

**From:** [noreply@formstack.com](mailto:noreply@formstack.com)  
**To:** [IDHS Variances](#)  
**Subject:** Code Comments, Proposals and Advice  
**Date:** Thursday, October 10, 2019 11:18:35 AM

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## Formstack Submission For: 4202

Submitted at 10/10/19 11:18 AM

**Name:** John Reese

**Email:**

**Phone:**

**Address:** 1155 East 54th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46220

**Indiana  
Code You  
Are  
Commenting  
On:** R905.1.2 and R905.1.3 and Table R301.2(1)

My name is John Reese, CEO of Reese Central Wholesale, the leading supplier of roofing materials to builders and contractors in Indiana for over 70 years.

I have worked in the industry for over 50 years and I have personally trained thousands of roofing contractors and builders on ways to safely and correctly install roofing, siding and flashings for new and existing homes. Preventing water from infiltrating and damaging our homes is my specialty, and I have presented seminars for the roofing industry in Las Vegas, Dallas, and of course Indiana.

Jamie Lancia (Lancia Homes - Fort Wayne), Luke Hoffman (Granite Ridge Builders - Fort Wayne) and Jeff Langston (Old Town Design Group - Carmel) are a few of the builders I have worked with recently, as well as many roofing contractors across Indiana. I have also enjoyed a long working friendship with Greg Furnish.

I am writing to offer my opinion regarding the adoption of R905.1.2 Ice Dam Protection to the Indiana Building Code.

As I'm sure you know, there are currently 27 counties who list yes in the old code requiring Ice Shield Underlayment. These counties are, for the most part, the counties who were mandated to check yes because their average January temperature was under 25 degrees, which was one of the original criteria. That criteria has been removed.

I have seen hundreds of walls destroyed by water infiltration caused by ice dams and wind-blown rain along the eaves of the roofs. Most of the damage could have been prevented by combining a self-adhered membrane with drip cap along the eave of the roof. I have attached a few pictures of Indiana ice dams and the damage caused.

The new code requires drip edge along the eaves of all roofs, but drip edge will only be effective in ice dam and wind-blown rain situations if it is used in conjunction with one roll of self-adhered flashing membrane (in this case an "Ice Shield Underlayment") adhered to the drip cap and run along the entire eave of the roof.

Insurance companies will not pay to install Ice Dam Protection unless it is already present or if it is required by code. The insurance companies should be ashamed, but this could easily be remedied by making the Ice Dam Protection requirement the code for the entire state.

Most competent contractors install Ice Dam Protection at their own expense, putting them at a competitive disadvantage when "storm chasers" cut corners following a hail storm in Indiana.

Indiana homeowners would greatly benefit from state-wide consistency.

**Comment or  
Proposal:**

Over the years, many builders and contractors have complained to me that some of the requirements for ice barriers were confusing and illogical. And I agreed. The code as written by the IRC and IBC is outdated and inefficient.

Our codes should ensure that Indiana homeowners are protected with building standards that are up-to-date, effective and easy to understand at the least possible cost.

Owens Corning, a global leader in construction technology, has worked with Indiana's leading roofing contractors to offer a suggested alternative to existing Ice Dam Protection codes. You may read the suggested code language below.

The code eliminates the confusing "24" inside of the the outside wall rule" and in fact would require only one roll of self-adhering ice dam protection for most residential construction.

The revised code would be easier to understand, less expensive and allow contractors and builders a path to straight-forward compliance. It would also protect Indiana homeowners from the inevitable water damaged caused by leaving the eaves unprotected with effective flashing.

It would be very confusing if "Ice Shield Underlayment" is required only in selected counties and municipalities. If nothing changes, some counties and municipalities will adopt the IBC code, adding to increased cost and confusion for builders and contractors.

I urge you to support the revised code language submitted by Owens Corning.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

John Reese  
CEO  
Reese Wholesale  
1155 E 54 street  
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Revised code language suggested by Owens Corning:  
R905.1.2 Ice dam leak barriers. In areas where there has been a history of ice dams forming along the eaves

and on roof surfaces causing a backup of water as designated in Table R301.2(1) an ice dam leak barrier shall be installed for asphalt shingles, metal roof shingles, mineral-surfaced roll roofing, slate and slate-type shingles, wood shingles and wood shakes. The ice dam leak barrier shall consist of not fewer than two layers of underlayment cemented together, or a self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen sheet, complying with ASTM D1970, installed in place of normal underlayment. The ice dam leak barrier shall extend from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point 24 inches (610 mm) up the slope of the roof from the vertical plane of the exterior side of the exterior wall framing. Where the ice dam leak barrier intersects with a vertical wall before extending to the required distance the ice dam leak barrier shall extend up the vertical face of that wall a minimum four inches (102 mm). On roofs with slope equal to or greater than eight units vertical in twelve units horizontal (67-percent slope), the ice dam leak barrier shall be applied for a distance of not less than 36 inches (914 mm) in from, and along, the roof rake edges.

**Exception:**

On roofs with overhangs of 12 inches (305 mm) or less, measured horizontally from the exterior side of the exterior wall framing, the ice dam leak barrier shall be applied from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces 36 inches (914 mm) up the roof slope.

Add a new section, R905.1.3 as follows:

R905.1.3 Ice dam leak barrier. The term “ice barrier” in this code shall have the same meaning as “ice dam leak barrier” described in Section R905.1.2.

Review of TABLE R301.2(1) to make YES for all 92 counties in the State of Indiana

**File:**

[View File](#)





# PROPOSAL FOR CODE CHANGE

State Form 41186 (R3 / 5-10)



## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Only a TYPED copy will be accepted.
2. ~~Dashed line through material to be deleted.~~ Underline or bold face material to be added.
3. Use a second sheet for any material requiring more space.
4. Return this completed form to: Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Code Services, 402 West Washington Street, Room W246, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
Received		Code	
		Proposal number	
Code title <b>Indiana Residential Code</b>		Edition <b>2020</b>	
Section number and title <b>R905.1.2 Ice barriers. R905.1.3 Ice dam leak barrier. TABLE 301.2(1).</b>		Page Number <b>1 of 2, codebook page 436</b>	
Proponent <b>Greg Keeler</b>		Representing (if applicable) <b>Owens Corning</b>	
Address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code) <b>2790 Columbus Road, Granville, OH 43023</b>		Telephone number <b>740-321-6345</b>	

## PROPOSED CODE CHANGE (check one)

☐ Change to read as follows    ☒ Add to read as follows    ☒ Delete and substitute as follows    ☐ Delete without substitution

Delete text and title of Section R905.1.2 and substitute as follows and add Section R905.1.3:

**R905.1.2 Ice dam leak barriers.** In areas where there has been a history of ice dams forming along the eaves and on roof surfaces causing a backup of water as designated in Table R301.2(1) an ice dam leak barrier shall be installed for asphalt shingles, metal roof shingles, mineral-surfaced roll roofing, slate and slate-type shingles, wood shingles and wood shakes. The ice dam leak barrier shall consist of not fewer than two layers of underlayment cemented together, or a self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen sheet, complying with ASTM D1970, installed in place of normal underlayment. The ice dam leak barrier shall extend from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point 24 inches (610 mm) up the slope of the roof from the vertical plane of the exterior side of the exterior wall framing. Where the ice dam leak barrier intersects with a vertical wall before extending to the required distance the ice dam leak barrier shall extend up the vertical face of that wall a minimum four inches (102 mm). On roofs with slope equal to or greater than eight units vertical in twelve units horizontal (67-percent slope), the ice dam leak barrier shall be applied for a distance of not less than 36 inches (914 mm) in from, and along, the roof rake edges.

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<b>REASON STATEMENT AND FISCAL IMPACT</b>
<p>This proposal designates where on residential roofs ice barriers are required and to what distance up the roof or along the rake. The exceptions address different ice damming scenarios of vented and unvented attics, attic insulation installation and the ice damming that occurs at the bottom edge of the roof in the eavespouting. Since the attic insulation package is probably unknown to reroofing contractors Exception #2 gives allowances for only newly constructed roof systems.</p> <p>Fiscal impact: Neutral; some additional material will be needed on roofs with slopes of 8/12 or higher but some roofs will require less material when energy heels are used for the structure, offsetting the costs over the area where the ice dam leak barrier material is required.</p>
<b>REVIEW RECOMMENDATION</b>
Approve
Reject
Approve as amended
Further study































