

DOCKETED

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On HVAC Permit compliance

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

There are a number of reasons contractors don't pull permits. These reasons have been discussed for many years with little change. I offer a suggestion that would eliminate unpermitted HVAC jobs entirely. It involves, as others have suggested, establishing an efficient online, state-wide application process.

A contractor logs into the permit site and enters scope of work selecting from options for Furnace, Coil, Condenser, or Package Unit, and then enters the job address. Once payment is made, a permit voucher is generated. The contractor takes the voucher number to an equipment distributor. The distributor enters the voucher number on the application site. The site confirms the job address and permitted items. No voucher, no equipment, no exceptions.

There will be logistical challenges for the inspectors. You would need a lot more of them. They would need to be trained to provide consistent inspection results. *It seems that contractors that pull permits are sometimes treated as if they were the problem.* Funding the program should be easy given the significant increase in compliance. It would seem that permit fees would drop given the increased revenue. Inefficiencies such as listing the number of supply registers could be eliminated. Contractors with a history of compliance could earn a 'sampling percentage' benefit where only a percentage of their jobs would require an onsite inspection.

Respectfully,

Eric Schuhmann