

GEW75-14

605.1.1.1 (New)

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Add new text as follows:

605.1.1.1 Fenestration limitations. Where buildings comply with Section C402.3 of the *International Energy Conservation Code*, the total area of vertical fenestration, other than opaque doors and opaque spandrel panels, shall not be greater than 20 percent of the gross area of the above grade walls.

Reason: Unless a building is designed for daylighting, the prescriptive requirements for vertical fenestration limit the area to 30% of the gross above-grade wall area. This change proposal limits this area to 20%.

While a 10% minimum improvement over the IECC prescriptive criteria is arguably 'better' on paper, in reality it translates to little meaningful improvement to the thermal efficiency of the opaque wall surface. If meaningful improvements are desired, apply them where they will accomplish the most return. Note this change only impacts the application of the prescriptive energy efficiency requirements.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction.

Analysis: The International Energy Conservation Code section C402.3 referenced in the text of this proposal are section numbers for the 2012 Edition. Due to significant changes approved for the 2015 IECC, the section numbers for the 2015 Edition will be C402.4.

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