

POLICY:

Policy effective: April 17, 2019

RESIDENTIAL ROOFING UNDERLAYMENT.

2015 IRC R905.1.1 and Table R905.1.1(2) Underlayment.

CODE SECTION:

Table R905.1.1(2). For roof slopes from two units vertical in 12 units horizontal (2:12), up to four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (4:12), underlayment shall be two layers applied in the following manner: apply a 19 inch strip of underlayment felt parallel to and starting at the eaves. Starting at the eave, apply 36 inch wide sheets of underlayment, overlapping successive sheets 19 inches. Distortions in the underlayment shall not interfere with the ability of the shingles to seal.

POLICY:

Self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen underlayment (i.e. ice and water protection) complying with ASTM D 1970 may be used as an alternative for roof coverings in table R905.1.1(2) on slopes from 2:12 up to 4:12 in lieu of the two layers of felt requirement complying with the underlayment types in table R905.1.1(1) provided such alternative installation method meets installation instructions per manufacturers specifications and any applicable testing report criteria for the product being used per 2015 IRC R905.1

COMMENTARY:

The intent of this policy is to provide an alternative compliance path for roof covering types listed in table R905.1.1(2) where the underlayment for roof slopes between a 2:12 and 4:12 pitch roof requires a double layer of felt. Where the code is specific that roof coverings installed on these ranges of slopes must be installed with two layers of felt complying with table R905.1.1(1) this policy allows for the substitution of self-adhered polymer-modified bitumen underlayment in lieu of two layers of felt. The substitution is allowed provided the permit holder verifies this installation method meets approved installation instructions by the manufacturer and any applicable testing report criteria for the product being used, and would not void any or all warranty associated with the materials installed.