New NC Building Code 2018, Transition Period (Overlap) and Plan Approval for State Construction Office

Update on 2018 NC Building Code
The 2018 NC Building Code as presented on the NC DOI website, has been adopted by the Building Code Council at the June 2017 quarterly meeting. It is presently pending Rules Review. The review may not be completed until September, so we cannot promise there will not be some minor changes, but to date there are no anticipated issues with the timeline discussed in the previous Engineering Newsletter.

The 2018 NC Code (Except Electrical) will become adopted no later than July 1, 2018, and then we enter into a (minimum) six month overlap timeframe where either the 2012 NC code or the 2018 is acceptable. Then, on January 1, 2019 the 2018 NC code is effective, and the 2018 NC Code is the requirement. This time frame of overlap may be extended, but that cannot be predicted at this time. The 2018 Electrical Code will become effective April 1, 2018.

Remember, the newly adopted 2018 NC Building Code, once it clears Rules Review, is like any other code amendment and can be used as an alternate method prior to the effective date if requested by the user. Reference NC Administrative Code Section 102.5.

The following represents a time line that may aid in planning when to budget for new code training and materials.

![Diagram of code transition timeline]

**Figure 1: Tentative Adoption and Effective Dates**

- Dates of overlap and earliest adoption date (July 1, 2018) are subject to variation due to the public adoption process and the direction of the Building Code Council.
Plan Approval Date for State Construction Office

The following date is a guide to planning your projects if the NC Building Code 2012 is used. The date is NOT A SUBMITTAL DATE !!!

January 1, 2019: This is the APPROVED DATE for Design Development using the NC Building Code 2012. If your project does NOT RECEIVE an APPROVAL by this date, the project shall comply with the new NC Building Code 2018 with NO EXCEPTION.

If the project is placed on hold or stopped for 1 calendar year after DD approval, the resubmitted project shall comply with the NC Building Code 2018 with NO EXCEPTION.