STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-03-11

March 18, 2011

The following is being offered in response to your correspondence in which you seek a formal interpretation. This question would apply to Section 602.4.3 of the 2003 International Building Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Scenario:

Existing building with a wood timber framed roof composed of 'tji' structural framing members.

Question:

Do the 2"x 3" or 2"x 4" top and bottom chords with a thin plywood filler qualify as being an alternative for a heavy timber construction member, according to Section 602.4.3 Roof Framing.

Answer:

No, structural framing members (typically known as 'tji' composed of 2"x 3" or 2"x 4" top and bottom chords with a thin plywood filler) do not qualify as an alternative for a heavy timber construction member.