



CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF CANADA 2010

The National Building Code of Canada 2010 (NBCC 2010) contains many changes from the previous 2005 edition. The most notable updates that affect ICFs are listed below:

Footings and Foundations [9.15.1.1(c)(i)]

The allowable bearing pressure for footings has been reduced from 100 kPa to 75 kPa. This reduction allows ICFs to be built on softer soil.

Openings in Load Bearing Flat Insulating Concrete Form Walls [9.20.17.4(1)]

This is a new clause clarifying that openings cannot be within 1200 mm of interior and exterior corners of exterior load bearing ICF walls. However, for buildings no more than two storeys in building height above grade typical LOGIX reinforcing details can be made available for inside and outside corners of varying thickness.

NOTE: Your local jurisdiction may require independent review of the LOGIX details by a local licensed engineer.

Vapor Barrier Materials [9.25.4.2(6)]

This is a new clause clarifying that foamed plastic insulation can act as a vapor barrier provided it is sufficiently thick to meet the vapor barrier requirements. LOGIX thinnest panels of 2.75 inches meet these requirements.

Code requirement: permeance value not greater than $60 \text{ ng}/(\text{Pa}\cdot\text{s}\cdot\text{m}^2)$

LOGIX: permeance value = $36 \text{ ng}/(\text{Pa}\cdot\text{s}\cdot\text{m}^2)$

Updated Codes Expected Release Dates:

- **NBCC 2010**
Available now. Check with your local jurisdictions for planned adoption date.
- **NBCC 2010, Part 9, Energy Efficiency Requirements**
Late 2012

New Energy Efficiency Requirements for NBCC 2010, Part 9, Houses and Small Buildings

The energy code requirements are perhaps the biggest changes made to the 2010 edition of the NBCC.

Similar to the 2005 NBCC, the 2010 NBCC addresses thermal insulation with the objective of minimizing condensation and deterioration of the building envelope without accounting for the energy efficiency of the building.

To address energy efficiency requirements most provinces and territories adopted the Model National Energy Code for Buildings 1997, or the Model National Energy Code for Houses 1997 (MNECB and MNECH 1997, respectively). However, in an effort to streamline and harmonize the Energy Codes with the NBCC, no further updates will be made to the MNECH 1997.

Instead new energy efficient requirements for buildings that fall within the scope of Part 9 of the NBCC is currently under review by the Standing Committee on Energy Efficiency in Buildings (SCEEB). These new energy efficient requirements will be incorporated into Part 9 of the NBCC, and is scheduled to be published in late 2012.

For detailed information on the new Part 9, Energy Efficiency requirements, see Technical Bulletin 32, *Changes to Canadian Energy Codes - Commercial & Residential*.

For further information contact your local LOGIX representative or [e-mail info@logixcf.com](mailto:info@logixcf.com).

Related Articles:

1. Technical Bulletin 23, Thermal Performance: The ICF Effect
2. Technical Bulletin 28, Changes to the US Building Codes 2012
3. Technical Bulletin 30, Total R-value of LOGIX Wall Assemblies
4. Technical Bulletin 32, Changes to Canadian Energy Codes 2012 - Commercial & Residential
5. Technical Bulletin 33, Changes to the US Energy Codes 2012 - Commercial & Residential
6. Technical Bulletin 34, Ontario Energy Codes 2012 - Commercial & Residential