



December 11, 2015

MEMORANDUM

Bulletin R-02-15

TO: All Permit Applicants

FROM: Thomas H. Goldsbury, P.E., C.B.O.
Chief, Building Inspection Division

RE: Residential Re-roofing over Non-standard Decking

The Florida Building Commission has taken action over the past few code cycles to increase the protection of existing homes. A good example of this is the requirement for a secondary water barrier and the requirement to add additional roof deck nailing where applicable when reroofing. A properly secured roof deck coupled with a secondary moisture barrier and properly attached shingles can significantly increase the storm resistance of a home.

Section R907.7.1 of the Florida Building Code – Residential (FBC-R) & Sections 708.7.1 & 708.7.2 of Existing Building Code (FBC-E) provide the roof deck fastening requirements depending on the existing decking material. However, the code does not address the nailing of non-standard decking. An example, but not the only type of decking not covered by sections R907.7.1, 708.7.1, & 708.7.2 is Homasote roof decking. The fasteners specified for re-nailing in these sections are not the proper type of fasteners for this material. In addition, some shingle manufacturers will require special fasteners when attaching shingles to this material, if allowed at all.

Thus, **effective January 1, 2016**, any re-roofing permit for a single family or duplex home, with a decking material not covered by sections R907.7.1/708.7.1 & 708.7.2, will need to provide an engineered design identified specific for the particular address.