

PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE 2015 ONTARIO FIRE CODE

(O. Reg. 213/07, as amended current to January 1, 2015)

CHANGE NUMBER: N/A

CODE REFERENCE: Division A, Article 1.4.1.2. and New Division B, Subsection 5.14.11.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGE:

New Definition for Extraction, and Requirements for Extraction Processes

- Add a new requirement**
 - Making a technical change to an existing requirement**
 - Making an editorial/administrative change to an existing requirement**
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EXISTING OFC PROVISIONS

N/A

PROBLEM

There are no provisions in the Fire Code that specifically address hazardous extraction operations.

PROPOSED OFC CHANGE

Note for Proposed OFC Change:

- Black indicates existing text.
- Red underline indicates new text.

SECTION 1.4 TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

SUBSECTION 1.4.1. Definitions of Words and Phrases

Defined terms

1.4.1.2. The words and terms used in this Code that are in bold face, and either in upper and lower case or in lower case, have the following meanings:

...

Extraction means a process to remove or separate a substance from a solution or mixture.

Subsection 5.14.11. Extraction Operations

Application

5.14.11.1. Any **extraction** operation involving the use of **flammable liquids, combustible liquids** or flammable gases as **extraction** solvents shall conform to Part 4, Article 5.1.4.2. and to this Subsection.

Prohibited locations

5.14.11.2. Any **extraction** operation involving the use of **flammable liquids, combustible liquids** or flammable gases as **extraction** solvents shall not be performed

(1) below **grade**, or

(2) in **buildings** containing a **residential occupancy**, including **dwelling units**.

Fire safety plan

5.14.11.3. **Extraction** operations to which Article 5.14.11.1. applies, shall comply with the requirements of Section 2.8.

[See also Proposed Change to Division B, Sentence 2.8.1.1.(2)]

PROPOSED IN FORCE DATE

July 1, 2019, except Upon filing of the regulation, for Article 5.14.11.2.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

Extraction operations using flammable or combustible liquids or flammable gases can create conditions for powerful explosions and severe fires. Even with the use of appropriate equipment, trained operators, and premises designed to account for accidental releases of flammable materials, explosions and fires may still occur. Due to these factors, and the speed with which the fires and explosions occur, extraction operations should be prohibited in dwelling units and other residential occupancies. Residential occupancies are not designed to account for this type of hazardous activity. Likewise, due to the nature of how flammable gases and flammable vapours accumulate in a room, there is no safe way to undertake extraction operations involving the use of flammable/combustible liquids or flammable gases in a room below grade.

IMPACT

- Fire departments will be provided with enforceable provisions in the Code with which to prosecute individuals who undertake extraction processes in residential occupancies, including their homes, or below grade in other building types.

- As a result of the proposed new Article 1.3.1.2. of Division A, this proposed change would also apply to floor areas or portions of floor areas within farm buildings that contain extraction operations related to the processing of cannabis and involve the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases. However, new requirements would not apply to other farm buildings given the farm building exemption provided in Article 1.3.1.1. of Division A.

OBJECTIVE BASED ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGE OR NEW PROVISION

N/A

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT(S) AND LINK(S) TO OBJECTIVE(S)

5.14.11.1. – Note 1

5.14.11.2. – Note 1