



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

Interpretation: Conflicts between RESNET Standards of Practice and ANSI 301

Designation MINHERS-2019-004

Approved: October 2, 2019 by RESNET SDC 300

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in Standard:
 MINHERS,
 ANSI/RESNET/IC
 C 301-2014,
 ANSI/RESNET/IC
 C 301-2019 &
 Standards of
 Practice

Page Number(s): 301 2019: B-53 & p64 ; 301 2014: p39; Standards of Practice: p6

Section(s): _____

Table(s): _____

Relating to: _____



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Background: This interpretation request relates to the inconsistency in the requirements in three different Standards documents (ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019, ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014, and RESNET Home Energy Rating Standards of Practice (June 18, 2014)), that are all referenced from RESNET Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Standards (MINHERS).

In general, the RESNET Home Energy Rating Standards of Practice seem to have not been updated since ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301 was updated and now contains duplicative and/or contradictory statements and requirements. A specific example: the RESNET Home Energy Rating Standards of Practice does not list dwelling unit mechanical ventilation systems as a minimum rated feature, while ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019 does.

Additionally, the RESNET website states the following: “The Standards of Practice were adopted by the RESNET Board of Directors to help clients of rating services understand what is and what is not required in a home energy audit/rating.” This implies that the document was not intended for Raters or Providers, however, the Standards of Practice are also referenced in multiple instances within RESNET Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Standards (MINHERS) creating confusion about its purpose.

It is suggested to update the Standards of Practice to defer to requirements from ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301, ideally with a reference to the relevant sections in 301, so that there is consistent reflection of current requirements and not contradicting requirements in different documents. Alternatively, clarity could be provided within MINHERS, in each instance that the Standards of Practice are referenced (see 903.5.1.2, 903.5.1.3, 905.2.1, 1002.5.5).

In the interim, this interpretation request is being submitted, to bring clarity to Raters, Providers, and QA Designees, about which requirements take precedence when complying with MINHERS: the requirements in the Standards of Practice or in ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301.

(This statement should identify what is unclear or contradictory in the standard and why clarification is necessary.)



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Interpretation: Where the RESNET Standards of Practice has overlapping or conflicting statements or requirements with ANSI/RESNET/ICC Standard 301, or does not include statements or requirements present in ANSI/RESNET/ICC Standard 301, the items in Standard 301 supersede those in the RESNET Standards of Practice.

*(State what you consider the clarification should be. **Your interpretation must be stated such that the SDC can answer “Yes” or “No”.** Note: Interpretations are solely the opinion of the SDC. There is no public review or comment incorporated in their development. Interpretations should not create new requirements for national consensus standards.)*

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

SDC Answer: Yes

SDC Comments: Requirements or statements in ANSI/RESNET/ICC Standard 301 supersede those in the RESNET Standards of Practice. The Standards of Practice are scheduled to be updated in 2020 and will address this issue.