

**Synopsis of the June 21, 2007  
Electrical Board Policy Advisory Committee Meeting  
on a Petition to Create a New HVAC/R Electrical Specialty**

A head count, during the meeting, showed 51 persons in attendance who were not board members or L&I staff. Only 43 persons signed the attendance sheets.

All committee members were present (i.e. Tom Phillips – Chair, Jim Simmons, Tracy Prezeau, Fred Tricarico, Don Kopczynski, David S.. Bowman) along with the Board Secretary, Ron Fuller.

The meeting was held to begin discussions regarding a petition to create a new HVAC/R specialty. The Chair and committee members began the meeting with a discussion of the general purpose, goals, and responsibilities of the committee. The Chair read the petition letter that had been submitted to L&I. The committee stated they would be making a recommendation to the Electrical Board when their process was completed.

The Chair asked the Chief Electrical Inspector, Ron Fuller, to briefly describe the existing HVAC/R scopes of work.

The Chair invited the WA HVAC/R Association to briefly explain the intent of their petition. Karen Peacey said there was no intent to change the scope of work for the existing 06A or 06B specialties. She stated they met the needs of many contractors in the HVAC/R industry; but was inadequate for others. She said it is wrong to require a contractor to have multiple specialty licenses to do HVAC/R work. She also said L&I has a history of creating new specialties and asked the committee to provide specifics as to the committee's process in evaluating and making a recommendation to the Electrical Board. She also submitted some comments in writing to the committee.

Trista Zugel, L&I, did a short presentation on the history of HVAC/R regulation in Washington.

The Chair asked for input from attendees who had signed up to speak.

Speakers in support of the petition or for modifying the existing 06A and/or 06B HVAC/R specialties included: Curt Anderson, Mike Frickberg, Tom McKeown, Chris Mercurio, Karen Peacey, Curtis Dahl, Steve Krecker, Jason Engstrom, Phil Brown, David McFerren, Scott Leibowitz, Ida McKeown, Michael Washburn, and Gary Smith. These speakers offered examples of what they believed would be necessary to fully support the HVAC/R industry. Options ranged from adding the ability to change breakers to installing HVAC/R branch circuits and feeders and having an unlimited ability to work in all types of occupancies. Several committee members asked questions of the proponents seeking more information on what the perceived problems were and specifically what they thought was necessary to address those problems. The proponents did not have any specifics of what a new or revised HVAC/R specialty might look like.

Speakers not in support of the petition or for modifying the existing 06A and/or 06B HVAC/R specialties, at this time, included: Richard King, Pete Crow, Dale Wentworth, Christian Dube, Larry Stevens, and Tonia Neal. Each of these speakers said they needed more detailed information about the specifics of the petitioners' proposal before being able to fully comment and participate with the committee. Several indicated that the apparent movement by the petitioners towards allowing an HVAC/R specialty to work in panelboards and extend or install wiring outside the HVAC/R system was troubling and needed strong substantiation.

The committee members discussed the process for reviewing the petition, getting input, and making a recommendation. The committee asked for and received input from several persons in attendance in the audience. The petitioners agreed to supply a specific written document

including: a scope of work and possible questions for the committee by July 6, 2007. The document is to be delivered to the Chief Electrical Inspector who will post it on the Electrical Program website and distribute it to the committee members by July 10, 2007. The committee also decided to hold a follow-up meeting on July 25, 2007 to review the petitioners' document, hear a presentation from the petitioners, and receive more public input. A decision will be made at that meeting on how to proceed.

The meeting was continued until July 25, 2007.