

**Recommended Amendments to the
2009 International Energy Conservation Code
North Central Texas Council of Governments region**

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2009 International Energy Conservation Code* are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IECC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from IECC.~~ A double asterisk at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2006 edition of the code and a triple asterisk identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2009 code.

Note: Historically NCTCOG has limited Chapter 1 amendments in order to allow each city to insert their local policies and procedures. We now have suggested certain items to be brought to the attention of cities considering adoption of the code that may be of concern to several jurisdictions. **It is still intended to be discretionary to each city to determine which Chapter 1 amendments to include.**

The 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) and International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) include a new emphasis on envelope infiltration and duct leakage. Significant changes in the residential energy requirements include more frequent requirement of performance testing for leakage. Residential Duct systems must be tested unless all ducts and equipment are located within the conditioned space. Envelope testing is required to demonstrate compliance with maximum allowable leakage rate unless a detailed air barrier and insulation inspection has been performed to field verify component criteria. Testing is available from RESNET-certified HERS Raters or Rating Field Inspectors, and certified Performance Verification Technicians.

*****Section 101.4.2; change to read as follows:**

101.4.2 Historic Buildings. Any building or structure that is listed in the State or National Register of Historic Places; designated as a historic property under local or state designation law or survey; certified as a contributing resource with a National Register listed or locally designated historic district; or with an opinion or certification that the property is eligible to be listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places either individually or as a contributing building to a historic district by the State Historic Preservation Officer of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, ~~are exempt from~~ shall comply with all of the provisions of this code.

Exception: Whenever a provision or provisions shall invalidate or jeopardize the historical designation or listing, that provision or provisions may be exempted.

(Reason: This is less restrictive than the legislative mandates. It is reasonable to expect compliance with duct sealing, replacement lighting and the installation of insulation, for example, when possible.)

*****Section 103.1; add Section 103.1.1 to read as follows:**

103.1.1 Alternative compliance. A building certified by a national, state, or local accredited energy efficiency program and determined by the Energy Systems Laboratory to be in compliance with the energy efficiency requirements of this section may, at the option of the Code Official, be considered in compliance. The United States Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Program certification of energy code equivalency shall be considered in compliance.

(Reason: this amendment is added to allow alternative compliance in accordance with Texas HB 1365, 78th Legislature.)

*****Section 202; add the following definition:**

GLAZING AREA. Total area of the glazed fenestration measured using the rough opening and including sash, curbing or other framing elements that enclose conditioned space. Glazing area includes the area of glazed fenestration assemblies in walls bounding conditioned basements. For doors where the daylight opening area is less than 50 percent of the door area, the glazing area is the daylight opening area. For all other doors, the glazing area is the rough opening area for the door including the door and the frame.

(Reason: Since the window to floor area ratios have been added to the prescriptive tables, it is necessary to define glazing area.)

*****Section 401.2, Item 1; change to read as follows:**

1. Sections 402.1 through 402.3, 403.2.1 and 404.1 (prescriptive) and the use of Tables 402.1.1 and 402.1.3 are limited to a maximum glazing area of 15% window area to floor area ratio; or
2. {language unchanged}

(Reason: This amendment is added to satisfy the "not less restrictive" requirement when adopting subsequent editions of energy codes in accordance with Texas SB 5, 77th Legislature and reflects the findings of ESL report to SECO. PNL ResCheckTM software may be used for envelope calculation, but may not be used for performance compliance reporting according to 405.4. Effective April 1, 2011, this amendment becomes more stringent than the mandated Texas Building Energy Performance Standards.)

*****Section 402.2; Add Section 402.2.12 to read as follows:**

Section 402.2.12 Insulation installed in walls. Insulation batts installed in walls shall be totally surrounded by an enclosure on all sides consisting of framing lumber, gypsum, sheathing, wood structural panel sheathing or other equivalent material approved by the building official.

(Reason: This will increase the performance of the batt insulation by eliminating the potential for drafts and insure that the batt insulation stays in place.)

*****Section 405.4.1; add the following sentence to the end of paragraph:**

RemRateTM, Energy GaugeTM, and IC3 are deemed acceptable performance simulation programs.

(Reason: These are the only software tools certified at the time of adoption to meet RESNET performance requirements.)

END