



Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
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MEMO

TO: All Building Officials in Miami-Dade County

**FROM: *Kelly Charles*
Secretary of the Board
Board of Rules and Appeals (BORA)**

DATE: May 22, 2025

SUBJECT: BORA Interpretation - Electrical Equipment in Corrosive Environments

At their meeting of **May 15, 2025**, the **Board of Rules and Appeals (BORA)** received an April 24th BORA Building Subcommittee Meeting Report and considered their recommendation on updating the prior Board Interpretations on Electrical Equipment in Corrosive Environments.

Upon discussion, the Board **issued an interpretation that defined “corrosive environments” for electrical equipment installations as outlined in and subject to the following chart, definitions and notation:**

Corrosive Environments Defined (Subject to relaxation by the Building Official)		
Installation Exposure Description	EQUIPMENT LOCATION (Refer to note below associated with beachfront)	
	0-300' FROM SALTWATER BODY OF WATER	301-3000' FROM SALTWATER BODY OF WATER
Parking garages meeting the definition of open garage and not meeting the definition of enclosed space. Note (1)	CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Parking garages not meeting the definition of open garages and not meeting the definition of enclosed space. Note (1)	CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Interior - Not meeting the definition of Enclosed Space. Note (1)	CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Exterior - Partially Sheltered. Note (1)	CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Exterior - Open Exposed. Note (1)	CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Interior-Vented Enclosed Space	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Interior-Unvented Enclosed Space	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT
Interior-Conditioned Space	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT	NOT CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT

BORA Interpretation
Electrical Equipment Corrosive Environment
May 22, 2025
Page 2 of 2

Definitions:

Saltwater Body of Water: A body of water that is either east of the USGS's Miami-Dade County Isochlor Map defining the extent of saltwater intrusion, and downstream of a SFWMD water control structure generally designed to maintain differentials between fresh and saltwater levels.

Enclosed Space: A space that is either unventilated or ventilated and is protected from water intrusion by louvers conforming to AMCA 500L for water penetration and wind driven rain.

Beach: When measuring distance from saltwater bodies of water, "beach" shall refer to saltwater bodies of water that are known as the Atlantic Ocean, the Straits of Florida, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Gulf of America

Note:

(1) All equipment located in exposures indicated by "Note (1)" in the chart above and within 0 to 600 feet of the beach as described herein, shall be, by definition, in a CORROSIVE ENVIRONMENT.

In making the above interpretation, the Board intended to confirm the corrosive effect saltwater has on electrical equipment in Miami-Dade County and provide further information that should be used by the authority having jurisdiction in conjunction with the applicable currently adopted Florida Building Code National Electrical Code Edition provisions.

If you have any additional questions on this matter, please contact John Hall, Senior Code Officer, at (786) 315-2557 or at John.Hall2@miamidade.gov, or Wilfredo Gonzalez, Senior Code Officer, at (786) 315-2252 or at Wilfredo.Gonzalez@miamidade.gov in the Code Coordination Section of the Board and Code Administration Division.

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