

Application for Use of Alternate Materials & Methods

PERMIT NUMBER

INSTRUCTIONS	<p>1. <i>Ventura County Building Code Section 104.11 gives the Building Official the authority to approve the use of any alternate material, design, or construction method if the Building Official determines the following: (a) That the proposed alternate material, design, or construction method would comply with the Building, Electrical, Plumbing, or Mechanical Regulations; (b) That the proposed alternate material, design, or construction method is at least equivalent to the standards prescribed in the applicable regulation in terms of suitability, quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, safety, and sanitation; and (c) That sufficient evidence has been submitted to substantiate any claims that may be made regarding the use of any proposed alternate material, design, or construction method.</i></p> <p>2. <i>Address all communications to: Building Official, Co. of Ventura Building & Safety, 800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009-1720 Telephone (805) 654-2787. THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY THE BUILDING OWNER.</i></p> <p>3. <i>Requests to use alternate materials, design or construction methods that are denied by the Building Official may be appealed to the appropriate Building Board of Appeal.</i></p>
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APPLICANT: Fill in below this line. This application must be typewritten.

INFORMATION	Job Address				
	Owner's Name	Owner's Mailing Address	ZIP Code	Telephone No.	Job Status <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary <input type="checkbox"/> In Plan Check <input type="checkbox"/> Under Constr. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing Bldg.
	Designer's Name/Email Address	Designer's Mailing Address	ZIP Code	Telephone No.	
	Contact Name	Contact Email/Address	Application		

REQUEST	Clearly define all alternatives offered in lieu of the prescribed code requirements & identify relevant code section(s). Submit additional information if necessary.	Plans submitted with request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

JUSTIFICATION	State how the alternate(s) proposed are at least as equivalent to the prescribed requirement(s). Attach supporting documentation, drawings, and reports as necessary to substantiate claims of equivalency. The justification must be prepared by a California licensed architect or engineer.	
Signature of BUILDING OWNER or Company Officer ONLY		Indicate Name, and Function (Please Print)

If additional space is required, attach separate sheet.

BS70


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MAIN OFFICE, L #1720

800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009 (805) 654-2771 FAX (805) 648-9212

BRANCH OFFICE

East County: 3855-F Alamo Street, L #5915, Room 2019-A, Simi Valley, CA 93065 (805) 582-8064 FAX (805) 582-8085

COUNTY OF VENTURA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY Building and Safety Division	ORIGINAL <i>May 3, 2010</i>	POLICIES AND INTERPRETATIONS POLICY NO. 2010-A004
Topic: <i>Page 1 of 3</i> Requests for Alternate Methods, Designs and Materials	REVISED: <i>June 14, 2010</i>	Jim MacDonald, CBO Building Official 

The Ventura County Building Code authorizes the Building Official to consider, on a case by case basis, requests for the use of any alternate material, design, or construction method not specifically prescribed by the Building, Electrical, Plumbing, or Mechanical Regulations. Section §104.11 "Alternative Materials, Design, and methods of Construction and Equipment" authorizes the Building Official to approve the use of any alternate material, design, or construction method if the Building Official determines that:

1. The proposed alternate material, design, or construction method would comply with the Building, Electrical, Plumbing, or Mechanical Regulations;
2. The proposed alternate material, design, or construction method is at least equivalent to the standards prescribed in the applicable regulation in terms of suitability, quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, safety, and sanitation; and
3. Sufficient evidence has been submitted to substantiate any claims that may be made regarding the use of any proposed alternate material, design, or construction method.

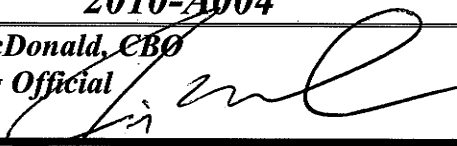
The details of any action granting approval of an alternate material, design, or construction method shall be entered into the file for the individual permit for which the issue applies and shall be permanently retained.

I. Application

All requests for the use of alternate materials, designs, or construction methods must be submitted on application form BS70. This form is available from either office of the Building and Safety Division. Alternatively applicants may be directed to the Building and Safety Divisions website where the application is available for download. http://www.ventura.org/RMA/build_safe/information/index.htm

Applications must be legible and signed by the Property/Building Owner or a Company Officer if not owned by an individual. The address and permit application number assigned by the Building and Safety Division must also be included. Additionally, contact information for the owner, designer and the contact name of the person submitting the application shall also be completed.

Where multiple alternates are requested, a separate application must be submitted for each request. This may permit approval of certain requests when it is necessary to deny one or more in a series of requests.

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Applications will be initially assigned to a plan check engineer who will retain or sub-assign the request upon initiating the review. The assigned staff member will contact the applicant (contact person identified on the application) as needed for additional information if necessary.

II. Timing of Applications and Payment of Fees

Applications may be submitted for consideration at any time during the plan review and inspection process. There is no specific deadline for submittal of requests and all submittals will be reviewed on a first come first served basis. Additionally, applications may be submitted for review prior to application for permit.

Advance requests will be issued an "SVC" number for Plan Review Time and charged at the Contract Hourly Rate of the reviewing staff member. Upon acceptance of an advance request, an initial fee of 4-hours shall be collected.

Requests received in conjunction with a permit application will be assessed the Contract Hourly Rate of the reviewing staff member.

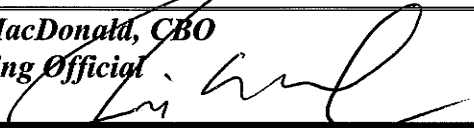
III. Justification of Request

The justification portion of the application must clearly state the basis for the request and substantiate the claim of equivalency to code requirements for the proposed material, design, or construction method. The justification must be prepared by a licensed architect or engineer.

Additional information substantiating any claim of equivalence such as code analyses, test reports, engineering analysis as well as other background information may be compiled in a report used as a part of the justification. Copies of documents, in part or in their entirety, referenced in the reports that are not commonly available may need to be provided.

IV. Rejection of Application

Applications that are not thoroughly and clearly completed and applications that have not been submitted with the required fee will be rejected without review. Additionally, applications that do not include sufficient documentation or necessary plans or analyses that substantiate claims of equivalence and compliance with the code intent will also be rejected.

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V. Approval or Denial of Request

When approval is granted for a particular request, the applicant will be requested to supply one clean copy of all plans and reports used to substantiate the request for permanent retention.

Plans shall include a separate sheet reflecting all approved requests for alternate as well as any conditions required by the Building Official in granting approval. Such sheet shall be labeled "AP-ALT" and be referenced from the list of sheets on the front page.

When a request is denied by the Building Official, the applicant will be notified in writing with the reasons for the disapproval clearly outlined. Applicants wishing to appeal the decision of the Building Official may do so by completing form B81, "Request for Appeals Board Hearing".

On a case by case basis, at the discretion of the Building Official, an application may be referred by the Building Official directly to the appropriate Appeal Board for consideration or ratification of the approval being granted. When the Building Official refers an application to the Board of Appeals, there will be no charge to the applicant for such referral.