

CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

(Must be submitted electronically)

Author/requestor: [Staff](#)Date: [08/27/2025](#)Email address: chris.rosival@state.mn.usModel Code: [2024 IRC](#)Telephone number: [651-284-5510](#)Code or Rule Section: [R703.2](#)Firm/Association affiliation, if any: [DLI](#)Code or rule section to be changed: [IRC 703.2 Water-resistive barrier](#)Intended for Technical Advisory Group ("TAG"): [IRC Chapter 1309](#)**General Information****Yes** **No**

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|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Is the proposed change unique to the State of Minnesota? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| B. Is the proposed change required due to climatic conditions of Minnesota? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| C. Will the proposed change encourage more uniform enforcement? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D. Will the proposed change remedy a problem? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E. Does the proposal delete a current Minnesota Rule, chapter amendment? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F. Would this proposed change be appropriate through the ICC code development process? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Proposed Language

1. The proposed code change is meant to:

☒ change language contained the model code book? If so, list section(s).
[IRC 703.2](#)☐ change language contained in an existing amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, list Rule part(s).☐ delete language contained in the model code book? If so, list section(s).☒ delete language contained in an existing amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, list Rule part(s).
[MR1309.703.2](#)☐ add new language that is not found in the model code book or in Minnesota Rule.2. Is this proposed code change required by Minnesota Statute? If so, please provide the citation.
[No](#)

3. Provide *specific* language you would like to see changed. Indicate proposed new words with underlining and ~~strikethrough~~ words proposed for deletion. Include the entire code (sub) section or rule subpart that contains your proposed changes.

R703.2 Water-resistive barrier. Not fewer than one layer of water-resistive barrier shall be applied over studs or sheathing of all exterior walls with flashing as indicated in Section R703.4, in such a manner as to provide a continuous water-resistive barrier behind the exterior wall veneer and behind deck ledgers. The water-resistive barrier material shall be continuous to the top of walls to the underside of the rafter or truss top chord and terminated at penetrations and building appendages in a manner to meet the requirements of the exterior wall envelope as described in Section R703.1. Where the water-resistive barrier also functions as a component of a continuous air barrier, the water resistive barrier shall be installed as an air barrier in accordance with Section N1102.5.1.1. Water-resistive barrier materials shall comply with one of the following:

1. No. 15 felt complying with ASTM D226, Type 1.
 2. ASTM E2556, Type 1 or 2.
 3. Foam plastic insulating sheathing water-resistive barrier systems complying with Section R703.1.1 and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
 4. ASTM E331 in accordance with Section R703.1.1.
 5. Other approved materials in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
- No.15 asphalt felt and water-resistive barriers complying with ASTM E2556 shall be applied horizontally, with the upper layer lapped over the lower layer not less than 2 inches (51 mm), and where joints occur, shall be lapped not less than 6 inches (152 mm).

~~Exception: A water-resistive barrier shall not be required in unconditioned detached tool sheds, storage sheds, playhouses, and other similar accessory structures provided all of the following requirements are met:~~

- ~~1. Exterior wall covering is limited to siding that is attached direct to studs.~~
- ~~2. Exterior walls are uninsulated.~~
- ~~3. Interior side of exterior walls has no wall covering or wall finishes.~~

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

Need and Reason

1. Why is the proposed code change needed? Please provide a general explanation as well as a specific explanation for any changes to numerical values (heights, area, etc.)

This is an existing Minnesota amendment that needed revisions. Most, if not all siding manufacturers require a water-resistive barrier under their products.

2. Why is the proposed code change a reasonable solution?

This will provide clarity for the installers for a water-resistive barrier to be installed.

3. What other factors should the TAG consider?

Cost/Benefit Analysis

1. Will the proposed code change increase or decrease costs? Please explain and provide estimates if possible.

In 2020 the cost was figured with an average of \$200.

2. If there is an increased cost, will this cost be offset by a safety or other benefit? Please explain. If the benefit is quantifiable (for example energy savings), provide an estimate if possible.

None

3. If there is a cost increase, who will bear the costs? This can include government units, businesses, and individuals.

None

4. Are there any enforcement or compliance cost increases or decreases with the proposed code change? Please explain.

None

5. Will the cost of complying with the proposed code change in the first year after the rule takes effect exceed \$25,000 for any one small business or small city ([Minn. Stat. § 14.127](#))? A small business is any business that has less than 50 full-time employees. A small city is any statutory or home rule charter city that has less than ten full-time employees. Please explain.

Regulatory Analysis

1. What parties or segments of industry are affected by this proposed code change?

Contractors, building owners, and enforcement individuals

2. Can you think of other means or methods to achieve the purpose of the proposed code change? What might someone opposed to this code change suggest instead? Please explain what the alternatives are and why your proposed change is the preferred method or means to achieve the desired result.
3. What are the probable costs or consequences of not adopting the code change, including those costs or consequences borne by identifiable categories of affected parties, such as separate classes of government units, businesses, or individuals?
4. Are you aware of any federal or state regulation or requirement related to this proposed code change? If so, please list the federal or state regulation or requirement and your assessment of any differences between the proposed code change and the federal regulation or requirement.

***Note: Incomplete forms may be returned to the submitter with instruction to complete the form. Only completed forms can be considered by the TAG.