

## **STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-23-11**

December 6, 2011

The following is in response to your request for formal interpretation dated November 29, 2011 with regard to Section 402.4.3, of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, which requires new wood burning fireplaces to have gasketed doors and outdoor combustion air.

### Question 1:

Would the requirement of this section apply to the installation of a fireplace insert?

### Answer 1:

No. A fireplace insert is not addressed in the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code and would not be required to comply with the above code section.

### Question 2:

Would pellet stoves (fireplace stove) also be required to comply with this section of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code?

### Answer 2:

No. A pellet stove is not addressed in the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code and would not be required to comply with the above code section.

### Question 3:

If the appliance does not have provisions for combustion air would we then follow the requirements of Section R1005, of the 2003 International Residential Code, for the installation of an exterior air supply?

### Answer 3:

The appliances mentioned above are addressed in the 2003 International Residential Code. Please note that Section R1005, Exterior Air Supply, of the 2003 International Residential Code, is only applicable to factory built fireplaces and masonry fireplaces.

### Question 4:

Would the installation of a fireplace insert, pellet stove insert or wood stove require the installation of smoke alarms (IRC Section R313.1) and CO detectors (IRC Section R313.3)?

### Answer 4:

The installation of a fireplace insert, pellet stove insert or wood stove do not fall under the definition of alterations or additions and, therefore, Section R313.1.1 and R313.3.2 are not applicable.