

Illinois Energy Code Advisory Council Residential Subcommittee
April 6, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.
Teleconference
MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members

David Wytmar, Groundwork, Ltd.
Tom Ayers, City of Rock Island
Bruce Selway, DCEO
Lisa Mattingly, CDB

Guests

Jason Huelsmann, New Tradition Homes (HBA Greater Southwestern IL)
Eric Lacey, Responsible Energy Code Alliance
Darren Meyers, International Energy Conservation Consultants LLC
Tracy Butler, Home Builders Association of Greater Southwest Illinois
Bill Ward, Home Builders Association of Illinois
Bill McHugh, CRCA
Matthew Giudice, MEEA
Corbett Lunsford, IL Association of Energy Raters & Home Performance Professionals
Dave Bowman, International Code Council
Bob Neal, International Code Council
Steve Baden, RESNET
Chris McTaggart, Building Efficiency Resources
Fred Filippo, MCP & HERS Rater and City of Naperville, T.E.D. Division
Mike Collignon, Green Builder® Coalition
Sean Lintow Sr., SLS Construction & Building Solutions LLC

Chairman Wytmar called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Chairman Wytmar made a motion to allow Mr. Huelsmann to represent the Home Builders as a voting Subcommittee member and be the proxy for the Allen Drewes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Ayers to approve the February 25th meeting minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Selway. Motion carried.

Chairman Wytmar moved to the agenda item regarding Section R402.2.9. He noted that he would like to change the word “shall” in this following sentence to ‘may’.

Exception: Walls associated with conditioned basements may be insulated from the top of the *basement wall* down to 4 feet (1219 mm) below grade when the Basement Wall R-value is at least 15/19.

Mr. Meyers commented that he would like to see the proposed sentence “Class I or II vapor retarders are not required for *basement walls* or below grade portions of any wall.” removed from Section 402.2.9.

Mr. Giudice commented that he thinks this section would be better written if the language allowing 4 ft of insulation at 15/19 was not written as an exception. Chairman Wytmar said that it was written this way because the full depth is the better option, but it allows for the four foot height. By making it an exception, it depicts that the full height is the preferred method.

Chairman Wytmar asked if any subcommittee members had comments. Mr. Selway asked for more information about the sentence “Class I or II vapor retarders are not required for basement walls or below grade portions of any wall.” Mr. Meyers said that this causes confusion and conflict with the IRC and will cause confusion in enforcement.

Mr. Selway asked that this sentence be voted on separately. Mr. Huelsmann and Mr. Ayers both stated that they did not have a strong opinion one way or the other about the inclusion of this sentence.

Chairman Wytmar made a motion to strike “Class I or II vapor retarders are not required for *basement walls* or below grade portions of any wall. “ Mr. Ayers seconded. Motion passed.

Chairman Wytmar then made a motion to accept R402.2.9 with the exception of “Class I or II vapor retarders are not required for *basement walls* or below grade portions of any wall.” Mr. Ayers requested to add “is at least 15/19 to the following sentence. “Exception: Walls associated with conditioned basements shall be insulated from the top of the basement wall down to 4 feet (1219 mm) below grade when the Basement Wall R-value is 15/19.” The motion was amended to include this change. Motion passed.

The recommended proposed amendment is as follows:

R402.2.9 Basement walls. Walls associated with conditioned basements shall be insulated from the top of the *basement wall* down to 10 feet (3048 mm) below grade or to within six-inches (152 mm) of the basement floor, whichever is less. Walls associated with unconditioned basements shall meet this requirement unless the floor overhead is insulated in accordance with Sections R402.1.2 and R402.2.8.

Exception: Walls associated with conditioned basements may be insulated from the top of the *basement wall* down to 4 feet (1219 mm) below grade when the Basement Wall R-value is at least 15/19.

Chairman Wytmar then moved to R403.6. He asked Mr. Meyers to explain the revised amendments to this section. Mr. Meyers explained that the revised amendments were based on updated information. No questions were asked by the subcommittee. Mr. Ayers moved that the modifications to R403.6 be accepted. Mr. Huelsmann seconded. Motion passed.

Chairman Wytmar then asked for discussion of Section R406. Mr. Selway led the discussion. In the Energy Efficient Building Act, it states DCEO will provide training and

technical assistance for the Code. He stated that the Department has limitations in providing training on the ERI method.

It was suggested that the language for Section R406.1 be modified slightly. The word “that” was inserted and a comma removed, as highlighted below, to make the section more clear.

R406.1 Scope. This section establishes an alternative compliance criteria ~~for compliance~~ using an Energy Rating Index (ERI) analysis where approved by the code official or other authority having jurisdiction in accordance with Section R102. For purposes of clarification, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (“Department”) declares that Section R406 of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code, (remove comma) affords an alternative form of compliance and is not a mandate on the Department to provide training to Section 406.

Mr. Bowman suggested a change to Section R401.2. It was initially submitted as

R401.2 Compliance. Projects shall comply with one of the following:

- 1) Sections R401 through R404, or
- 2) Section R405 and the provisions of Sections R401 through R404 labeled “Mandatory,” or alternatively where approved in accordance with Section R102, or
- 3) An energy rating index (ERI) approach in Section R406.

Mr. Ward asked if using the ERI method would have to be approved by each municipality and county. Mr. Ayers stated that anything stated in the code is allowed. R406 is a spelled out alternative. It doesn't have to be approved by the code official. Mr. Ayers suggested removing 3) “Alternatively where approved in accordance with Section R102,”

There was more discussion by the subcommittee members.

Chairman Wytmar then asked for public comment on this issue. Mr. Baden spoke first, followed by Corbett Lunsford. Fred Filippo spoke next. He believes that allowing the ERI will help the code officials. He suggested asking builders for a letter of intent from the beginning of the project on which path they will use to comply.

Mr. Meyers asked if there were any questions regarding the technical report that he supplied on this topic.

Mr. Giudice said that MEEA is in support of keeping R406 because they feel it will increase compliance in Illinois. He also stated that it should not be associated with R102 which is related to areas of compliance that are not spelled out in the code. They don't think it is appropriate to explain that DCEO will not provide training in the body of the code. Moreover, they think DCEO should offer training.

Mr. Collignon feels the ERI path is a break through to the home owners. He asked Mr. Selway about his comments regarding the proprietary nature of the ERI path. Mr.

Selway responded that the state's procurement requirements will make it difficult to hire a trainer because it is a proprietary product.

Mr. Giudice clarified his previous comment on training to state that he didn't mean DCEO should train HERS raters, but that they should provide general training to code officials and builders on Section R406.

Chairman Wytmar made a motion to approve the following modified amendment

R401.2 Compliance. Projects shall comply with one of the following:

- 1) Sections R401 through R404, or
- 2) Section R405 and the provisions of Sections R401 through R404 labeled "Mandatory," or
- 3) Alternatively where approved by the code official or other authority having jurisdiction in accordance with Section R102, an energy rating index (ERI) approach in Section R406.

R406.1 Scope. This section establishes an alternative compliance criteria ~~for compliance~~ using an Energy Rating Index (ERI) analysis where approved by the code official or other authority having jurisdiction in accordance with Section R102. For purposes of clarification, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity ("Department") declares that Section R406 of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code affords an alternative form of compliance and is not a mandate on the Department to provide training to Section 406.

| Mr. Selway seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion carried 4 -1

| Ms. Mattingly stated that the full council meeting will be held on April 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Huelsmann. Mr. Selway seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.