



**San Juan County
Community Development & Planning**

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POLICIES / PROCEDURES / INTERPRETATIONS

Compliance Verification of WSEC High Efficacy Lighting

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Issued 6/18/2011
BP-2011-04

ISSUE:

The Washington State Energy Code (WSEC), section 505.1 **“Interior Lighting”**, requires *“a minimum of 50% of all luminaires shall be high efficacy luminaires”*. Section 505.2 **“Exterior Lighting”**, increases this requirement to all luminaires, with noted exceptions for motion sensing, photo sensor controlled fixtures.

The State Building Code Council (SBCC) provides us Interpretation #11-02, effectively allowing screw based lamps to satisfy the requirement for high efficacy lighting. This allows the homeowner or contractor the option of using a variety of HE bulbs, in conventional fixtures, rather than being limited to HE fixtures which use proprietary bulbs.

This HE lighting requirement places an additional inspection/compliance verification burden on San Juan County. Currently, we are able to maintain acceptable levels of service, given the permitting and inspection load. Increasing the responsibilities of our current inspection staff any further will result in a reduced ability to offer our stated level of service. How can we verify compliance with the WSEC HE lighting requirement while placing a minimal additional burden on our inspection and permitting staff?

ANALYSIS:

The State of Washington and San Juan County recognize and have provisions for an *“owner-contractor”* acting as the general contractor on their project. The State also has a Department of Licensing that, through a rigorous process, certifies and licenses Electricians. Given the current provisions for the aforementioned *“owner-contractor”* and *“licensed electrician”*, there exists a degree of quality assurance that allows us to place the responsibility for demonstrating compliance with either of these parties.

POLICY:

It shall be the policy of San Juan County to allow a home owner or their licensed electrician to submit an *“Affidavit of Compliance for High Efficacy Lighting”*. The affidavit, provided by San Juan County, will list

and describe the lighting fixtures, interior and exterior, and indicate which fixtures comply with the HE requirements. Signing this affidavit testifies that the requirements, as described in WSEC 505.1 & 505.2, as modified. The remainder of the electrical work shall be in accordance with all provisions of the current National Electric Code and the current WSEC. This policy is specific to lighting fixtures located in 1 and 2 family dwelling units, or their accessory structures, as regulated by the International Residential Code. It does not presume to modify or waive any other applicable laws, codes, or statutes.



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HIGH EFFICACY LIGHTING AFFIDAVIT

OWNER: _____ DATE: _____

PROJECT ADDRESS: _____

ISLAND: _____ PERMIT # _____

ELECTRICIAN (If owner not certifying) _____ Lic. # _____

Compliance details: Provide quantity, location, bulb per fixture count, description of all lighting fixtures, and details on if they qualify for compliance. Provide a total number of bulbs and show that the number of HE fixtures or bulbs is at least 50% of the total. Use the worksheet on back of this page. You may report multiple similar fixtures on a single line. (example = "14 recessed can lights, throughout house")

**Code Sections - SECTION 505 — LIGHTING

505.1 Interior Lighting: A minimum of 50 percent of all luminaires shall be high efficacy luminaires.

EXCEPTION:

Lighting that complies with the Prescriptive Lighting Option in Section 1520 or the Lighting Power Allowance Option in Section 1530.

505.2 Exterior Lighting: Luminaires providing outdoor lighting and permanently mounted to a residential building or to other buildings on the same lot shall be high efficacy luminaires.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Permanently installed outdoor luminaires that are not high efficacy shall be allowed provided they are controlled by a motion sensor(s) with integral photo control photo sensor.
2. Permanently installed luminaires in or around swimming pools, water features.

*****Definitions:** (from WSEC Ch. 2) **HIGH EFFICACY LAMPS:** Compact fluorescent lamps, T-8 or smaller diameter linear fluorescent lamps, or lamps with a minimum efficacy of:

- a. 60 lumens per watt for lamps over 40 watts;
- b. 50 lumens per watt for lamps over 15 watts to 40 watts;
- c. 40 lumens per watt for lamps 15 watts or less.

Per SBCC Interpretation #11-02, screw based lamps can qualify.

Compliance certification: I hereby certify that I have reviewed and understand the Washington State Energy Code requirements for High Efficacy lighting (WSEC 505.1 & 505.2)**. I further attest that I have personally installed or supervised the installation of the minimum required number of High Efficacy (as defined by WSEC)*** fixtures or bulbs.

(signature)

(date)

