

Wind Science & Engineering Research Center

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May 22, 2002

Mr. Scott Ingoldsby
Southern Illinois Storm Shelters, Inc.
511 West State
Buckner, Illinois 62819

Re: Shelter Door Testing

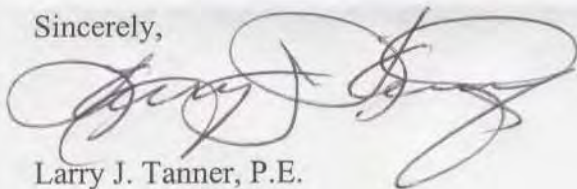
Dear Mr. Ingoldsby:

On October 17, 2001 tests were successfully conducted company's steel reinforced fiberglass door for below-ground shelters (cellars). The manufacturer of the steel reinforced fiberglass door was Southern Illinois Storm Shelters, Inc. The tests were consistent with FEMA 320 (Taking Shelter from the Storm) guidelines requiring the shelter or component to resist a 15-lb. 2x4 missile dropped vertically by a 250 mph tornado. The missile speed correlates to 67 mph for cellar doors inclined less than 30 degrees from the horizontal.

The shelter door previously tested and recently reviewed are of the same construction and differ only in the location of the hinging and locking mechanisms. The Southern Illinois door is hinged along the short side and locked along the opposing short side and door hold-open devices are located outside the safe compartment.

Congratulations on your cellar door meeting the FEMA 320 guidelines. The Wind Engineering Research Center at Texas Tech University applauds your company's efforts in providing a safe product for the consumer.

Sincerely,



Larry J. Tanner, P.E.
Research Associate