

SUMMARY OF FINAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS

Department of Commerce

CLEARINGHOUSE RULE NO.: 10-011

RULE NO.: Chapters Comm 2, 41 and 45

RELATING TO: Mechanical Refrigeration

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Summary

Less stringent requirements are not proposed for small businesses because the statutory directives under which these rules are proposed do not provide such flexibility.

Further clarification of the requirements relating to alterations to mechanical refrigeration systems, and of the potential applicability of other model codes was requested. Informational notes have been added to (1) explain that neither the *International Fire Code*[®] nor NFPA[®] 1 are applied by the Department to mechanical refrigeration systems and (2) encourage designers, contractors and owners to contact the Department to discuss their intentions for alterations and to determine, on a case-by-case basis, any upgrades that are then needed.

Several comments recommended adopting requirements that would be more restrictive than the requirements in the national standards which are referenced in the proposed rules. The Department is postponing further consideration of those more-restrictive requirements until after they are included in the referenced national standards.

No new substantive reporting would be imposed on small businesses.

Although the rules would require periodic replacement of pressure relief valves in all existing ammonia mechanical refrigeration systems, the cost of this replacement is not expected to be significant. None of the other proposed rule changes are expected to significantly increase the current cost of installing and operating mechanical refrigeration systems because the primary effect of the changes is to make chapter Comm 45 consistent with current regional and national standards for mechanical refrigeration, and with current industry and regulatory practices.

Summary of Comments of Legislative Standing Committees

Assembly Committee Labor

Senate Committee Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail

No comments were received.