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Proposed Change 1721

Code Reference(s):	NECB20 Div.C 2.2.1.1.(2) (first printing) NECB20 Div.C 2.2.2.1.(2) (first printing)
Subject:	Administrative Requirements - Use of Defined Terms
Title:	Use of the Defined Term "Occupancy" in Division C of the NECB
Description:	This proposed change removes the defined term "occupancy" from provisions where its use could cause confusion in Division C of the NECB
Related Code Change Request(s):	CCR 1390, CCR 1668, CCR 1708
Related Proposed Change(s):	PCF 1651

This change could potentially affect the following topic areas:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Division A | <input type="checkbox"/> Division B |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Division C | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design and Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Buildings | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupant safety in use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility | <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Envelope | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction and Demolition Sites |

Problem

The use of the defined term "occupancy" in Sentences 2.2.1.1.(2) and 2.2.2.1.(2) of Division C of the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings (NECB) is causing confusion among Code users. The intent of the NECB is to describe the intended use of a space within a building or part of a building to provide energy use requirements.

The NECB also uses building or space types to describe the intended use of a building or part of a building for the purposes of providing energy use requirements.

Failing to clarify the terminology would lead to varying interpretations among Code users, which would lead to an inconsistent application of the Code and affect the degree of conformance across the country.

Justification

To avoid confusion and misinterpretation, the defined term "occupancy" should be removed from the NECB provisions that aim to provide energy use requirements.

Removing the defined term "occupancy" would clarify for Code users that energy use requirements, such as those for lighting, may change as the intended use of the space changes (e.g., from retail area to warehouse), although the occupancy classification (e.g., mercantile occupancy) does not change.

PROPOSED CHANGE

[2.2.1.1.] 2.2.1.1. Conformance with Administrative Requirements

- [1] 2) The *authority having jurisdiction* may exempt a *building* or part thereof from some or all of the requirements of this Code where it can be shown that ~~the nature or duration of the occupancy makes it is~~ impractical to apply them. (See Note A-2.2.1.1.(2).)

[2.2.2.1.] 2.2.2.1. General Information Required

- [1] 2) Plans shall be drawn to scale and shall indicate the nature and extent of the work ~~and proposed occupancy~~ in sufficient detail to establish that, when completed, the work ~~and the proposed occupancy~~ will conform to this Code.

Impact analysis

This proposed change has no cost implications since the new term clarifies that the NECB requirements apply regardless of the type of occupancy.

Enforcement implications

This proposed change can be enforced by the current infrastructure without requiring further training.

Who is affected

Designers, engineers, builders, energy advisors and building officials.