2009 IRC Plumbing/Fuel Gas Technical Committee Report to Commission
Revised with Commentary added 12/14/10

Motion: The 2009 IRC Plumbing/fuel gas Technical Committee voted to recommend to the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission that Chapter 1 of the 2009 International Residential Code to be adopted as written.

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt there were references to this chapter from the plumbing chapters that needed to be kept intact. Removing chapter 1 would leave these references hanging.

P2503.4 Building sewer testing. –Insert--When required by local Authority having Jurisdiction the *building sewer* shall be tested by insertion of a test plug of connection with the public sewer and filling the *building sewer* with water, testing with not less than a 10-foot (3048 mm) head of water and be able to maitain such pressure for 15 minutes.

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the local jurisdiction could better determine when water testing is required

P2503.6 Shower liner test. Where shower floors and receptors are made water tight by the application of materials required by Section P2709.2, the completed liner installation shall be tested—**insert—at plumbing final**. The pipe from----------

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the intent of the code was to confirm the shower pan is water tight at the time it is ready to be used. Testing the pan during construction would leave it open to damage and more likely to leak when used.

P2503.7 Water-supply system testing. Upon completion of the water-supply system or a section of it, the system or portion completed shall be tested and proved tight under a water pressure of not less than the working pressure of the system or, for piping systems other than—**delete**—~~plastic~~ **–insert--PVC or CPVC**, by an air test of not less than 50 psi (345 kPa), This pressure shall be held for not less than 15 minutes, The water used for tests shall be obtained from a potable water source.

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the word plastic no longer defined the materials that can not be air tested. PEX and similar piping does have air pressure ratings capable of performing the required air test.

2603.6 Sewer depth. *Building sewers* that connect to private sewage disposal systems shall be a minimum of **--delete--** ~~(NUMBER)~~ **--insert--** 12 inches (mm) **--insert--or as approved by the Authority Having Jurisdiction** below finished *grade* at the point of septic tank connection. *Building sewers* shall be a minimum of ~~[NUMBER]~~ **--insert--** 12 inches (mm) below *grade.*

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the code called for a number to be inserted and the IRC graphs of frost levels indicated a state wide depth of 12 is required. For septic applications we felt the AHJ should be able to adjust the #.

P2704.1 General. Slip joints shall be made with an *approved* elastomeric gasket and shall be installed **--delete--** ~~only on the trap outlet, trap inlet and within the trap seal from fixture to outlet~~ **--insert--**from fixture to trap outlet. Fixtures with concealed slip-joint connections shall be provided with an *access* panel or utility space at least 12 inches (305 mm) in its smallest dimension or other *approved* arrangement so as to provide access to the slip connections for inspections and repair.

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the description was confusing and hard to administer changing the language clarified its intent.

P2709.2.1 Lining Required.

--Insert--Where required--the adjoining walls and floors framing enclosing on-site built-up receptors shall be lined with one of the following: ----

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt some receptors built with modern materials like block walls or otherwise sealed compartments did not need liners.

Section P2715

Laundry (delete ~~Tubs~~)--insert--Tray

P2715.1 Laundry (delete ~~Tubs~~) --insert--Tray waste outlets. Each compartment of a laundry (delete ~~tub~~) **--insert--**tray shall be provided with a waste outlet not less than 1 1/2 inches----------

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the IRC used the word Tray and Tub interchangeably. This would just make the code read more uniformly.

P2801.5 Required pan. Where –**insert**—tank type water heaters or hot water storage tanks----------

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt that with the more common use of thankless water heaters these appliances don't have storage tanks and don't need pans.

P2803.1 Relief valves required. –**insert**—Tank type appliance and equipment used for heating water or storing hot water shall be protected by:----------

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt that with the more common use of tankless water heaters these appliances don't have storage tanks and don't need relief valves.

P2902.5.3 Lawn irrigation systems. The potable water supply to lawn irrigation systems shall be protected against backflow by an atmospheric-type vacuum breaker, a pressure-type vacuum breaker, (delete) or a reduced pressure principal backflow preventer –**insert**— or a spill resistant backflow preventer.----------

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the code left out new devices available not listed in the code. Spill resistant backflow preventers have the same safety ratings as others but just don't discharge to the environment.

P2903.9.1 Service valve. Each dwelling unit shall be provided with an accessible main shutoff valve near the entrance of the water service. The valve shall be of a full-open type having nominal restriction to flow –**insert**-- ~~– delete– with a provision for drainage such as a bleed orifice or installation of a separate drain valve.~~ ----------

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the intent and equipment is not applicable to residential design because of the under floor distribution system.

P2903.8.6 Hose bibb bleed. ---**insert**--- Where authority having jurisdiction a readily accessible air bleed shall be installed in hose bibb supplies----------

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt because IPC does not address hose bibb bleed and it is not applicable in residential applications. We let the authority having jurisdiction have the authority in this instance.

P2903.10 Hose bibb. Hose bibs subject to freezing, including the "frost-proof" type, shall be equipped with an accessible **--delete--** ~~stop-and-waste type~~ valve inside the building so that they---------
--delete-- ~~entire Exception.~~

Passed 5 to1

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt all hose bibs should have an "accessible shut off valve" to isolate for service and replacement.

P2904.1 General. Where residential fire sprinkler systems or portions thereof, shall be in accordance with NFPA 13D**—insert--** . **--Delete—**~~or section P2904~~ *through and including Section P2904.8.2 , including Table P2904.6.2(1)through P2904.6.2(9).*

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the IRC was not capable of governing fire sprinkler installations. Also the health department that governs the licensing of this work does not recognize the IRC as an installation standard. We also felt the NFPA 13D has been the standard and works fine.

P2905.4 Water service pipe. Water service pipe shall corm to NSF 61 and shall conform to one of the standards listed in Table P2905.4. Water service pipe or tubing, installed underground and outside of the structure shall have a minimum working pressure of 160 pounds per square inch at 73°F (1103 kPa at 23°C). Where the water pressure exceeds 160 pounds per square inch (1103kPa), piping material shall have a rated working pressure equal to or greater than the highest available pressure. Water service piping materials not third-party certified for water distribution shall terminate at **–insert—**least 30 inches outside the exterior wall. **--delete--** ~~or before the full open valve located at the entrance to the structure.~~ Ductile iron water service piping shall be cement mortar lined in accordance with AWWA C104.

Table 2905.4 **--delete--** ~~Asbestos-cement pipe~~

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the code left too much up to interpretation and the change clarified it. Asbestos cement pipe is no longer available in residential sizes and "is Asbestos".

P3003.2 Prohibited joints. Running threads and bands shall not be used in the drainage system. Drainage and vent piping shall not be drilled, tapped, burned or welded.

The following types of joints and connections shall be prohibited:

1) Cement or concrete.
2) Mastic or hot-pour bituminous joints.
3) Joints made with fittings not approved for the specific installation

4) Joints between different diameter pipes made with elastomeric rolling O-rings.
5) Solvent-cement joints between different types of plastic pipe.
6) Saddle-type fittings.
--**insert**-- Exception: Saddle type fittings may be used to connect the building sewer to a public sewer.

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee recognized the long used standard for connecting to the public sewer with saddle type fittings and added the exception to continue the use of saddle fitting in this application.

3008.1 Sewage backflow. Where the flood level rims of plumbing fixtures are below the elevations of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public sewer, the fixtures shall be protected by a backwater valve installed in the building drain, branch of the building drain or horizontal branch servicing such fixtures. --**delete**-- ~~Plumbing fixtures having flood level rims above the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public sewer shall not discharge through a backwater valve.~~

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt the deleted section created too much cost by requiring even a single level home to have two drainage systems. We felt it would be better to allow all waste lines to go through back water valves when required.

3103.4 Prohibited used. Vent terminals shall not be used as a flag pole or to support poles, TV aerials, or similar items—**insert**-- **(delete)** ~~,except when the piping has been anchored in an approved manner.~~

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt Plumbing lines should have only one purpose and that is to convey sewer not to support accessories.

G2414.10.4 #3.--**Delete**— Cast Iron

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt all bushings should be removed because the design and manufacturing produce a weak fitting and tend to crack.

G2414.5.2 Copper tubing, Copper tubing shall ~~– **insert** –~~ be prohibited. ~~–~~ ~~**Delete** – comply with standard Type K or K of ASTM B 88 or ASTN B 280.Copper and brass tubing shall not be used if the gas contains more than an average of 0.3 grains of hydrogen sulfide per 100 standard cubic feet of gas (0.7 milligrams per 100 liters).~~

~~**Delete**~~ Table 2413.4(3), Table 2413.4(4), Table 2413.4(13), Table 2413.4(14), Table 2413.4(15).

G2414.10.4 ~~**delete**~~ ~~2. Fittings used with copper or brass pipe shall be copper, brass, or bronze.~~

Passed unanimously

Commentary:

The plumbing committee felt that copper should be removed from the code because gas providers will not provide documentation or stand behind the product guaranteeing there gas contains less than 0.3% grains of hydrogen sulfide gas per 100 square foot.

Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission
2009 International Residential Code Plumbing/Fuel Gas Technical Committee
Public Comment - Revised with Commentary 12/14/10

1) 10-16-2010 Patrick Copeland P2503.4 Page 589
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

2) 10-15-2010 Tyler B, Carter P2003.1.1 Page 591
Motion: to accept with changes
P2603.1.1 Tracer. A Blue insulate copper tracer for potable water and a Green insulated wire for Sewer or other approved conductor shall be installed adjacent to underground nonmetallic piping. Access shall be provided to the tracer wire – Delete-- ~~either~~ at –Delete-- ~~the point of entry into the structure or valve box or the tracer shall terminate above ground.~~ – Insert—water meter box for water service and at the clean out riser. The tracer wire size for sanitary sewer service: shall not be less than 18 AWG and the insulation type shall be suitable for direct burial.

Passed unanimously

Commentary:
The committee felt that this change was needed because of boring and trenching of utility is happening more often. The location of water and sewer is even more critical.

3) 10-15-2010 Tyler B. Carter P2603.6 Page 601
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

4) 10-15-2010 Tyler B. Carter P2603.6.1 Page 591
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

5) 10-16-2010 Patrick Copeland P2713.3 Page 599
Motion: no action leave as written
Passed unanimously

6) 10-15-2010 Tyler B. Carter P2801.5 Page 601
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

7) 10-16-2010 Patrick Copeland P2903.9.1 Page 607
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

8) 10-12-2010 Mike Barnes P2904 Page 609
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

9) 10-12-2010 Mike Barnes P2904 Page 609
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously

10) 10-16-2010 Patrick Copeland G2408.2 Page 524
Motion: no action
Passed: unanimously

11) 10-16-2010 Patrick Copeland G2415.10 Page 552
Motion: To change depth to 18 inches as written in public comment
Passed: unanimously

Commentary:
The committee felt increase of depth of code as written by 6 for safety reasons.

12) 10-18-2010 Kyle Brierly G2417.4.1 Page 554
Motion: To insert exception to G2417.4.1
Exception: For existing fuel gas piping within a structure test pressure shall not exceed 30(thirty) times working pressure.

Passed: unanimously

Commentary:
The committee felt existing systems cannot meet new materials standards and the system was already tested when new.

13) 10-14-2010 Albert Janco, PE G2417.7
Motion: no action
Passed unanimously