

ENGINEERING SERVICES
CODE COMMITTEE
REVIEW SUMMARY

REFERENCE: Letter dated March 16, 1999 from Chris Kates, DOHSM Navajo Area Indian Health Service.

ISSUE: Are two doors (GW03 and 1E104) which extend into the corridor greater than 7-in. at full swing in violation of the 1997 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code? Can an exception be made since access to them is limited to facilities maintenance personnel who are properly trained to keep them closed during emergencies?

LOCATION: Building 2000, Gallup Indian Medical Center (GIMC), Gallup, NM

BACKGROUND: Building 2000, the main hospital building is an existing health care occupancy. An NFPA 101 Life Safety Code Survey was conducted by the Navaho Area Indian Health Service on February 17-18, 1999. The Survey discovered that the two doors in question "were found to extend into the corridor greater than seven inches." The doors of the two rooms open only when facility management needs supplies from the rooms. Facility staff is well trained and would close the doors during an emergency to keep the corridor area wide open. When door GW03 is fully opened, it extends into the corridor greater than 7-inches. When door 1E104 is fully opened, it extends 90° into the corridor and blocks the smoke partition door.

DISCUSSION: LSC 5-2.1.4.4 requires that doors not extend further than 7-inches into the required width of the corridor when fully opened. The required corridor width for the Ground Floor West Wing (where Door GW03 is located) is 48-inches (based on LSC 13-2.3) and the actual corridor width is 60-inches.

Door GW03 when fully open extends into the corridor less than 12-inches.

Door 1E104 only opens 90° and blocks other egress doors when fully open.

INTERPRETATION: Door GW03 meets the 1997 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. Door 1E104 is in violation of LSC 5-2.1.4.4 by extending more than 7-inches into the required corridor width when fully open. In addition, it blocks other required egress doors. Corrective action should be taken to ensure compliance with the Code.

SIGNATURES:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concur	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Concur	DATE: 10-20-99	/Steven E. Raynor/ NAME: Steven E. Raynor, P.E. TX #77171
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concur	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Concur	DATE: 10-15-99	/Joseph L. Bermes/ NAME: Joseph L. Bermes, R.A, WA #007191
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concur	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Concur	DATE: 10-15-99	/James L. Crawford, Sr./ NAME: James L. Crawford, Sr. P.E., WA #0021414
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concur	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Concur	DATE: 10-22-99	/Suresh Shah/ NAME: Suresh K. Shah, P.E. OK #13259