

BQC - 83 - 045

Date: November 10, 1983

To: All Wisconsin Nursing Homes
Hospitals and Community Based Residential Facilities

From: Larry Tainter, Director
Bureau of Quality Compliance

Subject: Secondary Interior Window System

The Bureau of Quality Compliance in the Division of Health has been receiving inquiries from manufacturers and suppliers of secondary interior window systems regarding use of their products in health care facilities to improve energy conservation. Most systems are installed inside the regular building windows using plastic for glazing rather than glass.

We wish to advise you that these plastic insulating window systems may not comply with the Life Safety Code and, therefore, may not be approved by the Bureau of Quality Compliance for use in health care facilities. The manufacturers and suppliers have been asked to supply flamespread documentation for the glazing in accordance with the interior finish requirements in the Life Safety Code (see Chapter 6) and the method of openability to meet the requirement for an openable window in each patient room (see Section 10-1213) for approval prior to installation.

If you are contemplating installing secondary insulating window systems of any type, please contact your BQC area engineer for assistance in obtaining information on the approvability of your system. You can call the Facilities Need Analysis Section at (608) 266-8084 to determine which staff engineer is assigned to your facility.

LT:SS:tk 4965

cc: WI Association of Homes for the Aging
WI Nursing Home Association
WI Association of County Homes
WI Hospital Association