



Setting the Standards for
Home Energy Efficiency

Interpretation on ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014 Reference Home Crawlspace

Designation: 301-2014-09

Approved: September 12, 2016, by SDC 300, Testing, Calculation and Labeling for Home Energy Ratings

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Applies to: ANSI/RESNET 301-2014 Table 4.2.2(1)

Interpretation:

If: A Proposed Home has a conditioned crawl space foundation with insulated foundation walls and an uninsulated framed floor above the crawl space.

Then: The Reference Home shall be configured with a vented crawlspace. The framed floor above the crawlspace shall be insulated according to Table 4.2.2(2) as a “Floor over unconditioned space”. The walls of the HERS Reference Home crawlspace shall be uninsulated.

If: A Proposed Home has a crawlspace foundation with any combination of conditioned or unconditioned crawlspace and insulated or uninsulated foundation walls.

Then: The Reference Home shall be configured with a vented crawlspace. The framed floor above the crawlspace shall be insulated according to Table 4.2.2(2) as a “Floor over unconditioned space”. The walls of the HERS Reference Home crawlspace shall be uninsulated.

Rationale:

There is inconsistency with how the currently accredited HERS Rating Tools configure the HERS Reference Home for Proposed Homes with conditioned crawlspaces. Consistent configurations of the reference crawlspace are critical, as the differences that exist across software tools today can regularly lead to HERS Index discrepancies of 10 or more points.