

STATE BUILDING CODE OPINION 21-Mar01

CODE: 2018 International Residential Code
2018 Washington State Energy Code, Residential

SECTION: IRC R408.3, Unvented crawl space
WSEC R403.3.7

BACKGROUND: The IRC allows for a conditioned air supply to be delivered to the crawlspace and recirculated to the common area. Washington removed this option in their amendment, so as to not allow communication between the crawlspace and common areas. The amendment allows continuously operated mechanical exhaust but does not require an air intake from the outside.

QUESTION: Can a heat duct be provided into the crawl space which would be mechanically drawn to the exterior and thus not communicating with the common area to provide a conditioned space for ductwork complying with Section R403.3.7 of the Washington State Energy Code, if the other conditions in the amendment to IRC Section R408.3 are met?

ANSWER: **Yes. If the requirements of IRC Section R408.3 and the thermal envelope and air barrier requirements of the Washington State Energy Code are met, this could be considered conditioned space.**

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: Kittitas County

DRAFT