Northeast HERS Alliance

Standards Committee Meeting

November 13, 2019

**Standards in Public Comment**

# *****RESNET MINHERS Addendum 43***** *-* *****Implementation of MINHERS Standards*****

Proposed Addendum 43 amends the MINHERS Chapter 5 to add alternative dates to the Building Permit Date for required implementation of amendments to the MINHERS standards. The amendment also: moves substantive requirements from definitions to the requirements sections; establishes criteria for determining an optional Voluntary Compliance Date when a Transition Period is authorized, and; sets January 1 or July 1 as the Mandatory Compliance Date for amendments. The comment period ended on November 12.

*Note to Raters: Addendum 43 tries to explicitly identify voluntary and required timelines when new software or standards changes are released. They typically work on a 6 month timeframe from voluntary to mandatory.*

# *****Draft PDS-02 of proposed Addendum 34: Quality Assurance Data File**********Comment Period October 28, 2019 – November 26, 2019*****

Proposed Addendum 34 amends the RESNET Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Standards minimum requirements for the QA Data File. Currently, there is only the generic definition for Quality Assurance Data File and the definition does not establish a minimum acceptable threshold for the data that must be furnished to the provider and maintained by the provider for 10% File QAs. The proposed addendum identifies what a QA Data File must include as a minimum and is intended to improve  the consistency, transparency, and effectiveness of File QAs.

**Standards, Amendments and Interpretations Approved by RESNET**

***RESNET MINHERS Addendum 30 – QA Requirements***

The RESNET Standards Management Board has adopted Addendum 30 that incorporates a second set of Quality Assurance upgrades.

The major changes from Addendum 30 are:

• QA Delegates are being eliminated
     º Everyone conducting QA reviews needs to be a certified Quality Assurance Designee
• Pre-dry wall QA reviews are permitted
     º May replace 10%, but no more than 25% of the required reviews
• Remote field QA reviews are permitted
     º Still need to complete one “live” QA annually
• Field and File QA checklist will be a requirement for QA Reviews

To view the amended standard go to [Addendum 30](https://t.e2ma.net/click/2rjnl1/q6q9afc/ud3morg). Please note this version shows changes to the 2014 MINHERS and doesn’t show all current requirements so that section numbering will not always line up with the CM MINHERS.

Addendum 30 was developed over several years beginning with a public review draft that received an overwhelming response. RESNET Standard Development Committee 900 reviewed those comments and made substantial improvements to that strawman draft. The Addendum was then completed via public review and comment on three successive committee consensus drafts and modifications in response to those comments. RESNET would like to extend a huge thanks to all those who participated in this major enhancement of the QA procedures including those who reviewed and commented on the four drafts and the members and leadership of SDC 900 who deliberated and responded to the comments received from the public.

Under RESNET’s recently revised procedures for implementation of changes to the MINHERS standards that govern the HERS, a Transition Period can be established to provide a lead time from when an amendment takes effect for voluntary use, the Effective Date, and when compliance becomes mandatory. The Effective Date for Addendum 30 is January 1, 2020. A six-month Transition Period has been authorized such that the mandatory compliance date for the changes the Addendum makes to QA requirements is July 1, 2020. If any provisions of Addendum 30 are used during the voluntary compliance period, all of the provisions in the addendum are required to be used. All of the provisions in Addendum 30 are required to be used on July 1, 2020.

***RESNET 301-2019 Addendum A – Clothes Washers, Dryers and Dishwashers***

# [Addendum A](https://t.e2ma.net/click/ikoqu1/q6q9afc/6ybpcug), revises the criteria of Standard ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019 to correlate with current DOE testing and calculation requirements and FTC labeling requirements for clothes washers and dryers and dishwashers. Addendum A-2019 is intended for use with ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019 and its compliance dates are consistent with those for Standard 301-2019, voluntary compliance October 1, 2019, and mandatory compliance July 1, 2020.

# *Note to Raters: The required specs for the clothes washer, dryers and dishwashers remains unchanged. All the calculation adjustments will be handled in the rating software.*

# Interpretations

# *****MINHERS 2019-002, Duct Insulation Inspection*****

The Interpretation Request (IR) sought clarification of inspection requirements for verifying the insulation value of foil products used as duct insulation. RESNET Standard Development Committee 300 responded that RESNET standards currently do not have requirements on which to base an interpretation. The issue will be added to the list of topics to be pursued during the next update of the standards. The Committee agreed that guidance in this area is necessary during the interim and included in its comments, references to current Federal Trade Commission regulations for insulation products and to appropriate test standards. Click [here](https://t.e2ma.net/click/aq7eg2/q6q9afc/27ze20g) to learn more.

# *****MINHERS 2019-003, Addendum 36 QAD Professional Development*****

Standard Development Committee 200 issued this interpretation to clarify that QADs who are actively reviewing other raters' work, but not actively performing ratings as the “Rater of record” must comply with the requirement of the MINHERS Chapter 2 Section 102.1.2.4.3:  “Certified Home Energy Raters who have not completed any Confirmed, Sampled, or Threshold ratings within the three-year certification period shall successfully complete one RESNET graded-field evaluation, in addition to satisfying either 102.1.2.4.1 or 102.1.2.4.2". Click [here](https://t.e2ma.net/click/aq7eg2/q6q9afc/i00e20g) to learn more.

## ***MINHERS 2019-004, Conflicts of Standard 301 with******RESNET Standards of Practice***

The Interpretation Request (IR) sought clarification of whether Standard ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-xxxx supersedes the RESNET Standards of Practice when statements or requirements of the two overlap or are in conflict or Standard 301 has statements or requirements not in the Standards of Practice. Standard Development Committee 300 responded that the statements and requirements of Standard ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301 supersede those in the RESNET Standards of Practice. Click [here](https://t.e2ma.net/click/m7o1e2/q6q9afc/6ucrr2g)to read more.

## ***ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019-003, Total Duct Leakage Used as Duct Leakage to Outside***

The Interpretation Request (IR) sought clarification of whether the total duct leakage value can be used in software as if it were leakage to the outside for calculating an ERI. Standard 380-2019, the testing procedure standard referenced by Standard 301-2019, indicates total duct leakage can be used for duct leakage to outside. Standard Development Committee 300 responded that total duct leakage can be used for duct leakage to outside in calculation of an ERI. Click [here](https://t.e2ma.net/click/m7o1e2/q6q9afc/mndrr2g) to read more.

# *****ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014-018, Ventilation Run Time*****

# *****ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019-002, Ventilation Run Time*****

The Interpretation Request (IR) sought clarification: whether when an installed whole house mechanical ventilation system lacks controls, or where such control system is not set up, powered or wired to ensure the system provides continuous or intermittently “programmed” ventilation at the time of a rater’s final inspection qualifies as a Whole House Mechanical Ventilation System; what the impact is on air exchange and fan energy, and; whether the “daily run hours” shall be determined by the controller setting at the time of a rater’s final inspection, or shall it be set at the maximum possible runtime the controller could provide, or shall it be set to meet the runtime of ASHRAE 62.2 assuming sufficient ventilation airflow is present to meet the standard. See the SDC 300 response at [No. 301-2014-018](https://t.e2ma.net/click/62yhl2/mroybfc/2rj3t3g).

1. Where Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation Systems are specified but at the time of rater inspection lack controls to provide continuous or “programmed” intermittent operation, or where controls are not powered, wired, or set-up to enable verification of mechanical ventilation system operation, the system does not meet the definition of a “Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System,” and the Rated Home is therefore considered a residence “without Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation Systems” in the context of Air Exchange Rate.

*SDC 300 Answer: Yes. To meet the definition of a “Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System”, if the system is not running continuously, it must be verified and observed by the Rater to operate on an automatic or “programmed intermittent schedule”. If it is not verified to do so at the time of inspection, it does not meet the definition and cannot be modeled as a “Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System”.*

1. With respect to “Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System” fan energy, since the system was “specified”, fan energy would follow the requirements in the applicable column for the Energy Rating Reference Home and Rated Home and as modified by MINHERS Addendum 39. This is similar to the approach for systems “without measured airflow”, in that same Addendum.

*SDC 300 Answer: No. If the system is not operating because the “systems lack controls, or where such control systems are not set up, powered or wired to ensure the system provides continuous or intermittently programmed ventilation at the time of a rater’s final inspection”, that system is also not observed to be using fan energy, an no fan energy should be modeled in either the Reference or Rated Home. This system does not qualify as a “Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System” with respect to air exchange rate or fan energy*

1. Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System “daily run hours” entered into the Approved Software Rating Tool shall be based on the ventilation controller run time setting present at time of rater final inspection.

*SDC 300 Answer: Yes. Addendum N of ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014 introduces Appendix B, where it is stated that the Rater is documenting the run time as present and verified at the time of inspection.*