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CODE COUNCIL®**

*Setting the Standard for Building Safety™*

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January 6, 2004

**MJM Enterprises**  
Drafting Service  
461 Old Avalon Blvd.  
Avalon, NJ 08202

Re: 2000 International Residential Code®  
Section R327.2.2

Dear MJM:

In response to your question in your December 11, 2003 letter regarding Section R327.2.2, we offer the following opinions of the meaning and intent of the code on this subject:

It is my understanding that your letter poses the following question:

**Q1.** Item 2.2.4 of Section R327.2.2 requires that the flood opening "shall be at least 3 inches in diameter". Does this mean that the opening must have a minimum diameter of 3 inches?

**A1.** Yes. The opening may be round, elliptical, rectangular or any shape, but the opening must have a minimum dimension in any direction of 3 inches. The opening must be sized such that it will allow passage of a 3 inch diameter sphere.

We are pleased to provide you with the opinions stated herein. It should be noted, however, that the final interpretation is the responsibility of the local building official.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Franks, PE, CBO  
Senior Staff Engineer  
Codes and Standards Development

LDF/as