



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

**Interpretation:** Attic Exterior Air Sealing and Insulating Inspection Protocols

**Designation:** 380-2019-002

**Approved:** April 22, 2020 by RESNET SDC 300

**Effective Date:** May 21, 2020

**Reference:**

Standard	ANSI/RESNET/ICC 380-2019
Page Number(s):	_____
Sections(s):	__4.2.4.1 and 4.2.4.2__
Table(s):	_____
Relating to:	__Infiltration Testing__

**Request from:**

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

In Standard 380 section 4.2. Procedure to Prepare the Building or Dwelling Unit for Testing, item 4.2.4.1 and 4.2.4.2 address air sealing and insulation of sealed attics, but only address the roof deck. Many sealed attics also have gable-end walls and may have floor areas above unconditioned space. My assumption is that the same air sealing and insulation requirements regarding opening or closing the interior and exterior accesses, hatches and vents apply to these areas as well.

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

If an attic is not both air sealed and insulated at the roof deck, any exterior gable walls, and any attic floor over Unconditioned Space Volume access doors and hatches between the Conditioned Space Volume and the attic shall be closed. Exterior attic access doors,



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hatches and vents shall be left in their as-found position. However, if an attic is both air sealed and insulated at the roof deck, any exterior gable walls, and any attic floor over Unconditioned Space Volume, interior access doors and hatches between the Conditioned Space Volume and the attic shall be opened. Exterior attic access doors, vents, and hatches shall be closed to the extent possible.

**SDC Response:**

Is the proposed interpretation correct?       Yes in Principal       No

**SDC Comments:**

While the roof deck is explicitly called out in Section 4.2.4.1 and 4.2.4.2, the intent is that the entirety of the volume within the exterior envelope be included in the tested volume. Only in cases where all of the exterior surfaces of the attic volume, including the exterior gable walls and any attic floor over Unconditioned Space Volume, are air sealed and insulated should interior access doors and hatches between the Conditioned Space Volume and the attic be opened during the test.