

1.3 VIRGINIA'S LIGHTING LAW (SENATE BILL SB379 & SB1351)

Senate Bills SB379 and its amendment SB1351 were passed by the Virginia Assembly and signed into law effective July 1, 2003. The law provides strict requirements on the procurement of light fixtures. The law states:

Require state public bodies to procure only shielded outdoor light fixtures and provide for waivers of this requirement when the Division determines that a bona fide operational, temporary, safety or specific aesthetic need is indicated or that such fixtures are not cost effective over the life cycle of the fixtures. For the purposes of this subdivision, "shielded outdoor light fixture" means an outdoor light fixture that is (i) fully shielded so that no light rays are emitted by the installed fixture above the horizontal plane or (ii) constructed so that no more than 2 percent of the total luminaire lumens in the zone of 90 to 180 degrees vertical angle is permitted, if the related output of the luminaire is greater than 3200 lumens. In adopting regulations under this subdivision, the Division shall consider national standards for outdoor lighting as adopted by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA).

Effective July 1, 2003, the Virginia Department of Transportation shall design all lighting systems in accordance with current IESNA standards and recommended practices. The lighting system shall utilize fixtures that minimize glare, light trespass, and skyglow, all as defined by the IESNA, while still providing a comfortable, visually effective, safe, and secure outdoor environment in a cost-effective manner over the life cycle of the lighting system.

1.4 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The following references are used throughout the Section:

- FHWA Roadway Lighting Handbook
- AASHTO Roadway Lighting Design Guide
- IESNA Recommended Practices for Roadway Lighting IESNA RP-8. IESNA Recommended Practices for Tunnel Lighting IESNA RP-22.
- IESNA Recommended Practices for Sign Lighting IESNA RP-19.
- The National Electric Code, NEC.