



Shaping Tomorrow's  
Built Environment Today

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Sheila J. Hayter, P.E., FASHRAE  
President

Reply to: Nat'l Renewable Energy Lab  
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January 31, 2019

Ms. Erin Conley  
Division of Legal Services  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street, 5th floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Conley:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the proposed updates to the Illinois Plumbing Code as published in the December 28, 2018 issue of the *Illinois Register*. ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is an international organization of over 56,000 members. The Society and its members focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality and sustainability within the industry. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

ASHRAE proposes two changes which will be further explained below:

1. Update the references to the ASHRAE Handbook versions; and
2. Adopt by reference ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2018, *Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems*.

#### ASHRAE Handbook

ASHRAE is pleased that the reference to the *ASHRAE Handbook* (HVAC Applications, and HVAC Systems and Equipment) is still included in the Illinois Plumbing Code. However, the two versions of the Handbook being referenced are from *2011 and 2012*. These versions have been updated with editions published in 2015 and 2016. We would appreciate if these more recent versions would be referenced in the Illinois Plumbing Code, as shown below:

#### **Section 890.130 Incorporated and Referenced Materials**

**c) The following nationally recognized standards and federal regulations are incorporated by reference in this Part (see also Appendix A):**

- 1) 2015 American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Handbook – HVAC Applications**

**2) 2016 American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Handbook – HVAC Systems and Equipment**

It is important to note that ASHRAE updates each of the documents on a regular basis so the State of Illinois might wish to consider dropping the reference to the year of publication and substituting language such as **“the most recent version of.”**

ASHRAE Standard 188-2018

Additionally, ASHRAE would encourage adoption by reference of the most recent version from 2018 of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188, *Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems*. This standard establishes minimum legionellosis management requirements for building water systems. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates there are between 8,000 and 18,000 cases of Legionnaires Disease every year in the United States with 10% of those cases being fatal. This disease and the less serious Pontiac fever is caused by exposure to the legionella bacteria in water that has been aerosolized (such as from shower heads, HVAC units, cooling towers and irrigation systems). Incorporating ASHRAE Standard 188 would reduce the risks of contracting these diseases in Illinois, and we hope that you will seriously consider this change. ASHRAE would be happy to answer any questions you might have, as well as to provide a complimentary PDF copy of these three documents to you. Please contact [GovAffairs@ashrae.org](mailto:GovAffairs@ashrae.org) to request that information.

Thank you for your consideration of these modifications to the proposed changes to the Illinois Plumbing Code.

Sincerely yours,



Sheila J. Hayter, PE, FASHRAE  
ASHRAE President SY2018-19

cc: Benny Skelton, ASHRAE Director and Regional Chair, Region VI  
David Underwood, Chair, Government Affairs Committee  
Matthew Jesson, ASHRAE Regional Vice Chair, Region VI  
Jeff Littleton, ASHRAE Executive Director  
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