

**PIMA COUNTY REGIONAL FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT  
TECHNICAL POLICY**

POLICY NO.: Technical Policy, TECH-004

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 25, 2006

POLICY NAME: Design of flood venting to automatically equalize hydrostatic forces

PURPOSE: To clarify 16.26.030.E regarding the need of an engineer or architect to certify that flood venting meets or exceeds the minimum criteria.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Floodplain and Erosion Hazard Management Ordinance (2005-FC2) provision 16.26.030.E states "... Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect TO meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:..."

The Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 60.3.c.5 states "... Designs for meeting this requirement must be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect OR meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:..."

In all other respects the Ordinance quotes the CFR verbatim, including defining the minimum criteria.

The intent of the federal regulation is to allow the use of openings that meet the defined minimum criteria. If those criteria cannot be met, an alternative may be proposed and the justification certified by an engineer or architect.

The ordinance appears to require that ALL openings require an engineers or architects certification.

**POLICY:**

The intent of the ordinance is to apply the federal requirement. As such, 16.26.030.E shall be interpreted to read "Designs for meeting this requirement must be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect OR meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:..."

**APPROVED BY:**

 1/24/2006

Suzanne Shields

Director

Date

Original Policy Approved:

Date(s) Revised: