

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Residential Duct Insulation R-Values in 2007

Code: 2006 Energy Code
2002 Residential Code

Date: November 30, 2006

Section: Chapter 5 and 6, 2006 Energy Code
Chapter 11, 2002 Residential Code

Question:

Beginning January 1, 2007 regarding one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses, are the duct insulation requirements found in the 2006 Energy Code mandatory or may I continue to use the provisions found in Chapter 11 of the 2002 Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Townhouses?

Answer:

The provisions of Chapter 11 of the 2002 Residential Code for One-and Two-Family Dwellings and Townhouses may continue to be used for as long as that code remains effective. The effective date will be at least through June 31, 2007. The new 2006 Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Townhouses is planned to be effective July 1, 2007. There will probably be a six month transition period until January 1, 2008 that the 2002 Residential Code may continue to be used.

Because the 2002 Residential Code, Chapter 11 in particular, remains in effect and the 2006 Energy Code became effective July 1, 2006, we have a period of overlapping requirements between the two codes. This allows that a choice by the owner, designer, etc., can be made between using either set of requirements as long as both remain effective. The choice will need to be brought to the attention of the inspection department so that they can inspect to the proper set of requirements that were selected.

Therefore, duct insulation requirements are dependent on the compliance path selected.