



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

April 27, 2020

Philip R. Sherman, P.E.
P.O. Box 216
444 Wilmot Center Road
Elkins, NH 03233

I-20-03

Re: Interpretation of 2015 IBC Section 706.6.1 Regarding Parking Garages

Mr. Sherman,

You requested a formal interpretation regarding the applicability of Section 706.6.1 of the 2015 International Building Code portion of the 2018 CT State Building Code to S-2 parking structures. Section 706.6.1 states:

706.6.1 Stepped buildings. Where a fire wall serves as an exterior wall for a building and separates buildings having different roof levels, such wall shall terminate at a point not less than 30 inches (762 mm) above the lower roof level, provided the exterior wall for a height of 15 feet (4572 mm) above the lower roof is not less than 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction from both sides with openings protected by fire assemblies having a fire protection rating of not less than 3/4 hour.

Exception: Where the fire wall terminates at the underside of the roof sheathing, deck or slab of the lower roof, provided:

1. The lower roof assembly within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the wall has not less than a 1-hour fire resistance rating and the entire length and span of supporting elements for the rated roof assembly has a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1 hour.
2. Openings in the lower roof shall not be located within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the fire wall.

Question 1:

Is the exception to section 706.6.1 of the 2015 IBC applicable to a scenario where the lower roof is a one-hour rated upper deck of an S-2 parking structure where vehicles can be parked on this deck?

Answer 1:

Yes, if the deck meets the criteria of the exception, then it can be applied. The code does not prohibit the parking of vehicles on the 1 hour deck. This interpretation was confirmed by ICC.

Sincerely,

Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E.
State Building Inspector

Cc: Darren Hobbs, Deputy State Building Inspector