

**Oregon Energy Code
Interpretive Ruling No. 92-6
DEFINITION OF A VAULTED CEILING**

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QUESTION CONSIDERED

- What is the minimum ceiling pitch for a vaulted ceiling in a Group R building, three stories and less in height?

APPLICABLE CODE SECTION (Effective January 1, 1992)

Table No. 53-0 and 53-P of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code and One and Two Family Dwelling Specialty Code

The code is silent on the definition of ceiling slope for a vaulted ceiling.

BACKGROUND

The residential energy code effective January 1, 1992, allows reduced insulation values for vaulted ceilings. However, the code does not set the minimum ceiling pitch for vaulted ceilings. Several requests for interpretation were received.

FINDINGS

Definition of a Vaulted Ceiling

- The Technical Working Group used a ceiling slope of 2 in 12 for the scissor truss model in the energy analysis.
- The model for the Technical Working Group White Papers was used as the basis in the analysis throughout the code.

This interpretation is authorized by ORS 455.060, Rulings on Acceptability of Materials, Designs or Methods of Construction and Attorney General's Opinion OP-5208 issued October 1, 1981, which advised that the statute is designed to permit authoritative interpretations of existing code requirements.

Since the code is based on the model used by the Technical Working Group, it is logical to use this as the guide for application of insulation to vaulted ceilings.

CONCLUSION

Definition of a Vaulted Ceiling

- The minimum ceiling pitch for a vaulted ceiling in a Group R building, three stories and less in height shall be 2 in 12.

The Energy Conservation Board and Structural Code Advisory Board make this recommendation as an interpretation to the requirements in Chapter 53, Energy Conservation.

(signed April 8, 1992) Rodger Bekooy, Chairman Energy Conservation Board

(signed April 15, 1992) John Talbott, Chairman Structural Code Advisory Board

Date

Date

The recommendations and findings of the Energy Conservation Board and Structural Code Advisory Board are accepted and the interpretations are adopted as stated above.

(signed April 15, 1992) Gary J. Wicks, Administrator Building Codes Agency

Date