



**City of Austin  
Development Services Department**

**To:** Electrical Inspectors and Customers  
**From:** Carl Wren, Building Official  
Development Services Department  
**Date:** 06/30/2015  
**File:** Code Interpretation

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**INTERPRETATION NUMBER:** CI2015-0002

**TITLE:** Approved use of Nonmetallic-Sheathed Cable  
**CODE EDITION:** 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC) as amended  
**SECTIONS:** 334.10 Uses Permitted. Type NM, Type NMC, and Type NMS cables shall be permitted to be used only in the following:  
(1) one and two-family dwellings and their attached or detached garages and storage buildings.  
(2) multifamily dwellings and their associated uses permitted to be of Types III, IV, and V construction, except as prohibited in 334.12; and  
(3) for existing structures legally constructed with non-metallic sheathed cable, the non-metallic sheathed cable may remain as a wiring method provided that the existing structure is:  
a. a remodel of a type III, IV, or V construction;  
b. two stories or less in height; and  
c. supplied by a 120/240-volt single-phase electrical service; and  
d. not used for areas or equipment regulated by Chapters 5, 6, and 7 of the Electrical Code.

**QUESTION:** Is it the intent of Code Section 334.10 to prohibit Non-Metallic Sheathed Cable as an approved wiring method for buildings classified by the International Building Code as Residential Group R-1 and R-2 of Type III, IV, and V construction?

**ANSWER:** No, Non-Metallic Sheathed cable may be used in dwellings, and guest rooms of Residential Group R-1 and R-2 of Type III, IV, and V construction.

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