



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL**

May 2018  
Log No. \_\_\_\_\_

**1. State Building Code to be Amended:**

- ☒ International Building Code
- ☐ ICC ANSI A117.1 Accessibility Code
- ☐ International Existing Building Code
- ☐ International Residential Code
- ☐ International Fire Code
- ☐ Uniform Plumbing Code

- ☐ International Mechanical Code
- ☐ International Fuel Gas Code
- ☐ NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code
- ☐ NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
- ☐ Wildland Urban Interface Code

For the Washington State Energy Code, please see specialized [energy code forms](#)

**Section(s): 1609.3**

(e.g.: Section: R403.2)

**Title: Basic wind speed**

(e.g: Footings for wood foundations)

**2. Proponent Name (Specific local government, organization or individual):**

**Proponent:** *R. Scott Douglas, P.E., S.E. representing the Structural Engineers Association of Washington Wind Engineering Committee (SEAW-WEC) [Committee Chair]*

**Title:** SEAW Wind Engineering Committee

**Date:** March 15, 2024

**3. Designated Contact Person:**

**Name:** R. Scott Douglas, P.E., S.E.

**Title:** SEAW Wind Engineering Committee Chair

**Address:** PO Box 3311, Kirkland, WA 98083-3311

**Office Phone:** (206) 920-2715

**Cell:** (206) 920-2715

**E-Mail address:** sdouglasscott@gmail.com

**4. Proposed Code Amendment.** Reproduce the section to be amended by underlining all added language, striking through all deleted language. Insert new sections in the appropriate place in the code in order to continue the established numbering system of the code. If more than one section is proposed for amendment or more than one page is needed for reproducing the affected section of the code, additional pages may be attached.

Clearly state if the proposal modifies an existing amendment or if a new amendment is needed. If the proposal modifies an **existing amendment**, show the modifications to the existing amendment by underlining all added language and striking through all deleted language. If a new amendment is needed, show the modifications to the **model code** by underlining all added language and striking through all deleted language.

**Code(s)** 2024 International Building Code      **Section(s)** 1609.3

**This Proposal is a modification to the 2024 IBC, resulting in a new amendment to the 2024 Washington State Building Code.**

Enforceable code language must be used.  
Amend section (New Amendment) to read as follows:

*User Note: the text highlighted in yellow is copied directly from the 2024 IBC, latest edition.*

### **1609.3 Basic design wind speed.**

The basic wind speed,  $V$ , in mph, for the determination of the wind loads shall be determined by Figures 1609.3(1) through 1609.3(4).

The basic wind speed,  $V$ , for use in the design of Risk Category I buildings and structures shall be obtained from Figure 1609.3(1).

The basic wind speed,  $V$ , for use in the design of Risk Category II buildings and structures shall be obtained from Figure 1609.3(2).

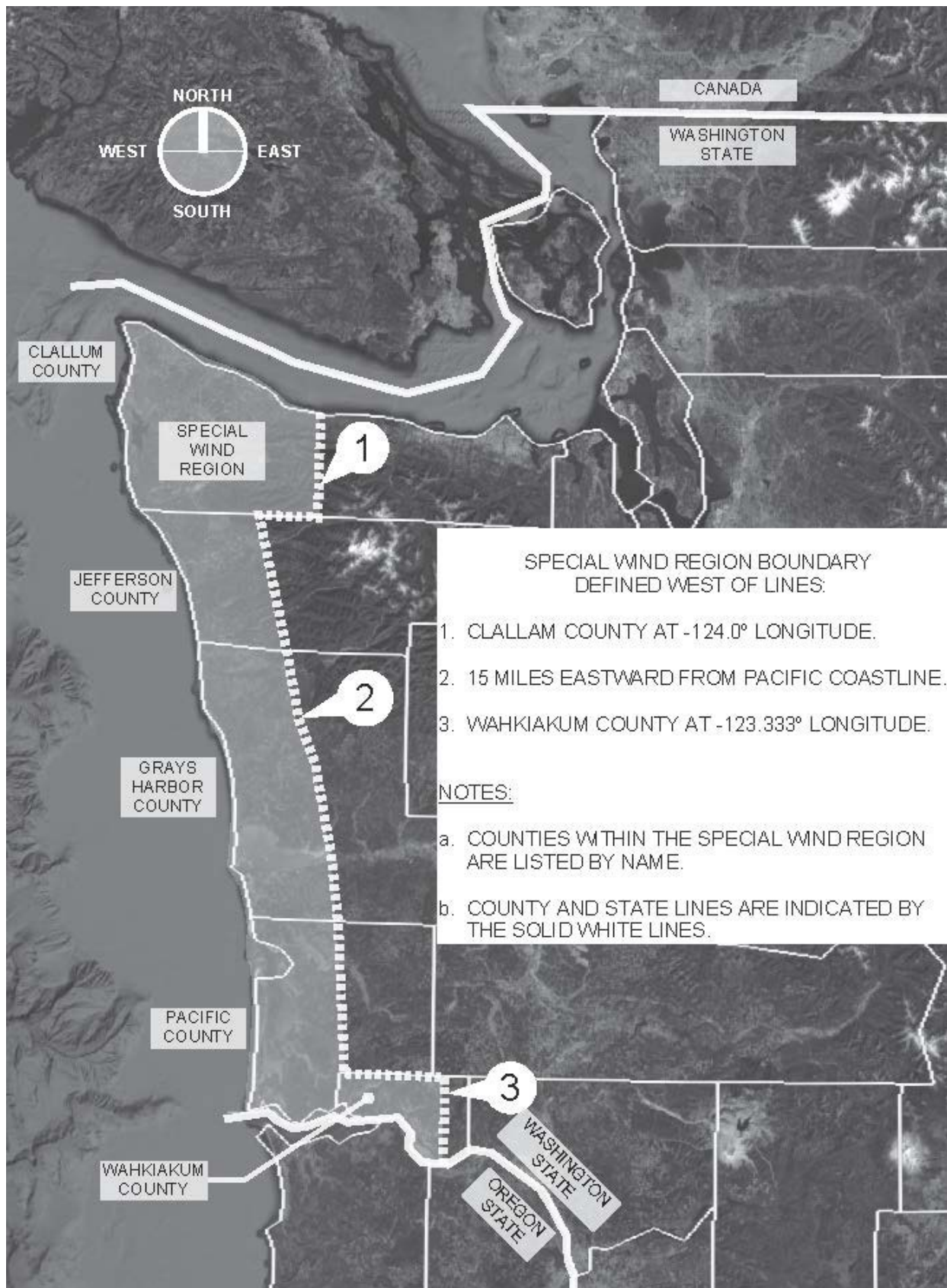
The basic wind speed,  $V$ , for use in the design of Risk Category III buildings and structures shall be obtained from Figure 1609.3(3).

The basic wind speed,  $V$ , for use in the design of Risk Category IV buildings and structures shall be obtained from Figure 1609.3(4).

~~Basic wind speeds for Hawaii, the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico shall be determined by using the ASCE Wind Design Geodatabase. The ASCE Wind Design Geodatabase is available at <https://asce7hazardtool.online>, or an approved equivalent.~~

The basic wind speed,  $V$ , for ~~t~~The special wind regions in Washington State shall be determined as shown in Figure 1609.3(5). The basic wind speed,  $V$ , in the special wind region shall be obtained from Table 1609.3.2. ~~indicated near mountainous terrain and near gorges shall be in accordance with local jurisdiction requirements. The basic wind speeds,  $V$ , determined by the local jurisdiction shall be in accordance with Chapter 26 of ASCE 7.~~

In nonhurricane-prone regions, when the basic wind speed,  $V$ , is estimated from regional climatic data, the basic wind speed,  $V$ , shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 26 of ASCE 7.



**FIGURE 1609.3(5)**  
**SPECIAL WIND REGION BOUNDARIES IN WASHINGTON STATE**

**TABLE 1609.3.2 BASIC WIND SPEEDS IN THE WASHINGTON STATE SPECIAL WIND REGION**

<b>Risk Category (MRI)</b>	<b>Basic Wind Speed V mph (m/sec)</b>
I (100 years)	115 (51)
II (700 years)	120 (54)
III (1700 years)	130 (58)
IV (3000 years)	140 (63)

5. **Briefly explain your proposed amendment, including the purpose, benefits and problems addressed.** Specifically note any impacts or benefits to business, and specify construction types, industries and services that would be affected. Finally, please note any potential impact on enforcement such as special reporting requirements or additional inspections required.

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6. **Specify what criteria this proposal meets.** You may select more than one.
- ☐ The amendment is needed to address a critical life/safety need.
  - ☒ The amendment clarifies the intent or application of the code.
  - ☒ The amendment is needed to address a specific state policy or statute.
  - ☐ The amendment is needed for consistency with state or federal regulations.
  - ☒ The amendment is needed to address a unique character of the state.
  - ☒ The amendment corrects errors and omissions.

7. **Is there an economic impact:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, state reason:

If yes, provide economic impact, costs and benefits as noted below in items a – f.

- a. **Life Cycle Cost.** Use the OFM Life Cycle Cost [Analysis tool](#) to estimate the life cycle cost of the proposal using one or more typical examples. Reference these [Instructions](#); use these [Inputs](#). Webinars on the tool can be found [Here](#) and [Here](#)). If the tool is used, submit a copy of the excel file with your proposal submission. If preferred, you may submit an alternate life cycle cost analysis.

The minor reduction in cost is insignificant, and does not initiate or change any *Life Cycle Costs*.

- b. **Construction Cost.** Provide your best estimate of the construction cost (or cost savings) of your code change proposal.

Click here to enter text./square foot Adoption of this proposal will not result in a per square foot cost increase. Cost savings per square foot will be negligible or very minor for effectively all structures with the adoption of this amendment.

(For residential projects, also provide dwelling unit) For residential projects there will be a negligible or very minor per square foot construction cost savings with the adoption of this amendment.

Show calculations here, and list sources for costs/savings, or attach backup data pages

- c. **Code Enforcement.** List any code enforcement time for additional plan review or inspections that your proposal will require, in hours per permit application: This proposal will not require any additional time for plan review or inspections.
- d. **Small Business Impact.** Describe economic impacts to small businesses: There will not be any impact to existing small businesses.
- e. **Housing Affordability.** Describe economic impacts on housing affordability: There will be a negligible impact to housing affordability per Item 7b.
- f. **Other.** Describe other qualitative cost and benefits to owners, to occupants, to the public, to the environment, and to other stakeholders that have not yet been discussed: This proposal, based on updated climactic data and advanced analysis techniques, accurately identifies and provides consistent, reliable, and complete special wind region boundaries and magnitudes in Washington State.

Please send your completed proposal to: [sbcc@des.wa.gov](mailto:sbcc@des.wa.gov)

**All questions must be answered to be considered complete. Incomplete proposals will not be accepted.**