



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-8000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING-
FEDERAL HOUSING COMMISSIONER

NOV 27 2012

Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee
c/o Robert Solomon, Project Manager
National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy MA 02619-7471

Dear Committee Member:

Thank you for your letter of November 2, 2012 to Secretary Donovan concerning reductions in certain structural design values for Southern Pine lumber, which is used in the construction of manufactured homes. The changes in design values were issued in an Addendum to a Supplement to the 2001 edition of the National Design Specification for Wood Construction (NDS) effective June 1, 2012. On May 17, 2012, HUD notified the public that the changes warranted a delay in the date of enforcement of the reduced design values until January 1, 2013.

The Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee (MHCC) recently met in October and recommended that HUD further delay implementation of the NDS Addendum until it is presented to the MHCC or issued as an emergency rule pursuant to Section 604(b)(5) of the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000 Act.

After a thorough review of this matter, HUD has determined to further delay enforcement of these new design values until January 1, 2014. It is our understanding that further changes to the published reduced design values are anticipated and no specific timetable has been established for implementing these revisions. This delay will provide HUD with an opportunity to monitor changes made to the standards and will provide the MHCC with an opportunity to review the changes and provide recommendations to the Secretary.

If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact Henry S. Czauski, Acting Deputy Administrator, Office of Manufactured Housing Programs at (202) 708-6423.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol J. Galante".

Carol J. Galante
Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing –
Federal Housing Commissioner