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REFERENCE: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2004, Section 9.6.1 and Table 9.6.1, regarding Atrium lighting power density.

BACKGROUND: The lighting power density in Table 9.6.1 for the Atrium space type is listed as 0.6 W/ft² for the "First Three Floors" and 0.2 W/ft² for "Each Additional Floor".

INTERPRETATION: I interpret this to mean that each of the first three floors is allowed 0.6 W/ft². Thus, for a three story atrium, the LPD would be 3 times 0.6 W/ft², or 1.8 W/ft².

QUESTION: Is this interpretation correct?

ANSWER: No

COMMENT: The 0.6 W/ft² is for an atrium space three stories or less. Taller atriums would get an additional 0.2 W/ft² per story of height. For example, a 5 story atrium would be allowed 0.6 W/ft² for the initial three stories and 0.2 W/ft² for each of the two stories above 3 for a total allowance of 1.0 W/ft² for the entire atrium space.