



**MICHAEL R. PENCE, Governor
STATE OF INDIANA**

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

DAVID W. KANE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Indiana Government Center South
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-3980

Phillip Rath
Vincennes University
1002 N FIRST STREET

VINCENNES, IN 47591

June 9, 2016

Dear Phillip Rath,

This letter provides notice below of the action taken by the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission on your application(s) for a variance(s) from the Commission's rules under IC 22-13-2-11 and 675 IAC 12-5. The Commission considered the application with all alternatives offered, as a part of its published agenda, at its regular meeting on June 7, 2016.

Project Number	Project Name	Variance Number
0	Vincennes University Mock Mining Facility	16-06-60

Commission Conditions

The facility may be used for the training of miners only, all permanent elements must be non-combustible, and twice the required emergency lighting fixtures must be provided.

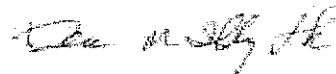
Edition	Code	Code Section	Commission Action & Date
	Other Code (Not in the list provided)	2014, IBC 1006.1, 1006.2	Approved with Commission condition(s) 06/07/2016
	Other Code (Not in the list provided)	2014, IBC 1011.1	Approved with Commission condition(s) 06/07/2016
	Other Code (Not in the list provided)	2014, IBC 1003.2	Approved with Commission condition(s) 06/07/2016
	Other Code (Not in the list provided)	2014, IBC 2902.1	Approved with Commission condition(s) 06/07/2016
	Other Code (Not in the list provided)	2014 IBC, 1018.1	Approved with Commission condition(s) 06/07/2016
	Other Code (Not in the list provided)	2014 IBC, 1103.1	Approved with Commission condition(s) 06/07/2016

provided)

Commission
condition(s)

You are advised that if you desire an administrative review of this action, you must file a written petition for review at the above address with the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission. Your petition must fully identify the matter for which you seek review no later than eighteen(18) calendar days from the above stated date of this letter, unless such date is a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday under state statute, or day that the Department of Homeland Security's offices are closed during regular business hours; in which case the deadline would be the first day thereafter that is not a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday under state statute, or day that the Department of Homeland Security's offices are closed during regular business hours. If you do so, your petition for review will be granted and an administrative proceeding will be conducted by an administrative law judge appointed by the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission. If you do not file a petition for review, this action will be final. Please be further advised that you may request an opportunity to informally discuss this matter prior to filing a petition for review. Such informal discussion, or request therefore, does not extend the deadline for filing a petition for review and, therefore, any request for an informal discussion should be made promptly, preferably by telephone or e-mail, upon receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,



Dean Illingsworth
State Building Law Compliance Officer,
Department of Homeland Security

Owner / Applicant Information

Phillip Rath
Vincennes University
1002 N FIRST STREET

VINCENNES IN 47591
Phone 8128884323
Email PRATH@VINU.EDU

Submitter Information

Melissa Tupper
RTM Consultants, Inc.
6640 Parkdale Place

Indianapolis IN
Phone 3173297700
Email tupper@rtmconsultants.com

Designer Information

Andrew Young
Vincennes University
1002 N FIRST STREET

VINCENNES IN
Phone 8128884323
Email ayoung@vinu.edu

Project Information

Vincennes University Mock Mining Facility
8100 S. US Hwy 41

Fort Branch IN

County GIBSON

Project Type New Addition Alteration Existing Change of Occupancy

Project Status F=Filed U or Null=Unfiled

IDHS Issued Correction order? **Has Violation been Issued?**

Violation Issued by: NA

Local Building Official

Phone:

Email:

Local Fire Official

Phone:

Email:

Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)

2014,IBC 1006.1, 1006.2

Conditions: The project is the construction of a new mining simulation facility. The means of egress will not be illuminated when the building is occupied.
The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or welfare.

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2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts:

1. The facility is a training facility for miners. The lack of lighting reflects a real life situation for training purposes.
2. The occupants wear hard hats at all times while in the building, as they would in a mine, that have lights on them as well as occasionally they may carry flashlights or lanterns, depending on what situation they are training for.
3. There will be emergency lighting in the building that is activated by loss of power or can be turned on manually.
4. There are exits at the end of each of the corridors on 3 sides of the building. The doors are side swinging, 3' wide, and have panic hardware.
5. There are 13 exits from the building.
6. The maximum travel distance to an exit is 164', code permits 200'.
7. The lack of lighting is not adverse to health and safety because it reflects real life situations the miners will face in the field.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.

Y Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.

Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts: It is an operational hardship to comply with code. The facility is being constructed to simulate a mine for training purposes. Providing code complying lighting would defeat the purpose of the facility which is training for real life situations.

Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)

2014,IBC 1011.1

Conditions: The project is the construction of a new mining simulation facility. Exit signs will not be provided in the building.
The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or \

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2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts:

1. The facility is a training facility for miners. The lack of exit signs reflects a real life situation for training purposes.
2. The occupants wear hard hats at all times while in the building, as they would in a mine, that have lights on them as well as occasionally they may carry flashlights or lanterns, depending on what situation they are training for.
3. There will be emergency lighting in the building that is activated by loss of power or can be turned on manually.
4. There are exits at the end of each of the corridors. The doors are side swinging, 3' wide, and have panic hardware.
5. There are 13 exits from the building.
6. The maximum travel distance to an exit is 164', code permits 200'.
7. The lack of exit signs is not adverse to health and safety because it reflects real life situations the miners will face in the field.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.

 Y

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.

Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts:

It is an operational hardship to comply with code. The facility is being constructed to simulate a mine for training purposes. Providing code complying exit signs would defeat the purpose of the facility which is training for real life situations.

Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)

2014,IBC 1003.2

Conditions: The project is the construction of a new mining simulation facility. The ceiling height in the building will be less than the ceiling height permitted by code, 7'6" (90 inches), throughout in order to achieve a more life like situation. The minimum ceiling height is 7'.
The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

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1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or

2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts:

- 1. The facility is a training facility for miners. The ceiling height reflects a real life situation for training purposes. The ceiling height will not be less than 7'0".
- 2. The occupants wear hard hats at all times while in the building, as they would in a mine.
- 3. There will be emergency lighting in the building that is activated by loss of power or can be turned on manually.
- 4. The ceiling height is not adverse to health and safety because it reflects real life situations the miners will face in the field.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.

Y

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.

Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts:

It is an operational hardship to comply with code. The facility is being constructed to simulate a mine for training purposes. Providing code complying ceiling heights would defeat the purpose of the facility which is training for real life situations in mines.

Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)

2014, IBC 2902.1

Conditions: The project is the construction of a new mining simulation facility. Plumbing fixtures will not be provided in the building.
The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

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1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or

2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts:

1. There is no plumbing, heating, or cooling being provided in the building.
2. There are restrooms in the adjacent building. The maximum travel distance to the restrooms is approximately 573 feet.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

- Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.
- Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.
- Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.
- Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts:

It is a cost hardship to provide restrooms in a building that has no plumbing and no heating.

Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)
2014 IBC, 1018.1

Conditions: The project is the construction of a new mining simulation facility. The variance request is to permit the corridors to be non-rated construction.
The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

- 1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or welfare.
- 2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts: 1. The corridors replicate the tunnels in a mine and are used for training purposes. They do not function like a corridor in a typical building. The corridors are 12 feet wide.
2. The walls of the building are 12" thick reinforced concrete, the roof is 10" thick precast concrete planks, and the floor is gravel.
3. There are exits at the end of each of the corridors. The doors are side swinging, 3' wide, and have panic hardware.
4. There are 13 exits from the building.
5. The maximum travel distance to an exit is 164', code permits 200'.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

- Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.
- Y Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.
- Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.
- Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts: It is an operational hardship to comply with code. The facility is being constructed to simulate a mine for training purposes. Many of the interior rooms do not have doors, similar to what would be found in an actual mine.

Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)
2014 IBC, 1103.1

Conditions: The new mining simulation facility will not be accessible.
The building is a B Occupancy, 1-story, 37,376 square feet, and Type IIB construction.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

- 1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or welfare.
- 1 2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts: The facility is a training facility for miners, who must be able-bodied. The facility is not open to the public.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.

Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts: It is an operational hardship to comply with code. The facility is being constructed to simulate a mine for training purposes. Making the facility accessible would defeat the purpose of the facility which is training for real life situations.