



September 10, 2013

CIRCULAR LETTER TO ALL MEMBER COMPANIES

Re: Introduction of Protection Classification 8B
Homeowners and Dwelling Policy Programs

As a result of revisions to the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, the Commissioner of Insurance has recently approved revisions to the Community Mitigation Classification Manual. With this revision, a new Protection Classification 8B is being introduced. The classification 8B rating factor will be the same as the classification 9 rating factor.

In that regard, please find attached a copy of the revised Community Mitigation Classification Manual rules.

These changes become effective in accordance with the following Rule of Application:

These changes become effective with respect to all new and renewal policies effective on or after April 1, 2014.

Please see to it that this circular is brought to the attention of all interested personnel in your company.

Sincerely,

F. Timothy Lucas

Personal Lines Manager

FTL:dms

P-13-15

PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATIONS

Public Protection Classifications are determined by using one of the following:

A. Using Location^(TM):

1. Location^(TM) is a database that can be used to determine Public Protection Classifications for specific locations.
2. In the event that Location^(TM) produces a split classification (e.g., in a 6/9 community where water source/hydrant information is not available) the classification number will be determined as follows:
 - a. If the risk address is located five road miles or less from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction and within 1,000 feet of an approved water source, then the PPC to be assigned is the lower numbered class (e.g., Class 6 in the example above).
 - b. Otherwise the risk is assigned a PPC 9.

B. Applying the following manual rules.

COMMUNITY MITIGATION CLASSIFICATIONS

The following material contains Community Mitigation Classifications and includes:

- Jurisdiction name reflecting the name of the city, town, village, fire district, fire service areas or other classified areas.
- County in which the jurisdiction is located.
- Public Fire Protection Classification (PPC).
- Building Code Effectiveness Grading Classification (BCEGS).

CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION (PPC)

A. For jurisdictions listed with a single classification number, all properties within the jurisdiction should receive the listed classification number.

1. If the single class is 9E, all properties within five road miles of a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction receive Class 9S. For properties located five to six road miles from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, Class 9E applies.

B. For jurisdictions listed with multiple classification numbers (e.g. 6/9), known as a "split classification", the classification number applicable to individual properties is determined as follows:

1. Split classification shown as "X/9" or "X/9S" or "X/8B" (e.g. 6/9, or 6/9S or 6/8B):

- a. For properties located five road miles or less from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, and within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant, the first listed classification number applies (e.g. 6/9, use Class 6).
 - b. For properties located five road miles or less from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, and with a fire hydrant more than 1,000 feet, the second listed classification number applies (e.g. 6/9, use Class 9, 6/8B, use Class 8B).
 - c. For properties not qualifying for 1.a or 1.b, Class 10 applies.
- ### 2. Split classification shown as "X/9E" (e.g. 6/9E):
- a. For properties located five road miles or less from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, and within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant (unless otherwise indicated in the footnote), the first listed classification number applies (e.g. 6/9E, use class 6).
 - b. For properties located five road miles or less from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction and with a fire hydrant more than 1,000 feet, Class 9S applies.
 - c. For properties located five to six road miles from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, Class 9E applies.
 - d. For properties not qualifying for B.2.a, B.2.b or B.2.c, class 10 applies.
- ### 3. Split classification shown as "X/10" (e.g. 7/10):
- a. For properties located within five road miles or less (unless otherwise indicated in the footnote) from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, the first listed classification applies (e.g. 7/10, use Class 7; 9/10 use Class 9; 9E/10 use Class 9E).
 - b. For properties with a split classification shown as "9E/10" and located five to six road miles from a responding fire station of a designated recognized fire department indicated in the listing for the jurisdiction, class 9E applies.
 - c. For properties not qualifying for 3.a or 3.b, class 10 applies.
- ### C. For jurisdictions or areas not listed, Class 10 applies.

**COMMUNITY MITIGATION CLASSIFICATION MANUAL NORTH CAROLINA (32)
COUNTY RULES PAGES**

- D. Subscription fire departments are indicated by a footnote. Class 10 applies to individual properties that do not subscribe to the listed subscription fire department.
- E. Communities with (**) listed as the PPC refers to the footnotes for explanatory information.
- F. An "S" in the class column indicates that the North Carolina Office of the State Fire Marshal has certified that class 9S applies..
- G. An "E" in the class column indicates that the North Carolina Office of the State Fire Marshal has certified that class 9E applies.
- H. If the line of insurance manual does not contain rating provisions for PPC 8B use PPC 9 for rating purposes.
- HJ. For specifically rated commercial properties refer to the ISO Specific Property Information database for the applicable PPC.
- IJ. Definitions:
 1. "Recognized fire department" means a fire department meeting the minimum criteria of ISO's Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS).
 2. "Primary fire department" means the fire department that has primary overall responsibility for the jurisdiction.

- E. A BCEGS classification of "99" is representative of a jurisdiction where an element of the jurisdiction's building code adoption or enforcement program does not meet the minimum criteria of the BCEGS program or a jurisdiction where there is no recognized building code adopted and/or enforced. See the corresponding footnote under the jurisdiction for further clarification.
- F. Class 99 applies to all jurisdictions without a BCEGS classification listed.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE COMMUNITY MITIGATION CLASSIFICATION MATERIAL

Abbreviations	Description
CO	County
CONT	Continued
CSA	Community Service Area
DIST	District
ESD	Emergency Services District
ETJ	Extra Territorial Jurisdiction
FD	Fire District
FDS	Fire Department Supply
FIRE DEPT	Fire Department
FIRE DIST	Fire District
FPD	Fire Protection District
FPSA	Fire Protection Service Area
FSA	Fire Service Area
MD	Municipal District
OPA	Outside Protected Area
RFPD	Rural Fire Protection District
RPA	Rural Protection Area
SD	Service District
STA	Station
TFD	Town (Township) Fire Department/ District
TFPD	Town (Township) Fire Protection District
TS	Township
VFD	Volunteer Fire Department
WD	Water District

CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING CODE EFFECTIVENESS (BCEGS)

- A. BCEGS classifications for personal lines are indicated next to "PERS" and are applicable to personal lines properties with an original Certificate of Occupancy dated the year of or after the year listed.
- B. BCEGS classifications for commercial lines are indicated next to "COML" and are applicable to commercial lines properties with an original Certificate of Occupancy dated the year of or after the year listed.
- C. When a jurisdiction has multiple years listed, the BCEGS classification applicable to an individual property corresponds to the range of dates that the original Certificate of Occupancy was issued.

For example, a jurisdiction has BCEGS classifications listed as Class 7 – 1995, Class 5 – 1997 and Class 4 – 1998. Properties with an original Certificate of Occupancy dated 1995 or 1996 receive a Class 7. Properties with an original Certificate of Occupancy dated 1997 receive Class 5. Properties with an original Certificate of Occupancy dated 1998 and beyond receive a Class 4.
- D. Properties with an original Certificate of Occupancy dated prior to the earliest published BCEGS date for a jurisdiction are not eligible for inclusion in the BCEGS program. These properties are to be classified as "99".

Exception: Refer to the line of insurance manual rules for individual property analysis and recognition.