

Residential Energy Code TAG

Meeting Notes

Date: Monday, November 13, 2023

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), Alyssa Jagdfeld (MN AIA), Mike Allen (BAM). Steve Ubl (building officials), Alison Lindburg (Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance), Mike Robertson (Habitat for Humanity)

TAG Members absent: Jim Kumon (Heirloom Properties)

Guests attending: Amanda Spuckler (DLI), Brittany Wysokinski (DLI), (DLI), Tim Manz (DLI), Rich Lockrem (DLI), Greg Metz (DLI), Nick Erickson, Mark Mikkelson, Michael Johnson, Adam Schminski, Craig Drumheller, David McDonald, Elizabeth Kosel, Eric Lacey, Jared Johnson, Jerry Backlund, Lisa Frenette, Marcy Conrad Nutt, Matthew Brown, Mike Moore, Nick Conniff, Patrick Murray, Patrick Nielsen, Stacy Miller, Steve Gottwalt, Mike Wilson, Tim Wells, Kathy Pierce, Lucas Rutherford, Kurt Welker, Curtis Johnson, Jake Lee, Brandon Jaeger

1. Call to order
2. Review of the code change proposals as described below.

Section R402.4.1.3 Air leakage

TAG members continued to review a code change proposal to reduce the air leakage rate from 3.0 air changes per hour (ACH) to 2.0 ACH. TAG members reviewed energy ratings for slab-on-grade and townhomes constructed by Habitat for Humanity that had air leakage rates of less than 2.0 ACH. TAG members discussed the difficulty and costs of air sealing and whether the reduced ACH has a significant impact on energy costs or indoor air quality. The TAG members did not reach a consensus regarding the code change proposal. TAG members may resubmit the code change proposal with modifications to address slab-on-grade construction.

Section R402.2.3 Eave baffle

TAG members reviewed a code change proposal to change the section heading from “eave baffle” to “wind wash prevention” and add an additional sentence to require the wind wash baffle to separate the air permeable insulation from the ventilation intake space. The code change proposal will be revised to address requirements for eave baffles in a separate subsection.

Section R402.1.5 Total UA alternative

TAG members reviewed a code change that would require compliance with baseline performance criteria for walls, roofs/ceilings, and floors when the total UA alternative is used. The performance criteria would limit the maximum glass area to 25 percent. Previous editions of the model residential energy code contained similar backstops when the UA path was used. TAG members and the public discussed whether the performance criteria requires overly complicated calculations and if a limitation on glass is necessary if the building complies with the total UA alternative. Discussion of the code change proposal was tabled for the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

Date: Monday, November 27, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Hybrid – Minnesota Room/WebEx Event

Meeting Adjourned: 3:00 PM

Prepared by: Steve Shold