



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

**Interpretation:** Percentage of Area Required for Visual Insulation Verification

**Designation:** 301-2019-014

**Approved:** June 2, 2020 by RESNET SDC 300

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2020

**Reference:**

Standard: ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019  
Page Number(s): B-7 through B-9 and B-13 through B-14  
Sections(s): Foundation Wall, Slab-on-Grade and Above Grade Wall  
Insulation Inspection Protocols  
Table(s):  
Relating to: Percentage of insulation that must be visually verified

**Request from:**

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**Background Statement:** Provided by person requesting the interpretation.

If 100% of the insulated area cannot be visually confirmed, alternative inspection criteria are given. The first portion of the alternative protocol states that “a minimum of 25%” of the insulated area shall be visually confirmed and the remaining may be confirmed through photographs. However, a final statement in each section states that if the insulation cannot be visually verified immediately after installation, “it may be verified through comprehensive photographs that comply with the requirements given above.” This appears to indicate that 0% visual confirmation is acceptable. Is the minimum visual confirmation required 25% or is it 0%?

**Proposed Interpretation:** Provided by person requesting the interpretation.



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If 100% of the insulated area cannot be visually confirmed, a minimum of 25% of the area must be visually confirmed to determine installation grading and the remainder may be confirmed using comprehensive photographs with the grade of the visually confirmed area being given to the entire insulated area as long as the photographs do not show additional deficiencies. If the insulation cannot be visually confirmed at all, for example for a new home past the construction stage where the visual inspection would have been possible, then comprehensive photographs that comply with the requirements, if available, may be used to verify location, thickness, type, and R-Value, and the insulation shall be graded as Grade III. If photographs are not available and visual confirmation is impossible, slabs and foundation walls will be considered uninsulated and above grade walls will be verified using the “Existing insulation in walls” protocol from page B-14.

**SDC Response:**

Is the proposed interpretation correct?      Yes      No

**SDC Comments:**

No additional comment.