



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

MAY 12 2000

Richard S. Duncan, Ph.D., P.E.
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CertainTeed Corporation
P.O. Box 2455
1200 Avenue G
White City, OR 97503

Dear Dr. Duncan:

This is in response to your letter of April 27, 2000. In your letter you request that the fiber cement siding using the DuraPress process be recognized as a Class V flood resistant material.

We consider these siding materials made with fiber cement, including the three different brands made by your company that include CertainTeed Weatherboards, Wolverine Portland and Ashland-Davis Fibercement to be flood-resistant materials or Class V materials.

As you may know, the new International Residential Code and the International Building Code both reference flood-resistant materials. The National Evaluation Service (NES) has recently published an "Evaluation Plan for Determination of Flood-Resistance Properties of Building Elements". In addition, FEMA intends to revise Technical Bulletin 2-93, "Flood-Resistant Materials Requirements". This revision will include a discussion of non-asbestos fiber cement products.

Please call Paul Tertell at 202-646-3935 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Clifford Oliver, CEM
Chief

Building Sciences and Assessment Branch