



**IFMA™ FM Consultants
Council**
International Facility Management Association

Professional & Technical Licensing Issues

Virtual FM LLC and its officers are not Professional Engineers, and membership in various professional organizations – the Society of American Military Engineers, Association of Energy Engineers, etc. does not require and should not be taken to mean otherwise.

The CEO and Managing Consultant, Richard Buzard, is a Certified Energy Manager®. The certifying authority for this designation, which is good through December 2024, is the Association of Energy Engineers.

Mr. Buzard rigorously investigated the need for professional licenses with the Architectural Examiners, Building Codes Council, Contractor's Licensing Board, Engineers, and Surveyors Board. None of these boards matched the services offerings of Virtual FM LLC. Following this, he obtained this letter from the past president of the IFMA FM Consultants Council:

The letter from (board secretary) reflects the still widespread incomplete understanding of the span of professions that design, build, operate, and maintain the built environment. While your contribution as an energy auditor is essentially O&M (that is, how well is the building performing under circumstances as evidenced), that of her agencies assumes due actions of engineering and architecture. Your work is not in her scope, but your business objective, SDVOSB is valid. I don't see how her group could help.

FM consultants work in areas either downstream or upstream from narrowly defined A&E activities requiring a license. We don't design, build, and renovate. Our findings do not require a professional stamp. In the course of advising and sometimes taking part in O&M, environmental stewardship and sustainability, project management, real estate, and property management, leadership and strategy, emergency planning and business continuity, finance and business, human factors, technology, quality, and communications, we coordinate with organization executives, officials, managers, staff, and contractors - including A&E. Licensing does not make sense for FM in general. On the other hand, the educational and professional credentials - which you have - do.

David Reynolds, CFM
IFMA FM Consultants Council
September 9, 2022