

Residential Energy Code TAG

Meeting Notes

Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Meeting Location: Hybrid – Minnesota Room/WebEx

Call to order:

Steve Shold

Attendance:

TAG Members present: Steve Shold (DLI), Greg Metz (DLI), Chris Rosival (DLI), Steve Ubl (building officials), John Smith (practical engineering applications), Rebecca Olson (MN Center for Energy & Environment), Eric Fowler (Fresh Energy), Eric Boyd (Housing First Minnesota), Alyssa Jagdfeld (MN AIA), Alison Lindburg (Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance), Jim Kumon (Heirloom Properties)

TAG members absent: Mike Robertson (Habitat for Humanity), Mike Allen (BAM)

Guests attending: Amanda Spuckler (DLI), Chad Payment (DLI), Brittany Wysokinski (DLI), Don Sivigny (DLI), Rich Lockrem (DLI), Josiah Moore (DLI), Nick Erickson, David Alseth, Ben Rabe, Brad Fevold, David McDonald, Eric Lacey, Erin Sherman, Heidi Erm, Kyle Berndt, Lauren Sweeney, Mike Moore, Patrick Nielsen, Rob Buchanan, Kyle Dimler

1. Call to order

2. Worksheet review of 2021 IECC sections R303.1.1 through R402.2.4.1 and specific code sections as described below. All sections referred to are from the residential provisions of the 2021 IECC unless otherwise noted.

2015 Minnesota Residential Energy Code Section R303.1.5 Minnesota thermal insulation standards

TAG members discussed whether the reference to Minnesota Rules, chapter 7640, Minnesota Thermal Insulation Standards, is necessary. DLI staff will review chapter 7640 and determine if it needs to be retained.

Section R401.2.4 Tropical climate region option

The TAG consensus is to delete this section because it refers to the tropical climate region option that is not applicable to Minnesota's climate zones.

Section R401.3 Certificate

The requirements of this section are similar to the certificate requirements in the 2015 Minnesota Residential Energy Code. DLI staff will review the requirements of the 2021 IECC and the current code to evaluate if any modifications are necessary.

Section R402.1.1 Vapor retarder

The TAG consensus is to modify this section to require an equivalent vapor retarder to be provided on the warm in winter side of assemblies that are part of the building thermal envelope.

Section R402.1.2 Insulation and fenestration criteria

The 2015 Minnesota Residential Energy Code includes waterproofing requirements in the section addressing insulation and fenestration criteria. The TAG consensus is to relocate waterproofing requirements to section R402.2.8 Basement walls and R4052.2.10 Crawl space walls.

Table R402.1.3 Maximum assembly U-factors and fenestration requirements

The TAG consensus is to modify the table to eliminate references to climate zones that are not applicable to Minnesota and the footnote addressing buildings located at elevations above 4,000 feet. The TAG members reviewed a code change proposal to change the fenestration U-factor from 0.30 to 0.28 in climate zone 6 and 0.27 in climate zone 7. The TAG tabled the discussion of the code change proposal and table R402.1.3 and table R402.1.2

Section R402.2.1 Ceilings with attic spaces

The TAG consensus was to modify this section to address all ceilings and delete the first sentence that is only applicable to climate zones 2 and 3.

Section R402.2.2 Ceilings without attic spaces

The TAG consensus is to delete this section and apply the requirements of section R402.2.1 to all ceilings.

Section R402.2.3 Eave baffle

The TAG discussed modifying the language to refer to wind wash prevention and clarify code requirements.

Section R402.2.4 Access hatches and doors

TAG members considered modifying this section maintain the 2015 Minnesota Residential Energy Code requirements.

Next Meeting:

Date: Monday, September 18, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Hybrid – Minnesota Room/WebEx Event

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 AM

Prepared by: Steve Shold