



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-8000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING-
FEDERAL HOUSING COMMISSIONER

MAY 17 2012

Mr. Danny D. Ghorbani
President
Manufactured Housing Association
for Regulatory Reform
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 508
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Ghorbani:

Thank you for your correspondence concerning recent changes in Southern Pine design values and guidance which was provided by the Department to Primary Inspection Agencies in a letter dated April 26, 2012. The changes in design values were published in an addendum to the 2001 edition of the National Design Specification for Lumber (NDS) that will become effective on June 1, 2012, and will reduce the design values for certain Southern Pine light framing members utilized in manufactured home construction. The NDS is incorporated by reference in the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards at 24 CFR §3280.304.

The Department is not in a position to alter the effective date of the published NDS addendum, but it has determined that considerations affecting the changes warrant a delay in the date of enforcement of the reduced design values for Southern Pine lumber from June 1, 2012 to January 1, 2013. In addition, this delay will provide the Department with an opportunity to notify the Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee of the addendum and design value changes.

The Department appreciates your comments on this matter. If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact Henry S. Czauski, Acting Deputy Administrator, Office of Manufactured Housing Programs at (202) 708-6423.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Carol J. Galante", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Carol J. Galante
Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing –
Federal Housing Commissioner