

APPENDIX E

PARK MODEL RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The position of the NC Department of Insurance on the requirements for the labeling and setting up of "Park Model" recreational vehicles as permanent dwelling units is outlined below. All references herein to the **National Electrical Code (NEC)** are to the **2002 Edition**.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES: (as defined in **Article 551, NEC; NFPA 1192; and ANSI 119.5**)

A vehicular-type unit primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use, which either has its own motive power or is mounted on or drawn by another vehicle. The basic entities are travel trailer, camping trailer, truck camper, and motor home.

"PARK TRAILER" (Park Model) - (as defined by **Article 552, NEC**)

A unit that meets the following criteria: (1) Built on a single chassis mounted on wheels, and (2) Having a gross trailer area not exceeding 400 sq. ft. in the set-up mode.

"PARK MODEL" RECREATIONAL VEHICLE - (as defined by NC Department of Insurance)

A "park model" recreational vehicle is basically a very small manufactured (mobile) home. They are typically built in accordance with the construction requirements of the HUD Manufactured Housing Code but because of their limited size (400 sq. ft. or less of living space) they are not required to be labeled by the HUD manufacturing housing program. Since these park model type units are not under the jurisdiction of the HUD program, these units have typically in the past been built, labeled and sold as recreational vehicles.

CODE REQUIREMENTS:

The construction requirements for recreational vehicles used as temporary recreational dwellings are not regulated by the State of North Carolina. Therefore these units are not required to be labeled. However, the electrical supply system to these units is required to be inspected in accordance with **Article 552** of the **NEC**. Since these units are defined to be temporary structures, it is not permissible to set them up as permanent dwelling units. Therefore it is our interpretation that they cannot have any permanent plumbing or mechanical connections. The power supply is installed in accordance with **Section 552-43** of the **2002 NEC**. **Section 552-43(a)** is given below:

(a) Feeder. The power supply to the park trailer shall be a feeder assembly consisting of not more than one listed 30-ampere or 50-ampere park trailer power-supply cord with an integrally molded or securely attached cap, or a permanently installed feeder.

We will allow these units to be temporarily blocked up and anchored, but to remain classified as a temporary structure, the wheels and axles must remain on the unit at all times. We recommend that all recreational vehicles used for temporary recreational dwellings be set-up in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

PERMANENT STRUCTURES:

Generally speaking, recreational vehicles cannot be accepted as a permanent dwelling structure. However, we will permit a "Park Model" type recreational vehicle to be set up as a permanent dwelling unit *if* it is labeled as either a manufactured (mobile) home in accordance with HUD's National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 or as a modular home in accordance with the *North Carolina Regulations for Modular Construction*. Units labeled in accordance with the HUD regulations shall be set up in accordance with the *State of North Carolina Regulations for Manufactured Homes*. Units labeled as a North Carolina modular home shall be set up in accordance with the North Carolina Residential Code, current edition.