

ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENT FORM FOR PROPOSED CODE CHANGES

(This form must be submitted electronically)

IRC-85, R314.3.1 (REV 2-15-2012)

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Proposed Code Change - Language

Please provide your proposed code change in strikeout/underline format. Provide the *specific* language you would like to see changed, with new words underlined and words to be deleted should be ~~stricken~~. Also, state whether the language contained in your proposal is from a code book or from an amendment currently found in Minnesota Rule. (You may provide the language (electronically) on a separate, attached sheet).

R314.3.1 Alterations, repairs and additions.

When *alterations*, repairs, including installation of replacement windows, or *additions* requiring a permit occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing *dwelling*s, the individual *dwelling unit* shall be equipped with smoke alarms located as required for new *dwelling*s.

Exceptions:

1. Work involving the exterior surfaces of *dwelling*s, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the *addition* or replacement of windows or doors, or the *addition* of an open porch or deck, and chimney repairs are exempt from the requirements of this section.
2. Installation, *alteration* or repairs of plumbing, electrical, or mechanical systems are exempt from the requirements of this section.
- ~~3. Areas and additions where residential fire sprinklers are installed are exempt from this requirement.~~

Proposed Code Change – Need and Reason

This code change proposal clarifies the need for smoke alarm installation when new windows are installed. Working smoke alarms save lives. This has been the practice in MN for many years. Jurisdictions that have open permits because inspections are not being scheduled because of the smoke alarm requirement may notify the owner and the contractor of the requirement and close

the file or leave it open and stagnant. It is the permit holders' responsibility for schedule inspections not the building departments.

Additionally, many fire departments offer smoke alarm installation services for residents, often giving free smoke alarms away when needed. This service could be offered to homeowners who may have difficulty with the code requirements.

Comments:

Exception 1. Interconnection and hardwiring of smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required to be hardwired where the alterations of repairs do not result in the removal on interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure.

This exception is now included in sections R314.4 Power Source and R314.5 Interconnection

Proposed Code Change – Cost/Benefit Analysis

This will not change the cost of construction

Other Factors to Consider Related to Proposed Code Change

1. Is this proposed code change meant to:

change language contained in a published code book? If so, list section(s).

X

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change language contained in an existing amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, list Rule part(s).

delete language contained in a published code book? If so, list section(s).

delete language contained in an existing amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, list Rule part(s).

neither; this language will be new language, not found in the code book or in Minnesota Rule.

2. Is this proposed code change required by a Minnesota Statute or new legislation? If so, please provide the citation to the Statute or legislation.

no

3. Will this proposed code change impact other sections of a published code book or of an amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, please list the affected sections or rule parts.

yes

4. Will this proposed code change impact other parts of the Minnesota State Building Code? If so, please list the affected parts of the Minnesota State Building Code.

no

5. Who are the parties affected or segments of industry affected by this proposed code change?

Builders, inspectors

6. Can you think of other means or methods to achieve the purpose of the proposed code change? If so, please explain what they are and why your proposed change is the preferred method or means to achieve the desired result.

no

7. Are you aware of any federal requirement or regulation related to this proposed code change? If so, please list the regulation or requirement.

no