

Date: March 9, 2005

Approved By:

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Rule: 1010	Building Official Authority and Functional Delegation
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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: Last Adopted June 23, 1997, (canceling prior version dated January 13, 1989) as POL 1010, repromulgated pursuant to SCC 30.82 Rulemaking on March ____, 2005

SEE ALSO: POL-1025 and POL-1030

SCC APPLICABILITY: SCC Chapter 30.50
IBC Section 114

PURPOSE: This rule applies to the exercise of authority and responsibility vested in the Snohomish County Building Official and duly assigned deputies thereof stemming from SCC Chapter 30.50 and the International Codes as adopted therein.

1. **IBC Section 114 Stop orders.** Whenever any work is being done contrary to the provisions of this code, or other pertinent laws or ordinances implemented through the enforcement of this code, the building official may order the work stopped by notice in writing served on any person engaged in the doing or causing such work to be done, and any such persons shall forthwith stop such work until authorized by the building official to proceed with the work.

A. As a general policy, issuance of Stop Work Orders is to be construed as a regulatory action of last resort for which reasonable alternatives are not available. Keeping in mind the purpose and objective, the issuance of Stop Work Orders will either be for the purpose of remediating an immediate threat to life, limb or property or deemed necessary to ultimately achieve what we can determine to be a code compliant product.

B. Specific guidance is provided to assist field employees in meeting the desired objective. Stop Work Orders are only appropriate when:

- a) Work is progressing within a designated Critical Area or an area determined to be a Critical Area by inspection; or
- b) Unpermitted work is progressing that, if continued, would preclude performance of proper inspections once permitted; or
- c) Work is progressing that is concealing a known noncompliant installation or an uninspected installation requiring same; or
- d) Continuation of work is deemed to be inherently dangerous and threatening to life or limb or property; or
- e) Unpermitted work is discovered on a site, or
- f) Unpermitted work is discovered that is not allowed or permissible by applicable codes.

It is appropriate to authorize any mitigation work on a posted site through the concurrent posting of a Corrections Notice.

2. Responsibilities of the Building Official

In addition to those duties specifically addressed by applicable codes in force, the Building Official will:

1. Plan, develop and implement training programs for plans examiners and inspectors on international codes and related county ordinances, and conduct periodic staff technical effectiveness reviews;
2. Maintain a file of Decisions of the Building Official, consistent with the provisions of Rule 1030;
3. Coordinate the periodic updating of SCC Title 30.52A, and assess impacts of pertinent legislative initiatives and national and international code developments;
4. Coordinate disaster recovery efforts of technical staff and volunteers, consistent with the provisions of the County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan so designated;
5. Serve as the County primary representative to the Washington Association of Building Officials (WABO);
6. Represent county at public meetings and provide expert witness testimony at hearings, trials and other legal proceedings or designate such responsibility; and
7. Exercise the Director's authority to suspend or revoke building related permits, subject to SCC Title 30.85, Enforcement Procedures.