



## California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	8/14/09	Interpretation	09-024
Topic	Decking and Under-floor Wildfire Protection		
Code Section(s)	2007 California Building Code Section 704A.4.1 & 704A.4.2		
Requested by	Terri Carver Live Oak Structural, Inc. 702 Harrison St., Suite B Berkeley, CA 94710 (510) 524-7101 <a href="mailto:terri@liveoakstructural.com">terri@liveoakstructural.com</a>		

**I am writing to request a code interpretation for Chapter 7A “Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure, Section 704A.4.2 Underfloor and Appendages Protection”, California Building Code, 2007 ed.**

- 1. Is section 704A.4.2 “Underfloor and Appendages Protection” applicable to exterior exposed decks?**

No. The requirements for decks are contained in “Section 704A.4.1 Decking.” 704A.4.2 only applies to floor projections and cantilevered appendages or unenclosed underfloor areas.

- 2. Does the current code permit the use of standard 2x pressure-treated fir material for deck framing in areas designated Wildland- Urban Interface Fire Areas?**

Yes. CBC Ch7A has no requirements that apply to deck support structure (joists, framing, posts, etc). “Section 704A.4.1 Decking” only applies to the specified surfaces (walking surfaces, stair treads, stair risers, and landings).