



January 6, 2014

NIST NCSTAR 3 Technical Report on the May 22, 2011 Tornado in Joplin, Missouri

COMMENTS OF:

THE International Code Council (ICC) is a membership association dedicated to building safety, fire prevention, and energy efficiency. The International Codes, or I Codes, published by ICC, provide minimum safeguards for people at home, at school and in the workplace. Building codes benefit public safety and support the industry's need

for one set of codes without regional limitations.

Fifty Forest Service and the Veterans Administration also

enforce the I Codes for the facilities that they own or manage. The Department of Defense references the International Building Code for constructing military facilities, including those that house U.S. troops, domestically and abroad.

ICC was established in 1994 as a non

The I Codes and the Process

- Wide ranging representation
- Full disclosure of conflicts of interest
- One third of the committee's members must be governmental members with no financial vested interests
- Membership on a committee is not conditional on membership in ICC

Due Process

- Equal opportunities for rebuttal
- Committees consider all views, objections, and the cost impact of all code change proposals
- All who attend can testify

Appeals Process

- Open appeal process
- Appeals considered per due process

Majority Consensus

A simple majority from the committee decides the initial action of the proposed code change
 ICC assembly action allows members to challenge the action of the committee
 All final code change proposal decisions are made by public safety officials

Every ICC Code Development Committee is comprised of people who have specific knowledge and competence in the fields under discussion. They may include:

- Building, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, fire, energy officials
- Design professionals/consultants
- Trade association representatives
- Builders/contractors
- Manufacturers/suppliers
- Government agency representatives
- Any qualified individual with a vested interest

A minimum of 33.3% of a committee's members are required to be regulators who are experts in their fields. The final determination of code provisions is primarily in the hands of public safety officials who hold a public trust, have no vested interest, and can legitimately represent the public interest

Here is our initial summary of the recommendations that are related to ICC's role and competence.

Recommendation 3—

NIST recommends that tornado hazard maps for use

Builders/contractors hold

ICC 1016"ca

NIST recommends that uniform guidelines be developed and implemented nationwide for conducting tornado risk assessments and designating best available tornado refuge areas as an interim measure within buildings until

NIST recommends that the full range of current and next-generation emergency communication “push” technologies (e.g., GPS-based mobile alerts and warnings, reverse 9-1-1, outdoor siren systems with voice communication, NOAA weather radios) be widely deployed