

ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENT FORM FOR PROPOSED CODE CHANGES (This form must be submitted electronically)

IRC-143, R501.3

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Proposed Code Change - Language

R501.3 Fire protection of floors. Floor assemblies, not required elsewhere in this code to be fire resistance rated, shall be provided with a ½ inch gypsum wallboard membrane, 5/8 inch wood structural panel membrane, or equivalent on the underside of the floor framing member.

Exceptions:

1. Floor assemblies located directly over a space protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904, NFPA13D, or other approved equivalent sprinkler system.
2. Floor assemblies located directly over a crawl space not intended for storage or fuel-fired appliances.
3. Portions of floor assemblies can be unprotected when complying with the following:
 - 3.1 The aggregate area of the unprotected portions shall not exceed 80 square feet per story
 - 3.2 Fire blocking in accordance with Section R302.11.1 shall be installed along the perimeter of the unprotected portion to separate the unprotected portion from the remainder of the floor assembly.
4. ~~Wood floor assemblies using dimension lumber or structural composite lumber equal to or greater than 2 inch by 10 inch nominal dimension, or other approved floor assemblies demonstrating equivalent fire performance.~~

Proposed Code Change – Need and Reason

Current available data derived from Scientific tests shows that the performance of Floor Trusses and 2x10 lumber is nearly identical (http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/rm/PDF/1309_31.pdf). There is no scientific data to support the theory that 2x10's perform significantly better in a fire than a floor truss. This has not been a problem in Minnesota based on <http://mffma.org/>.

Proposed Code Change – Cost/Benefit Analysis

Other Factors to Consider Related to Proposed Code Change

1. Is this proposed code change meant to:

delete language contained in a published code book? If so, list section(s).
2012 IRC section R501.3 Exception 4

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.
No

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?
Code officials, building designers, contractors, building owners, lumber suppliers, EWP Suppliers, Truss Suppliers.

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