

**INTERPRETATION IC 62.2-2016-3 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 62.2-2016
Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Residential Buildings**

Approved January 28, 2017

Request from: Armin Rudd, AB Systems LLC, 726 Maple St., Annville, PA 17003.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.2-2016, Section 4.4, related to Control and Operation and its effect on compliance with the Standard.

Background: Standard 62.2-2016, Section 4.4 Control and Operation states: “A readily accessible manual ON-OFF control, including but not limited to a fan switch or a dedicated branch-circuit overcurrent device, shall be provided.”

The official answer to this same interpretation request (below) for Standard 62.2-2010 was “Yes”.

Some have postulated that a change in Standard 62.2-2016 would reverse the 62.2-2010 interpretation answer because of the words “to operate” added to 62.2-2016 section 4.1 as follows:

4.1 Ventilation Rate. A mechanical exhaust system, supply system, or combination thereof shall be installed to operate for each dwelling unit to provide continuous dwelling-unit ventilation with outdoor air at a rate not less than specified in Section 4.1.1.

The currently approved Standard 62.2-2016 User’s Manual states: “If they do turn the ventilation system off, the dwelling unit is no longer in compliance with the Standard.”

It is illogical that compliance with the Standard depends on the system operating, rather than on the installed capacity to operate, when compliance also depends on the requirement to provide an ON-OFF override control.

Interpretation: For a dwelling-unit ventilation system that meets every requirement of the Standard, including providing occupant ON/OFF override control, the system is still deemed to meet the Standard if the occupant override control is OFF.

Question: Is Interpretation correct?

Answer: No, not while the override is being used.

Comments: The scope makes it clear the system is intended to operate. Section 4.1 makes it clear that the system is to be installed to operate. The override provides the occupant the ability to make the system non-operational for routine maintenance, long unoccupied periods such as vacations, and other extraordinary events. This override is at the expense of no longer providing minimum ventilation and thus acceptable IAQ—which is the purpose of the standard.