

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation  
Division of Labor  
Office of Occupational Safety and Health  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

**OSH Program Directive Number: 78-1910.142-2**

**Subject:** Citing for Violations of Article VI, Section 1910.142(b)(7) Where Powered Mechanical Exhaust Ventilation is used.

**Standard:** Article VI, Section 1910.142(b)(7), Rules and Regulations, Commissioner of Labor, State of South Carolina.

**Cross Reference to Federal Standards:** 29 CFR 1910.142(b)(7)

**Background:** The purpose of this directive is to provide guidance for citing under Section 1910.142(b)(7) where powered mechanical exhaust ventilation is used.

Several inquiries have been received in regards to using powered exhaust fans to supplement ventilation when window areas are less than one-tenth (1/10) of the floor area.

**Interpretation:** No violations of Section 1910.142(b)(7) shall be written where the total window area is less than one-tenth (1/10) of the floor area if powered (mechanical) exhaust ventilation is provided and maintained which meets the following;

- (a) Either with a wall or ceiling-mounted powered exhaust fan in each inhabitable room, or by louvers or openings provided for exhausting are in each inhabitable room in combination with a powered (mechanical) central exhaust system;
- (b) That at least one-half (1/2) of each existing window is constructed that it can be opened for ventilation purposes.

Under these conditions, the requirements for windows and adequate ventilation shall have been met.

**Effective Date:** This instruction is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by amendment to the Rules and Regulations.

William M. Lybrand  
May 19, 1978