



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

Interpretation: Pre-Manufactured Exterior Wall Assembly Grading

Designation IR 301-2022-009

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in Standard:

ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2022

Page Number(s): page 47

Section(s): 4.2.2.3.1

Table(s):

Relating to: Insulation quality of pre-manufactured assembly.

Background: Section 4.2.2.3.1 of ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2022 states: *The insulation of the Energy Rating Reference Home enclosure elements shall be modeled as Grade I. The insulation of the Rated Home shall either be inspected according to procedures Normative Appendix A or if confirmed to be present but not fully inspected, shall be modeled as Grade III and shall be recorded as “not inspected” in the rating.*

Two exceptions are provided. The second one (b) states: *The R-Values for nonstructural materials or for Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs), Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs) and other premanufactured assemblies when accompanied by supporting test data consistent with ASTM C177, ASTM C518, ASTM C1114, ASTM C1363 or ASTM C976.*

It's unclear what the SIPs, ICFs, and pre-manufactured assemblies are being exempted from and whether they get an insulation quality Grade of I or II. Are ICFs and pre-manufactured assemblies being exempted from Appendix A since there isn't a procedure there (only a procedure for SIPs is listed)? Or are they exempted from the Grade III text since they are not fully inspected, like a SIP?

Interpretation: *(Proposed by the petitioner)*
I interpret the Exception for Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs), ICFs and other pre-manufactured assemblies with insulation that cannot be fully inspected to mean that the insulation for these assemblies in the Rated Home can be modeled as Grade I and the R-value shall be taken from thermal conductance test reports in the Rated Home when accompanied by supporting test data consistent with ASTM C177, C518, C1114, C1363 or C976.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

SDC Answer: Yes

SDC Comments: The Committee agrees with this interpretation and will consider an Addendum in the future to make this intent clear within the Standard.