cycle will occur on February 22-March 4, 2005, at the Millennium Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio. This will be followed by the Final Action Hearings scheduled for September-October 1, 2005, at the COBO Center in Detroit, Michigan.

Proposed changes approved during this cycle, in addition to changes published in the 2004 Supplement, will constitute the 2006 Edition of the International Codes.

The agenda for the hearing as well as updates to the schedule are also posted on the ICC Web site at: <http://www.iccsafe.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Pfeiffer, PE, Vice President, Codes and Standards Development at ICC's Chicago District Office, 4051 West Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, Illinois 60478; Telephone 708-799-2300, Extension 4338; e-mail mpfeiffer@iccsafe.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The ICC produces a family of Codes and Standards that are comprehensive, coordinated and are widely used across the country in the regulation of the built environment. Local, state and federal agencies use these codes and standards as the basis for developing regulations concerning new and existing construction.

The ICC code development process is initiated when proposals from interested persons—supported by written data, views, or arguments—are solicited, received and then published

in the Proposed Changes document. This document is distributed a minimum of 30 days in advance of the Code Development Hearings and serves as the agenda for that session.

At the Code Development Hearing the ICC Code Development Committee for each code or subject area of the code considers testimony and takes action on each proposal (Approval, Disapproval, or Approval as Modified). Following the Code Development Hearing results are published in a report entitled the Report of the Public Hearing, which identifies the disposition of each proposal and the reason for the committee's action. Any person wishing to comment on the committee's action may do so in the public comment period following the first hearing. Comments received are published and distributed in a document called the Final Action Agenda which serves as the agenda for the second hearing. Proposals which are approved by a vote of the Governmental Members of ICC at the second hearing (Final Action Hearing) are incorporated in either the Supplement or Edition, as applicable, with the next 18-month cycle starting with the submittal deadline for proposals.

Proponents of proposals automatically receive a copy of all documents (Proposed Changes, Report of the Public Hearing and Final Action Agenda). Interested parties may also request a copy, free of charge, by downloading the "return coupon" from the ICC Web site at <http://www.iccsafe.org> and sending it in as directed.

The International Codes consist of the following:

- International Building Code;
- ICC Electrical Code;
- International Energy Conservation Code;
- International Existing Building Code;
- International Fire Code;
- International Fuel Gas Code;
- International Mechanical Code;
- ICC Performance Code for Buildings and Facilities;
- International Plumbing Code;
- International Private Sewage Disposal Code;
- International Property Maintenance Code;
- International Residential Code;
- International Urban-Wildland Interface Code; and
- International Zoning Code.

Dated: February 3, 2005.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Acting Director.

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