



27 October 2006

FI 066

**Question:**

**Std:** NZS4541/NZS4515/NZS4517

**Interpretation:**

**Issued by the Fixed Fire Protection Group**

1. Given that the Iwi are an extended family, can Whare Nui be protected by systems complying with NZS4517. Clause 1.1.2?
  2. Given that it is common practice for groups of people to sleep within them, does the scope of NZS4515 include Whare Nui. Clause 1.1.3.1?
  3. If a Whare Nui is to be protected to NZS4541, what is the correct occupancy class for such buildings?
1. No. NZS4517 is restricted to a single household.
  2. No. NZS4515 is restricted to occupancies where the primary purpose groups are related to sleeping.
  3. The committee considers that the fire load in such occupancies will require an Ordinary Hazard design approach, subject to the fire load expected to be contained within the building. Ancillary occupancies, such as mattress storage rooms, may require higher occupancy classes.

**Notes:**

1. A review should be carried out of tuku panels and the like, to ensure that the sprinkler system will not be overwhelmed by a high speed of flame in such materials. It may be necessary to increase the area of operation, coat the materials of construction in a flame retardant, or a combination of both, to deal with such materials.

**Reviewed in 2008 and deemed applicable to NZS 4541:2007**