Proposed amendment submitted by:

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Date: January 5, 2016
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Applicable code: IRC 2015
Applicable code section: N1102

Current language (including section numbers and include prior adopted amendments):

TABLE N1102.1.2 INSULATION AND FENESTRATION REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT.

CLIMATE ZONE 6 – Wood Frame Wall R-Value = 20+5 or 13+10

Footnote h. - First value is cavity insulation and the second value is continuous insulation, so “13+5” means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-5 continuous insulation

Check one:

___ Delete without substitution:

___ Add new section to read as follows:

___ Delete section and substitute the following:

X Revise section to read as follows:

Show Line through material to be deleted.

Underline material to be added.

Proposed code language:

CLIMATE ZONE 6 – Wood Frame Wall R-Value = 20+5 or 13+10

Footnote h. - First value is cavity insulation and the second value is continuous insulation, so “13+5” means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-5 continuous insulation

Reason / Justification:

Continuous insulation, typically rigid foam board, is an effective break to thermal bridging but adds considerable cost to construction. This would now require all homes in Zone 6 to install 1-inch rigid foam on the entire exterior. The cost increase is considerable, including the rigid foam material, additional labor to install and the additional costs of the added 1-inch wall thickness when dealing with window and door installations. There are also complications with the installation of siding.

Alternatively, there is a product available with the rigid foam already incorporated. While this material lowers the installation labor and may relieve the issues with siding, this is an even more costly solution to meet the code requirement.

Financial Analysis/Fiscal Impact of proposed amendment:

While there is some energy savings from the continuous insulation, the $4,500+ additional up front cost has too long a payback period to justify. This requirement may add a small amount of market value to the building.
For Building Code Review Board Use:
Not approved: _____  Approved:  ✔   Approved with modifications: _____
Scheduled Hearing Date:  12 Feb 2016   Exhibit #: RE-16-20-16
Chair’s Signature:  [Signature]   Date:  12 Feb 2016
Printed Name:  [Signature]