



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

Factory Assembled Structures

PO Box 44430 • Olympia, Washington 98504-4430

*Dear Business and Stakeholders:*

The State Building Code Council voted on September 15, 2023, to delay the effective date of the 2021 Washington State codes. The new code effective date will be **March 15, 2024**. The previous effective date was October 29, 2023, and July 1, 2023, respectively.

**How this affects previous (Feb 28, 2023) code cycle information ([linked here on L&I website](#)) from FAS**

### **Date changes:**

- All L&I approved 2018 code cycle plans for [Factory-Built Housing and Commercial Structures \(modular buildings\)](#), Commercial Coaches, and Temporary Worker Housing that expired on June 30, 2023 are extended – these plans will now expire on March 14, 2024.
- You may continue to use your 2018 plan approvals on structures started prior to March 15, 2024.
- All FAS 2018 code cycle buildings must be completed and receive final inspection/insignia for the factory portion of the work by June 15, 2024 (see the original document link above for any possible extension opportunities).
- Manufacturers, and their customers, are responsible to ensure all local permits are obtained prior to March 15, 2024.

NOTE – all other information from the original 2021 code cycle document (Feb 28, 2023) remains the same.

### **Here's how this affects 2021 plans submitted to FAS prior to March 15, 2024;**

- For the 2021 Code Cycle: We will refrain from accepting/reviewing any 2021 plans until at least Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – perhaps longer depending on forthcoming information. Your 2021 plans will need to meet all requirements of that code – including the 2021 WSEC\_C or WSEC\_R. Please see the previous Update RE: WSEC Compliance ([linked here on the L&I website](#)).
- As always, your plan approval request form must designate which code cycle/version you are submitting under.

**2023 NEC NOTE:** The anticipated 2023 NEC/WAC 296-46B effective date (April 1, 2024) is now within a couple weeks of the rest of the WA Building Code effective date (March 15, 2024). The anticipated final rule filing for the WA Electrical codes is Feb 27, 2024. It may be advantageous for you to wait until those rules are filed to submit new plans. This could save you the time and effort of updating electrical plans via addendums to 2021 code cycle plans. Please consider your options if you wish to submit earlier than the final rule filing.

**We will not accept 2021 plans designed to the 2018 energy code.**

- Please see the SBCC and WSEC websites regarding the possible energy code changes – this may affect your decision on early plan submittals.
- If your 2021 code cycle plans are approved, and you wish to switch to any new requirements that may come from the emergency rulemaking, you will need to submit an addendum.

Contact the SBCC, WAEnergyCodes.com technical assistance, or WSU energy office if you have additional questions regarding timelines on emergency WSEC rules, technical documents, forms, web-tools, and similar.

IF you have already submitted 2021 plan packages, and you wish to revise these packages to comply with the 2018 code instead – please contact us immediately ([FAS1@LNI.WA.GOV](mailto:FAS1@LNI.WA.GOV)). Otherwise, these plans will be re-dated in our queue to Feb 1, 2024 and will not be reviewed until that time.

- If we receive your notice before we have undertaken the review you will be able to switch out your submittal, and keep your place in line.
- 2021 submittals that have already been reviewed may be subject to additional fees to amend the plans if you switch to the 2018 cycle.

We will provide further updates regarding the Washington State Energy Codes, and the Wildland Urban Interface Codes, as information develops.

Thank you for taking the time to review this message, and the prior messages, to sort out the option(s) that are best for you and your business needs.

We are all facing challenges with adapting to the continued delays, and shifting timelines. We will do our best to assist in facilitating the compliance process within the WA L&I Factory Assembled Structures Program.

Thank you,

*CW Rarig*

Chris Rarig

Interim Program Manager

Factory Assembled Structures

Department of Labor & Industries