



# PORTLAND MAINE

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Director of Planning and Urban Development  
Penny St. Louis Littell

Inspection Services Director  
Tammy Munson

December 17, 2008

Resurgence Engineering and Preservation, INC  
132 Brentwood Street  
Portland, ME 04103

RE: 61 India Street, Permit # 08-1124  
CBL: 020 E021001

Dear Mr. Hodson,

Thank you for your request for waiver received December 1, 2008. The request is to utilize the 2006 version of the International Building Code (IBC) as it pertains to the seismic design.

The following are the facts:

1. The City of Portland is currently working under the IBC 2003. State Law does not allow the City to adopt the IBC 2006.
2. You have reviewed the design of the above-listed building in accordance with both ASCE 7-02 (referenced in 2003IBC) and ASCE 7-05 (referenced in 2006 IBC). The seismic design requirements of ASCE 7-05 differ from those in ASCE 7-02 because more recent research has led to re-drawn earthquake hazard maps. The redrawn maps consider maximum considered earthquake ground motion for short and long-term earthquake durations. Therefore, the modified mapping results in lower acceleration values for the Portland Maine area. By applying the lower acceleration values, this structure can be designed utilizing the requirements of the Seismic Design Category B, which significantly simplifies the structural analysis.
3. These guidelines are based on newer, more recent data provided by the United States Geological Survey (USGS), and represent the latest science and data in the structural engineering field.
4. The portions of IBC 2006 that are less restrictive than the IBC 2003 are the Seismic requirements. The other portions of Chapter 16, IBC 2006 are either procedural modifications or are generally more restrictive than the requirements of the IBC 2003.

The Waiver Request is approved by this office to utilize the IBC 2006 for seismic design on the above mentioned project, based on the latest scientific research, and the inability of the City to adopt this code.

Yours truly,

Jeanie Bourke  
CEO/Plan Reviewer