



Change Request Ruling

Change Request: IAQ Checklist V1

ID #: CR-000023

Submitted By: Chris Dyal

Submitted On: September 10, 2025

Ruling Date: October 14, 2025

Ruling: **Change Request Declined.**

Reason for Backwater Valve Basin Airtight Sealing (1 Point)

Change Request Reason for Change Request and Recommended Alternative:

and Backwater valve basins are a significant but often overlooked entry pathway for radon, VOCs, soil
Recommended gases, and moisture. As homes have become more airtight and slab assemblies more effectively
Alternative: sealed, the backwater valve basin remains one of the last unprotected openings in the basement
floor. Requiring an airtight, dual-sealed cover over the basin ensures air barrier continuity, improves
energy efficiency by preventing cold-air infiltration, and protects occupant health by reducing
exposure to radon and other soil gases.

Benefit:

- Enhances occupant health by blocking radon and VOC entry.
- Complements slab and sump sealing measures to achieve true air barrier continuity.
- Reduces risk of moisture and mould growth from humid air infiltration.
- Supports Net Zero and energy efficiency objectives by preventing unnecessary air leakage through the foundation floor.

Impact on Program Participants:

- Provides builders and renovators with a straightforward, standardized approach to mitigate a recognized health and performance gap.
- Improves alignment between radon mitigation practices and whole-home airtightness strategies already required under the Net Zero program.
- Enhances credibility of Net Zero labelled homes by addressing a known deficiency in current practice.

Cost Implications: Minimal cost increase to participants; pre-engineered retrofit lids are available at modest material and labour cost. Costs are offset by reduced long-term healthcare risks, avoided moisture remediation, and improved energy performance.

Additional Declined. 8 votes not in favour. 0 votes in favour

Comments /

Actions:

Program Participants may use the amendments once they are posted - prior to the official version update.