



SC OSHA FACT SHEET

Confined Spaces in Residential Construction

South Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Administration (SC OSHA) delays temporary enforcement for residential construction work in confined spaces.

This fact sheet provides guidance on the enforcement of the Confined Spaces in Construction standard that was published on May 4, 2015. Although the new federal Confined Spaces in Construction standard went into effect on August 3, 2015 for residential construction work, a temporary enforcement policy was in effect through October 2, 2015. SC OSHA has extended this temporary enforcement policy until March 8, 2016 to comply with federal OSHA policy. During this period, SC OSHA will **not** issue citations to an employer engaged in residential construction work **if** the employer is making a good faith effort to comply, as long as the employer is in compliance with the training requirements of either the new standard 29 CFR 1926.1207 or the former standard 29 CFR 1926.21 (b)(6)(i).

Employers who fail to train their employees consistent with either 29 CFR 1926.1207 or 29 CFR 1926.21(b)(6)(i) will be cited for violation of 29 CFR 1926.1207. Factors SC OSHA will consider when evaluating whether an employer is engaged in good faith efforts to comply with the new standard include:

- If the employer has not trained its employees as required under the new standard, whether the employer has scheduled such training,
- If the employer does not have the equipment required for compliance with the new standard, including personal protective equipment, whether the employer has ordered or otherwise arranged to obtain such equipment required for compliance, and is taking alternative measures to protect employees from confined space hazards, and
- Whether the employer has engaged in any additional efforts to educate workers about confined space hazards and protect workers from those hazards.

For more information, please visit: www.osha.gov/confinedspaces or you may call the SC OSHA's Standards Office at 803-896-7682 or 803-896-7661.