

HOUSE BILL NO 377

LOG WALLS

Log walls with a minimum average wall thickness of five inches or greater which comply with the International Code Council Standard on the Design and Construction of Log Structures, ICC 400-2007, or other successor standard with the department may specify by regulation, shall be permitted in residential buildings if:

1. The area weighted average U-factor for fenestration products in the log walls is a maximum of 0.31; and
2. The building heating equipment meets or exceeds the following Department of Energy ratings:
 - a. Gas furnace – 90 annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE).
 - b. Oil furnace – 85 annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE).
 - c. Boilers – 85 annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE).
 - d. Air source heat pumps – 8.2 heating seasonal performance factor (HSPF) split systems.
 - e. For water-to-air geothermal heat pumps:
 - i. Closed loop water-to-air, an energy efficiency rating of 14.1 and coefficient of performance of 3.3
 - ii. Open loop water-to-air, an energy efficiency rating of 16.2 and coefficient of performance of 3.6.
 - f. For water-to-water geothermal heat pumps:
 - i. Closed loop water-to-water, an energy efficiency rating of 15.1 and coefficient of performance of 3.0.
 - ii. Open loop water-to-water, an energy efficiency rating of 19.1 and coefficient of performance of 3.4.
 - g. For direct geothermal exchange, an energy efficiency rating of 15.0 and coefficient of performance 3.5; or
 - i. The building heating equipment is qualified under the Energy Star program jointly operated by the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency as provided for in 10 CFR Pt. 430 (relating to energy conservation program for consumer products); or
 - ii. All energy efficiency requirements of this act applicable to components other than log walls are met.