

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS**

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INFORMATION BULLETIN 2007- 01 (SHL, FBH)

**TO: City and County Building Officials
State Housing Law Interested Parties
Factory-built Housing Manufacturers
Factory-built Housing Interested Parties
Factory-built Housing Third-Party Agencies
Division Staff**

**SUBJECT: FINAL EIR FOR UNRESTRICTED USE OF CHLORINATED POLYVINYL
CHLORIDE (CPVC) PLASTIC PLUMBING PIPE**

This Information Bulletin is intended to provide information regarding a recent action by the Department of Housing and Community Development (Department) related to the adoption of the 2007 California Plumbing Code by the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC).

Background

Current Section 604.1.2 of the 2001 California Plumbing Code permits use of CPVC plastic plumbing pipe for interior residential potable water distribution only if the building official first makes a determination that there is or will be premature failure of metallic pipe due to existing water or soil conditions (the "Findings Requirement"). The Department proposed as part of its 2007 California Plumbing Code package that the CBSC delete the Findings Requirement. Concurrent with the proposal, the Department prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) analyzing the potential environmental effects of deleting the Findings Requirement, because that deletion was likely to lead to increased use of CPVC. The Department subsequently prepared a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR) dated November 2006. This document is available for viewing on-line at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/legal/cpvc.html>.

EIR Certification

On January 24, 2007, the Department certified the Final CPVC Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Final CPVC EIR responds to all comments received on both the DEIR and RDEIR. The Final CPVC EIR is available for viewing on-line at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/legal/2007FinalEIR.pdf>.

Building Standards Commission Approval and Related Code Changes

The CBSC, at its meeting on January 29, 2007, accepted the Department's Final CPVC EIR and approved the Department's proposed provisions for the 2007 California Plumbing Code, without amendment. The 2007 California Plumbing Code is notable for (1) its removal of the Findings Requirement for installation of CPVC plastic plumbing pipe in residential potable water distribution systems; and (2) its new requirement that one-step, low VOC cements be used during such installation to reduce the potential environmental impacts associated with any increased use of CPVC plastic plumbing pipe.

The complete rulemaking file can be viewed at the Department's website within the State Housing Law Program at www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl or at the CBSC website at www.bsc.ca.gov. Questions regarding this Information Bulletin should be directed to Peter Solomon, Housing Standards Programs Manager at (916) 445-9471, or by e-mail to psolomon@hcd.ca.gov.

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