



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Code Enforcement and Administration

Phone : (518) 474-4073

www.dos.state.ny.us

Fax : (518) 486-4487

E-mail: info@dos.state.ny.us

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Effective Date: January 1, 2003

Source Document: 19NYCRR - *Building Code of New York State (BCNYS)*

Topic: Communication Towers

This document is to clarify the application of the requirements of *Building Code of New York State (BCNYS)* section 3108, entitled "Radio and Television Towers." Section 3108.1, general, states:

Subject to the provisions of Chapter 16 and the requirements of Chapter 15 governing the fire-resistance-ratings of buildings for the support of roof structures, radio and television towers shall be designed and constructed as herein provided.

BCNYS Chapter 16, structural design, contains the seismic requirements for buildings and Chapter 15, roof assemblies and rooftop structures, contains specific requirements for rooftop structures in section 1509.

Section 3108.4, load, states that towers shall be designed to resist wind loads in accordance with EIA/TIA 222-E, "Structural Standards for Steel Antenna Towers and Antenna Supporting Structures."

Although EIA/TIA 222-E contains provisions which are applicable free-standing towers, it is our opinion that Article 18 of the Executive Law does not authorize regulation of communication towers which are not associated with a building. When a free-standing tower is accompanied by a building for equipment, the accessory building is regulated by the code.

Ronald E. Piester, R.A., Director
Division of Code Enforcement and Administration