

**INTERPRETATION IC 211-2018-1 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/ACCA STANDARD 211-2018
STANDARD FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDING ENERGY AUDITS**

Approved: November 13, 2020

Request from: Chris Balbach, Representing Building EQ Committee, 116 Dey Street, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/ACCA Standard 211-2018, Sections 5.2.2, 5.3.3.2, 5.4.2.1, 5.4.4, and 5.5.1d.1, regarding site visits.

Background: The Standard requires a site visit, walk-through, and observation of conditions by the qualified energy auditor for the completion of all audit levels. Due to local limitations on physical site access due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it is currently impossible to perform physical site visits at some facilities. This leads to a need for an interpretation of what all falls under the definition of a site visit, a term that is not specifically defined in the standard.

Interpretation: During emergency conditions (such as a national or global pandemic) that make physical site visits to a facility impossible, the *qualified energy auditor* may conduct the site visit(s) required by the Standard remotely using available digital tools and live video conferencing. This remote site visit is only allowed in conjunction with a facility representative who is physically on site and provided that the *qualified energy auditor* is able to attest that these tools and the facility representative provide sufficient access throughout the facility to allow for all site visit requirements of the Standard to be performed in compliance with the Standard.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes.