

PLUMBING BOARD: NOTICE OF FINAL INTERPRETATION

On March 14, 2011, the Minnesota Plumbing Board issued a Final Interpretation, which is printed below, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§ 326B.435, subdivision 2(a)(4), and 326B.127, subdivision 5. Any person aggrieved by this Final Interpretation may appeal it within 30 days of its issuance by the Plumbing Board, in accordance with Chapter 14 of the Minnesota Statutes. Any person wishing to appeal this Final Interpretation must mail, fax, or deliver a written letter of appeal to:

Plumbing Board, Attention: Patricia Munkel-Olson
Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155
FAX: (651) 284-5725

Any mailed letter of appeal must be postmarked no later than April 13, 2011. Any faxed or delivered letter of appeal must be received by the Plumbing Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 13, 2011.

Questions may be directed to Sandy Arndt, phone: (651) 284-5115, *email*: sandy.arndt@state.mn.us. TTY users may call (651) 297-4198. No telephone or email appeals will be accepted.

FINAL INTERPRETATION

Inquiry: PB0061
Subject: Sump pumps and discharge piping
Code Reference: Minnesota Plumbing Code, Minnesota Rules Parts 4715.0100 and 4715.2440
Submitted by: Bruce Hutchins
City of Eden Prairie
8080 Mitchell Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-4485
Approved by: Code Interpretation Committee
by Jim Gander, Committee Chair
Date Received: January 10, 2011
Issue Date: March 14, 2011

Question: Is the discharge piping from a sump pump to its point of discharge plumbing work as defined by the Minnesota Plumbing Code (the “Code”)?

Answer: Yes, the installation of a discharge piping from a sump pump to its point of discharge is plumbing pursuant to the Code. Because the Code specifically addresses sumps and the discharge line, and the definition of plumbing includes drainage systems, our conclusion is that the installation of a sump pump and drainage piping is plumbing.

Commentary: The submitter agreed that this Final Interpretation could be issued more than 30 days after his request was received. All parties were heard and had

fair opportunity to present facts, thoughts, opinions, and challenges pertaining to the question of whether the installation of discharge piping from a sump pump is plumbing.

The submitter and persons making comment agreed that sump pumps and drainage piping requirements are specified in the Code. They disagree, however, on whether a plumbing license, and a plumbing permit and inspection, should be required for these installations. Commentors stated that many jurisdictions do not require these installations to be performed by a licensed plumber or the issuance of a plumbing permit and inspection, and that for the Board to require a license could have a major impact on the business of installing clear water sump pumps. Our conclusion does not address this issue.

The submitter and persons making comment were invited to submit suggestions or recommendations related to amending the Code directly to the Board.

As required by Minnesota Statutes § 326B.127, subd. 5, the Plumbing Board will consider this Final Interpretation for adoption as part of the Minnesota Plumbing Code.



Date: March 14, 2011

Jim Gander, Committee Chair
Code Interpretation Committee