STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-04-10

March 16, 2010

The following is offered in response to your letter dated March 3, 2010 in which you seek a formal interpretation. This question would apply to Section 105, of the 2003 International Building Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question 1:

"Do shipping containers require a permit?"

Answer 1:

No.

Question 2:

"If a permit is required should we require structural calculations to verify the containers will meet the floor, wind and snow loads?"

Answer 2:

See answer to Question 1.

Question 3:

"Would a means to open the door from the inside of the container be required?"

Answer 3:

See answer to Question 1.

Question 4:

"Would a permit for the shipping container be required if the container is going to be occupied, such as a wood shop, garden shed, etc?"

Answer 4:

Yes, a building permit is required if the shipping container were being used as a building with habitable space, or an occupiable space such as a woodworking shop.