

Residential Energy Code TAG

Meeting Notes

Date: Monday, February 5, 2024

Meeting Location: Hybrid – Minnesota Room/WebEx

Call to order:

Steve Shold

Attendance:

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

TAG Members absent: Rebecca Olson (MN Center for Energy & Environment)

Guests attending: Amanda Spuckler (DLI), Chad Payment (DLI), Tim Manz (DLI), Lucas Rutherford, Phil Anderson, Grace Keliher, Ben Rabe, Eric Lacey, Jared Johnson, Jason Vandever, Jim Kumon, Jonny Kocher, Joshua Harmon, Mark Mikkelson, Matthew Brown, Matthew Friedlander, Michael Johnson, Nick VanDuzee, Scott Anderson

1. Call to order

2. TAG members reviewed chapter 5 of the residential provisions of the 2021 IECC and code change proposals as described below.

2021 IECC Section R402.4.1.3 Leakage rate, R402.4.1.2 Testing, and Table R405.4.2(1)

TAG members reviewed revised code change proposal RE-4.2 that would lower the leakage rate from 3.0 air changes per hour (ACH) to 2.0 ACH and revises testing requirements for attached dwelling units and buildings 1,500 square feet or smaller. TAG members discussed that small homes and those without basements may have more difficulty complying with the reduced ACH compared to large homes or those with basements. They also discussed that ACH does not necessarily reflect air leakage in the wall and ceiling and that CFM50/ft² effective leakage area (ELA) is a better measurement but is not used by the model code. The TAG consensus is not to accept the code change proposal.

2021 IECC Section R202, “Residential Building”

TAG members reviewed code change proposal RE-31 that modifies the definition of “residential building” to refer to IRC-1 single-family dwellings, IRC-2 two-family dwellings, IRC-3 townhouses, and include Group I-1 buildings. The code change proposal aligns the definition of residential building in chapter 1322 with the scoping of chapter 1323. The TAG consensus is to accept the code change proposal.

2021 IECC Chapter 5 Existing Buildings

TAG members reviewed the worksheet items for chapter 5 of the 2021 IECC. TAG members discussed chapter 5 requirements for roof repairs, reroofing, and roof replacement. TAG members discussed modifying the exceptions to section R503.1.1 to add current exception from building envelope requirements for dwellings that were issued a permit prior to June 1, 2009. Lastly, TAG members discussed the application of chapter 5 requirements for change of occupancy to existing garages that are converted to habitable space or become conditioned space.

Next Meeting:

Date: Monday, February 26, 2024

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Hybrid – Minnesota Room/WebEx Event

Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 PM

Prepared by: Steve Shold