



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
December 14, 2010

ITEM TITLE:

Resolution authorizing the City to reduce permit fees associated with the replacement of Chinese drywall and providing for an effective date.

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Approval.

BRIEF HISTORY:

Drywall is a building material widely used for partition walls in the United States. During the construction boom between 2002 through 2007, there was a shortage of American-made drywall. As a result, foreign drywall (many of which were Chinese drywall) was imported.

Chinese drywall contains potentially hazardous levels of strontium sulfide, which, when exposed to moisture and humidity, can release hydrogen sulfide into the air, causing a health hazard and corrosion of materials embedded in the drywall, such as pipes and electrical cables.

In consideration of the unexpected costly repairs and the health hazard caused by the Chinese drywall, the City is proposing to reduce permit fees for Chinese drywall replacement by 50%, subject to the property owner providing test results confirming the existence of Chinese drywall, as well as a signed statement provided by the Property Owner confirming the permitted work is limited to the Chinese drywall replacement.

APPROVED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney	City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Copy of Resolution