

Legislative Report

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I was asked a question; if the Appendix E, Section E8.2 of the 2009 National Standard Plumbing Code (NSPC) allows the contractor to install air admittance valves (AAV) on a project that was just awarded and going into construction. As I looked into it, it does not allow the contractor to install the AAVs based upon that one single statement.

You need first need to comply with Sections E.1, E.2, E.3 & E.4. So per Section E2.1, the Design Professional must prepare plans, specifications, computations and other related data for the special design plumbing systems and submit it to the AHJ for review and approval prior to installation. Also, per Section E.4 the Design Professional shall certify the complete installation and performance of the special design plumbing system complies with the requirements of the special design. All the applicable requirements in Section E.8 must be followed as well.

Per the NSPC (even to the new 2018 version) use of AAVs ultimately are an engineered system that the Design Professional is responsible for designing, checking the installation of and certifying the installation. It cannot be a Value Engineering decision by the Owner and Contractor during construction, it must be in the reviewed and approved design. If the Contractor wants to use AAVs, revised design drawings along with all the supporting calculations and documentation need to be resubmitted to the AHJ for approval. So it means the construction cost savings of implementing the AAVs needs to be offset by the added cost of the redesign effort for the design professional.

Please plan to try to come out to our Chapter meetings; it is a great time to meet other members and see what ASPE is all about. March's meeting has Tom Pitcherello as our speaker dealing with the National Standard Plumbing Code and the State of New Jersey amendments. You can also plan to come out to our Golf outing in May as well as Atlanta for the [Convention](#) at the end of September. I hope to see you there.