

STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Department of General Administration

210 11th Avenue SW • P.O. Box 41011 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1011 (360) 902-7293 • fax (360) 586-0493 • e-mail sbcc @ga.wa.gov • www.ga.wa.gov/sbcc

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION No. 11-19

- **CODE:** 2009 WSEC
- **SECTION:** 503.8.1, Temperature Control
- QUESTION: Section 503.8.1 requires that the primary space conditioning system within each dwelling unit be provided with a 5-2 programmable thermostat. Most ductless heat pumps (DHP) do not provide the type of control specified in this section. I have also heard a programmable thermostat per this section would make the system less efficient. Are programmable thermostats required for ductless heat pumps?
- ANSWER: No. This code section was not intended for ductless heat pumps. The intent behind the requirement is to control auxiliary heat during recovery. This does not apply to DHPs because they don't have auxiliary heat built in and there is no technique to integrate the DHP and zonal heat controls that provide the auxiliary heat function.
- SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Centralia