

CHAPTER 4215
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
MODEL ENERGY CODE AMENDMENTS

4215 1400 AMENDMENT TO SECTION 201
 VAPOR BARRIER
 4215 2100 AMENDMENT TO 502.2.1
 FOUNDATION WALLS
 4215 2200 AMENDMENT TO 502.2.1 VAPOR
 BARRIERS

4215 2450 AMENDMENT TO 502.4.3
 4215 2750 AMENDMENT TO 503.4.5.1
 4215 4700 AMENDMENT TO 602.2.6
 4215 4901 AMENDMENT TO 603.1

4215.1400 AMENDMENT TO SECTION 201: VAPOR BARRIER.

On page 10 of the code, section 201 is amended by adding a new definition to read:

VAPOR BARRIER. A material to retard air and water vapor passage designed to meet a maximum perm rating of 0.1 grain per hour per ft² per inch Hg pressure differential. Polyethylene material that is not cross-laminated which is used to meet the requirements of this paragraph must be designed to have a minimum thickness of four mills.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J 03, 116J.10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*

4215.2100 AMENDMENT TO 502.2.1: FOUNDATION WALLS.

On page 19 of the code, 502.2.1 is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

502.2.1.6 Foundation walls. Foundation walls enclosing heated or conditioned spaces must be insulated.

Either the thermal resistance (R) of the insulation on the entire opaque foundation wall must be not less than R-5, or the thermal resistance (R) of the insulation on the opaque foundation wall must be not less than R-10 from the top of the wall down to the design frost line. If the top of the footing is at or above the design frost line, the thermal resistance (R) of the insulation on the wall must not be less than R-5 from the top of the wall to the top of the footing.

All insulation used in or on foundation walls must be approved for the intended use. The insulation must be installed in accordance with the approved manufacturer's specifications.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J 03, 116J 10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*

4215.2200 AMENDMENT TO 502.2.1: VAPOR BARRIERS.

On page 19 of the code, 502.2.1 is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

502.2.1.7 Vapor barriers. Vapor barriers are required to maintain the thermal performance of required insulation and the integrity of building materials against cold weather water vapor condensation. A vapor barrier must be installed between the interior surface and the winter design condition dew point location within each building envelope surface. The vapor barrier must be continuous and uninterrupted. Rips in the vapor barrier must be patched with vapor barrier materials and sealed. The vapor barrier need not be continuous at electrical, mechanical, or plumbing penetrations.

EXCEPTIONS: A vapor barrier need not be installed on the rim joist insulation.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J.03; 116J 10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*

4215.2450 MODEL ENERGY CODE AMENDMENTS

4215.2450 AMENDMENT TO 502.4.3.

On page 23 of the code, 502.4.3 is amended as follows:

502.4.3.I Exterior joints in the building envelope that are sources of air leakage, such as around window and door frames, between wall cavities and window or door frames, between walls and foundations, between walls and roofs or ceilings and between wall panels, openings at penetrations of utility services through walls, floors, and roofs, and all other similar openings in the building envelope must be caulked, gasketed, or otherwise sealed in an approved manner. A continuous air barrier must be provided at all electrical, mechanical, and plumbing penetrations.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J.03; 116J.10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*

4215.2750 AMENDMENT TO 503.4.5.1.

On page 27 of the code, section 503.4.5.1 is amended to read:

These requirements apply to, but are not limited to, unitary (central) cooling equipment (air cooled, water cooled, and evaporatively cooled), the cooling mode of unitary (central) and packaged terminal heat pumps (air source and water source), and packaged terminal air conditioners.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J.03; 116J.10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*

4215.4700 AMENDMENT TO 602.2.6.

On page 45 of the code, 602.2 is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

602.2.6 Foundation walls. Foundation walls enclosing heated or conditioned spaces in Group R buildings must be insulated as required in Section 502.2.1.6.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J.03; 116J.10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*

4215.4901 AMENDMENT TO 603.1.

On page 45 of the code, section 603.1 is amended to read:

HVAC devices, components, and their elements must conform to the requirements of this section.

Systems other than combustion heating equipment and unitary cooling and heating equipment regulated from a single point of control must be designed in accordance with the requirements of chapter 5 of this code.

System heating and cooling capacity must meet the requirements of section 503.2.3 of the code.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 116J.03; 116J.10; 116J.19 subd 8*

History: *10 SR 1687*