



PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: April 9, 2015

FROM: Gary A. Feck, Acting Commissioner *GF*
Michael T. Davis, General Counsel *MTD*

RE: Status of Proposed Administrative Regulation 815 KAR 35:072

On March 27, 2015, the Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction (HBC) hosted a public hearing on a proposed administrative regulation adopted by HBC's Electrical Advisory Committee and implementing the certified low-voltage installer exception to the electrical licensing requirements of KRS Chapter 227A. In addition to the valuable public statements made at that forum, HBC has received several written comments representing a diverse range of industries that may have not been previously aware of existing electrical laws and regulations and how they apply to their individual businesses.

After a thorough review of the public comments and questions that have been received, HBC has determined that while many included valid suggestions for how the proposed regulation could better implement the narrow exception authorized by KRS 227A.150, the majority of the issues raised have highlighted the need for significant improvement in the way that the existing provisions of KRS Chapter 227A govern the conduct of electrical work in the Commonwealth.

Accordingly, HBC has decided to withdraw the proposed regulation for the time being, in order to instead study the legislative options available to improve upon the underlying electrical licensing statutes in a way that provides more clarity and is more consistent with the manner in which low-voltage electrical technologies have evolved since the time that the current laws were enacted by the General Assembly in 2003.

To that end, HBC will pursue the formation of a working group of representatives from the industries and businesses that have contributed comments during this period



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and other stakeholders engaged in the practice or regulation of the electrical trades to address these issues. The agency will announce additional details about this group as soon as its membership and other details can be determined. When appropriate, reports on the group's progress will be posted as an agenda item for discussion during open public meetings of the Electrical Advisory Committee, which regularly meets each quarter.

HBC greatly appreciates the interest and public participation that has resulted from this process to date, and looks forward to continuing its collaboration with these stakeholders to improve regulation of the electrical trades in a way that best serves the citizens of this Commonwealth.