

**SWS Variance Request Form**  
**(complete one form for each request)**

<p><b>Proposed State Standard</b></p>	<p><i>The Montana Weatherization Assistance Program Field Guide shall ensure adequate levels of insulation for crawlspaces by allowing a specific fiberglass insulation method where rigid foam or 2-part spray foam is not available, not feasible or will not meet an SIR of 1.0 or greater</i></p>
<p><b>Relevant SWS(s)</b></p>	<p><i>4.1402.1a</i></p>
<p><b>Objective of Relevant SWS</b></p>	<p><i>Closed crawl spaces will be insulated to achieve the best thermal performance possible</i></p>
<p><b>Difference between Proposed and SWS Language</b></p>	<p><i>Section 4.1402.1a specifies “a non-fibrous, fire-rated Class I insulation will be used with a minimum life expectancy of 10 years” will be used in closed crawl spaces.</i></p> <p><i>The difference between the proposed variance and the SWS is the omission of “non-fibrous” from the specification.</i></p> <p><i>This variance will allow for a specific installation method for fiberglass insulation systems where rigid foam or 2-part foam are not available, not feasible or not appropriate. This method has been designed by our Technical Committee for our cold, dry climate (Zone 6).</i></p>
<p><b>Specific Conditions Where Variance will Apply</b></p>	<p><i>This variance will apply where the installation of a foam product is not feasible or cost effective. There will be a preference for the installation of a foam product where possible.</i></p>
<p><b>Reasoning/Justification</b>   <b>(Include supporting technical materials as appropriate)</b></p>	<p><i>In our rural state, 2-part foam is not readily available in all areas. 2-part foam presents health and safety concerns for the worker and the client which may render it inappropriate for use in some instances. Additionally, much of our older housing stock has field stone foundation and stem walls which make the installation of foam board insulation impossible. Further, it is not always possible to install foam board where the access to the crawl space is not large enough to allow sheet goods into the space. In these</i></p>

	<p><i>instances, we are forced to exclude stem wall insulation.</i></p> <p><i>The installation method proposed will be:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The ground cover moisture barrier will continue from the crawl space floor and up the stem wall. The moisture barrier will be attached to the sill plate. Ground cover moisture barrier will be installed in compliance with SWS 2.0403.2</i></li> <li>• <i>R-19 (IECC compliant for Zone 6) un-faced fiberglass will be secured to the sill plate or floor joists to provide a continuous thermal system on the stem wall. Insulation will have a Class I fire rating</i></li> <li>• <i>Air sealing will take place between the crawlspace and the outside to prevent wind washing of the fiberglass insulation</i></li> <li>• <i>Un-faced fiberglass is specified to allow the stem wall to dry to the exterior and the installation to dry to the interior as needed. We do not feel that foil, Vinyl or perforated Vinyl laminated fiberglass will allow the wall system to dry out adequately if moisture is able to penetrate the system; therefore, un-faced fiberglass is specified</i></li> </ul>
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DOE Review Notes:

Required Signatures:

*Marcia Lemon*

*Grantee Representative submitting request*

*2/11/2016*

*Date*

*DOE Technical Approval*

*Date*