

FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION
SCREEN ENCLOSURES WORKGROUP
PUBLIC COMMENTS
MAY 16, 2012

PUBLIC COMMENT #1:

Please see my questions below:

1. How is the 48" minimum height requirement for a primary pool barrier addressed? There currently is no provision of removing or reducing said barrier for any extended period of time according to FS 515.29 or section 424 of the Florida Building Code.
2. What criteria are used to determine minimum design wind speed requirement with all screens in tact?
3. What criteria are used to determine which panels and how many are to be removed and under what circumstances?
4. What wind tunnel testing is planned to quantify the change in aerodynamics of the structure with panels removed, and thus changes in pressures to remaining panels?
5. Does the workgroup acknowledge that there is a significant chance that the roof and remaining leeward wall panel loading may change due to flow-through characteristics of removed wall panels?
6. What analysis is required of a structure with removed panels at full wind speeds? (In other words, doesn't this alternate method imply that two sets of analysis are required to validate the design, one for all panels intact at the "low" wind speed and one for specific panels removed at full wind speed?)
7. What loading is to be applied to the exposed columns in the full wind speed analysis?
8. Isn't this "alternative method" just an excuse for engineers and contractors that either a) do not know how to design and build a screen enclosure to meet full code requirements or b) do not want to design and build a screen enclosure to meet full code requirements? What other reason(s) would there be for an allowance to reduce the structural design load?

I look forward to getting answers on these questions in the meeting on May 16th.

Steven M. Sincere, P.E.