

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER # 2013-2

### Existing Romex (Nonmetallic Sheathed Cable) Installations in Nonresidential Buildings

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Administrative Order is to provide clarification to design professionals and contractors concerning the determination of the use of Romex (brand name) in existing nonresidential buildings. The Township recognizes that there are numerous installations of Romex in existing nonresidential buildings. A National Electric Code (NEC) states that NM cable shall be concealed within walls, floors, or ceilings that provide a thermal barrier of material that has at least a 15 minute finish rating. This administrative order provides guidance on Romex wiring in existing buildings as part of an alteration or a change of occupancy.

**Applicability:** This applies to the design/construction/installation of Romex, also known as nonmetallic sheathed cable wiring method in existing nonresidential buildings as determined by the Director of Code Compliance.

**Determination:**

Existing Romex may remain in place under the following conditions:

1. Existing Romex is permitted to remain in place if properly secured and supported (Exception: Condition no. 6 below).
2. Any existing Romex circuit extensions shall be MC cable or another approved wiring method (unless protected by 15 minute finish).
3. Any Romex which is discontinued/de-energized and not protected by a 15 minute finish rating shall be completely removed from the work area.
4. Where Romex is subject to physical damage it shall be protected.
5. Romex in buildings of four stories or more of construction type 1 or 2 is not permitted unless installed in a raceway.
6. Romex shall not be permitted per the International Existing Building code for alterations in certain work areas or for a change of an existing occupancy to a special occupancy, for example, patient care, hazardous location, commercial garage, place of assembly, etc. The new electrical equipment and wiring method shall comply with the edition of the NEC in effect at the permit application filing date.

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**Issued by:**



**Effective Date:**

June 21, 2013