



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

Interpretation: Position of exterior garage fenestrations during infiltration testing using the door between the conditioned space and the garage

Designation: 380-2019-006

Approved: March 18, 2020 by RESNET SDC 300

Effective Date: April 16, 2020

Reference:

Standard ANSI/RESNET/ICC 380-2019
Page Number(s): _____
Sections(s): 4.2.2 and 4.3.1.1
Table(s): _____
Relating to: Infiltration Testing

Request from:

Name: Sharla Riead, Accurate Rater Network
Affiliation: Rating Quality Assurance Provider
Address: 11601 Orchard Road
City: Kansas City State: MO Zip: 64134
Email: sharla@accuraterater.com

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

In section 4.2. Procedure to Prepare the Building or Dwelling Unit for Testing item 4.2.2 states that if “the Blower Door is installed between the Conditioned Space Volume and the garage” then “the garage shall be opened to outside by opening at least one exterior garage door.” However, in section 4.3. Procedures to Install the Test Apparatus and Prepare for Airtightness Test item 4.3.1.1 states that if the Blower Door is installed in a doorway “between the Conditioned Space Volume and an Unconditioned Space Volume” which would include the garage, that “all operable exterior windows and doors of the Unconditioned Space Volume are opened to the outdoors.” This leads me to believe that, if there is more than one exterior garage door or window, that all exterior garage doors and windows must be open for the infiltration test if the Blower Door is installed in the



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door between the conditioned space and garage and opening just one would not be acceptable in this case.

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

If the Blower Door is installed in the door between the conditioned space and garage during infiltration testing, then all operable exterior windows and doors of the garage must be opened to the outdoors during the test.

SDC Response:

Is the proposed interpretation correct? Yes No

SDC Comments:

Because Section 4.2.2 specifically defines how to configure garages when preparing the building or dwelling unit for testing (i.e., the garage shall be opened to outside by opening at least one exterior garage door”), this section should be followed rather than the more general guidance in Section 4.3.1.1.

Note that in response to this interpretation request, future amendments will be considered that better align the guidance between Section 4.2.2 and 4.3.1.1. Thank you for noting this ambiguity so that it can be resolved.