

APPENDIX F

RADON CONTROL METHODS

Not adopted by the State of Oregon.

SECTION AF101 SCOPE

AF101.1 General. This appendix contains requirements for new construction in jurisdictions where radon-resistant construction is required.

Inclusion of this appendix by jurisdictions shall be determined through the use of locally available data or determination of Zone 1 designation in Figure AF101.

SECTION AF102 DEFINITIONS

AF102.1 General. For the purpose of these requirements, the terms used shall be defined as follows:

SUB-SLAB DEPRESSURIZATION SYSTEM (Passive). A system designed to achieve lower sub-slab air pressure relative to indoor air pressure by use of a vent pipe routed through the conditioned space of a building and connecting the sub-slab area with outdoor air, thereby relying on the convective flow of air upward in the vent to draw air from beneath the slab.

SUB-SLAB DEPRESSURIZATION SYSTEM (Active). A system designed to achieve lower sub-slab air pressure relative to indoor air pressure by use of a fan-powered vent drawing air from beneath the slab.

DRAIN TILE LOOP. A continuous length of drain tile or perforated pipe extending around all or part of the internal or external perimeter of a basement or crawl space footing.

RADON GAS. A naturally-occurring, chemically inert, radioactive gas that is not detectable by human senses. As a gas, it can move readily through particles of soil and rock and can accumulate under the slabs and foundations of homes where it can easily enter into the living space through construction cracks and openings.

SOIL-GAS-RETARDER. A continuous membrane of 6-mil (0.15 mm) polyethylene or other equivalent material used to retard the flow of soil gases into a building.

SUB-MEMBRANE DEPRESSURIZATION SYSTEM. A system designed to achieve lower-sub-membrane air pressure relative to crawl space air pressure by use of a vent drawing air from beneath the soil-gas-retarder membrane.

SECTION AF103 REQUIREMENTS

AF103.1 General. The following construction techniques are intended to resist radon entry and prepare the building for post-construction radon mitigation, if necessary (see Figure AF102). These techniques are required in areas where designated by the jurisdiction.

AF103.2 Subfloor preparation. A layer of gas-permeable material shall be placed under all concrete slabs and other floor systems that directly contact the ground and are within the walls of the living spaces of the building, to facilitate future installation of a sub-slab depressurization system, if needed. The gas-permeable layer shall consist of one of the following:

1. A uniform layer of clean aggregate, a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) thick. The aggregate shall consist of material that will pass through a 2-inch (51 mm) sieve and be retained by a 1/4-inch (6.4 mm) sieve.
2. A uniform layer of sand (native or fill), a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) thick, overlain by a layer or strips of geotextile drainage matting designed to allow the lateral flow of soil gases.
3. Other materials, systems or floor designs with demonstrated capability to permit depressurization across the entire sub-floor area.

AF103.3 Soil-gas-retarder. A minimum 6-mil (0.15 mm) [or 3-mil (0.075 mm) cross-laminated] polyethylene or equivalent flexible sheeting material shall be placed on top of the gas-permeable layer prior to casting the slab or placing the floor assembly to serve as a soil-gas-retarder by bridging any cracks that develop in the slab or floor assembly and to prevent concrete from entering the void spaces in the aggregate base material. The sheeting shall cover the entire floor area with separate sections of sheeting lapped at least 12 inches (305 mm). The sheeting shall fit closely around any pipe, wire or other penetrations of the material. All punctures or tears in the material shall be sealed or covered with additional sheeting.

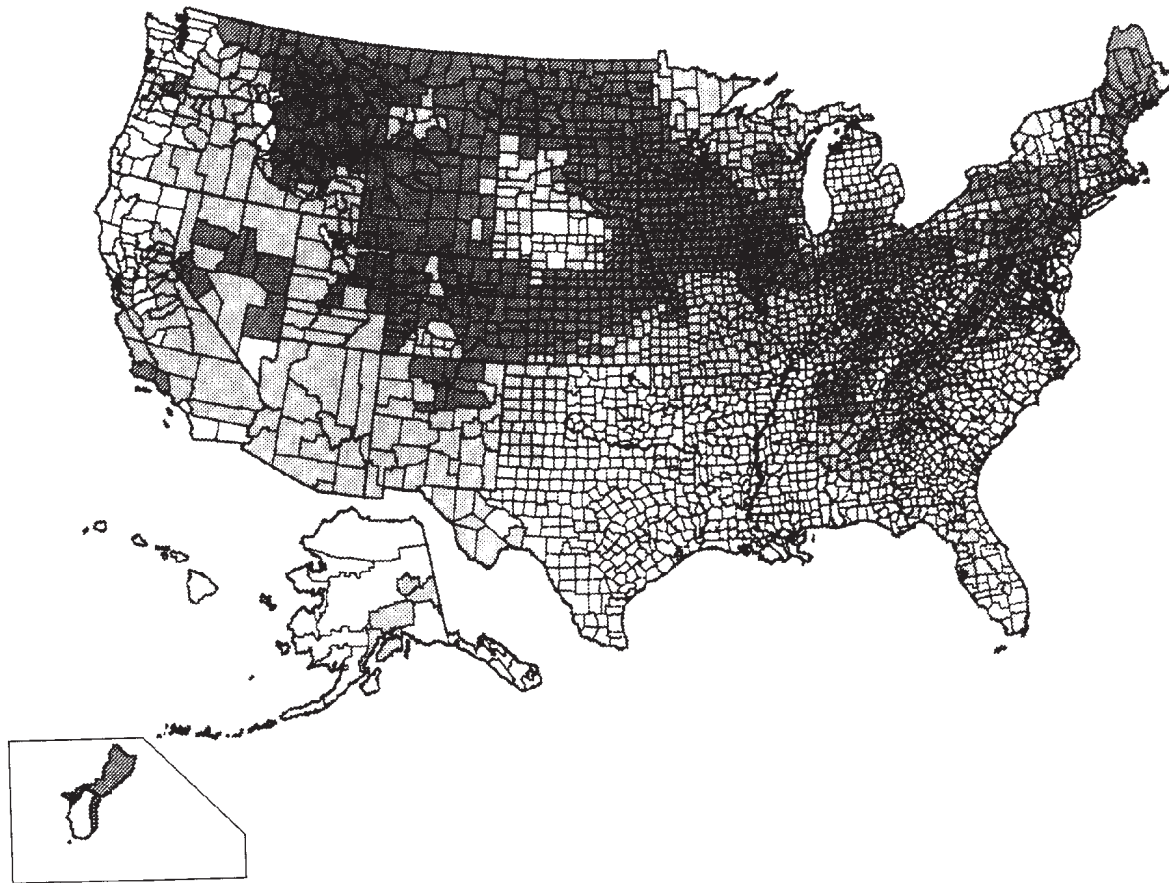
AF103.4 Entry routes. Potential radon entry routes shall be closed in accordance with Sections AF103.4.1 through AF103.4.10.

AF103.4.1 Floor openings. Openings around bathtubs, showers, water closets, pipes, wires or other objects that penetrate concrete slabs or other floor assemblies shall be filled with a polyurethane caulk or equivalent sealant applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.




AF103.4.2 Concrete joints. All control joints, isolation joints, construction joints and any other joints in concrete slabs or between slabs and foundation walls shall be sealed with a caulk or sealant. Gaps and joints shall be cleared of loose material and filled with polyurethane caulk or other elastomeric sealant applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

AF103.4.3 Condensate drains. Condensate drains shall be trapped or routed through nonperforated pipe to daylight.

APPENDIX F



LEGEND

-  ZONE 1 HIGH POTENTIAL (GREATER THAN 4 pCi/L^a)
-  ZONE 2 MODERATE POTENTIAL (FROM 2 TO 4 pCi/L)
-  ZONE 3 LOW POTENTIAL (LESS THAN 2 pCi/L)

a. abpCi/L standard for picocuries per liter of radon gas. EPA recommends that all homes that measure 4 pCi/L and greater be mitigated.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Geological Survey have evaluated the radon potential in the United States and have developed a map of radon zones designed to assist building officials in deciding whether radon-resistant features are applicable in new construction.

The map assigns each of the 3,141 counties in the United States to one of three zones based on radon potential. Each zone designation reflects the average short-term radon measurement that can be expected to be measured in a building without the implementation of radon control methods. The radon zone designation of highest priority is Zone 1. Table 1 of this appendix lists the Zone 1 counties illustrated on the map. More detailed information can be obtained from state-specific booklets (EPA-402-R-93-021 through 070) available through State Radon Offices or from U.S. EPA Regional Offices.

**FIGURE AF101
EPA MAP OF RADON ZONES**

**TABLE AF101(1)
HIGH RADON POTENTIAL (ZONE 1) COUNTIES^a**

ALABAMA	CONNECTICUT	Morgan	Vermillion	Stanton	Hillsdale	Washington
Calhoun	Fairfield	Moultrie	Wabash	Thomas	Jackson	Watsonwan
Clay	Middlesex	Ogle	Warren	Trego	Kalamazoo	Wilkin
Cleburne	New Haven	Peoria	Washington	Wallace	Lenawee	Winona
Colbert	New London	Piatt	Wayne	Washington	St. Joseph	Wright
Coosa	GEORGIA	Pike	Wells	Wichita	Washtenaw	Yellow Medicine
Franklin	Cobb	Putnam	White	Wyandotte	MINNESOTA	MISSOURI
Jackson	De Kalb	Rock Island	Whitley	KENTUCKY	Becker	Andrew
Lauderdale	Fulton	Sangamon	IOWA	Adair	Big Stone	Atchison
Lawrence	Gwinnett	Schuyler	All Counties	Allen	Blue Earth	Buchanan
Limestone	IDAHO	Scott	KANSAS	Barren	Brown	Cass
Madison	Benewah	Stark	Atchison	Bourbon	Carver	Clay
Morgan	Blaine	Stephenson	Barton	Boyle	Chippewa	Clinton
Talladega	Boise	Tazewell	Brown	Bullitt	Clay	Holt
CALIFORNIA	Bonner	Vermilion	Cheyenne	Casey	Cottonwood	Iron
Santa Barbara	Boundary	Warren	Clay	Clark	Dakota	Jackson
Ventura	Butte	Whiteside	Cloud	Cumberland	Dodge	Nodaway
COLORADO	Camas	Winnebago	Decatur	Fayette	Douglas	Platte
Adams	Clark	Woodford	Dickinson	Franklin	Faribault	MONTANA
Arapahoe	Clearwater	INDIANA	Douglas	Green	Fillmore	Beaverhead
Baca	Custer	Adams	Ellis	Harrison	Freeborn	Big Horn
Bent	Elmore	Allen	Ellsworth	Hart	Goodhue	Blaine
Boulder	Fremont	Bartholomew	Finney	Jefferson	Grant	Broadwater
Chaffee	Gooding	Benton	Ford	Jessamine	Hennepin	Carbon
Cheyenne	Idaho	Blackford	Geary	Lincoln	Houston	Carter
Clear Creek	Kootenai	Boone	Gove	Marion	Hubbard	Cascade
Crowley	Latah	Carroll	Graham	Mercer	Jackson	Chouteau
Custer	Lemhi	Cass	Grant	Metcalfe	Kanabec	Custer
Delta	Shoshone	Clark	Gray	Monroe	Kandiyohi	Daniels
Denver	Valley	Clinton	Greeley	Nelson	Kittson	Dawson
Dolores	ILLINOIS	De Kalb	Hamilton	Pendleton	Lac Qui Parle	Deer Lodge
Douglas	Adams	Decatur	Haskell	Pulaski	Le Sueur	Fallon
El Paso	Boone	Delaware	Hodgeman	Robertson	Lincoln	Fergus
Elbert	Brown	Elkhart	Jackson	Russell	Lyon	Flathead
Fremont	Bureau	Fayette	Jewell	Scott	Mahnomen	Gallatin
Garfield	Calhoun	Fountain	Johnson	Taylor	Marshall	Garfield
Gilpin	Carroll	Fulton	Kearny	Warren	Martin	Glacier
Grand	Cass	Grant	Kingman	Woodford	McLeod	Granite
Gunnison	Champaign	Hamilton	Kiowa	MAINE	Meeker	Hill
Huerfano	Coles	Hancock	Lane	Androscoggin	Mower	Jefferson
Jackson	De Kalb	Harrison	Leavenworth	Aroostook	Murray	Judith Basin
Jefferson	De Witt	Hendricks	Lincoln	Cumberland	Nicollet	Lake
Kiowa	Douglas	Henry	Logan	Franklin	Nobles	Lewis and Clark
Kit Carson	Edgar	Howard	Marion	Hancock	Norman	Liberty
Lake	Ford	Huntington	Marshall	Kennebec	Olmsted	Lincoln
Larimer	Fulton	Jay	McPherson	Lincoln	Otter Tail	Madison
Las Animas	Fulton	Jennings	Meade	Oxford	Pennington	McCone
Lincoln	Greene	Johnson	Mitchell	Penobscot	Pipestone	Meagher
Logan	Grundy	Kosciusko	Nemaha	Piscataquis	Polk	Mineral
Mesa	Hancock	Lagrange	Ness	Somerset	Pope	Missoula
Moffat	Henderson	Lawrence	Norton	York	Ramsey	Park
Montezuma	Henry	Madison	Osborne	MARYLAND	Red Lake	Phillips
Montrose	Iroquois	Marion	Ottawa	Baltimore	Redwood	Pondera
Morgan	Jersey	Marshall	Pawnee	Calvert	Renville	Powder River
Otero	Jo Daviess	Marshall	Phillips	Carroll	Rice	Powell
Ouray	Kane	Miami	Pottawatomie	Frederick	Rock	Prairie
Park	Kendall	Monroe	Pratt	Harford	Roseau	Ravalli
Phillips	Knox	Montgomery	Rawlins	Howard	Scott	Richland
Pitkin	La Salle	Noble	Republic	Montgomery	Sherburne	Roosevelt
Prowers	Lee	Orange	Rice	Washington	Sibley	Rosebud
Pueblo	Livingston	Putnam	Randolph	MASS.	Stearns	Sanders
Rio Blanco	Logan	Randolph	Rush	Essex	Steele	Sheridan
San Miguel	Macon	Rush	Scott	Middlesex	Stevens	Silver Bow
Summit	Marshall	Scott	Shelby	Worcester	Swift	Stillwater
Teller	Mason	Steuben	Steuben	MICHIGAN	Todd	Teton
Washington	McDonough	St. Joseph	St. Joseph	Branch	Traverse	Toole
Weld	McLean	Tippecanoe	Tipton	Calhoun	Wabasha	Valley
Yuma	Menard	Union	Smith	Cass	Wadena	Wibaux
	Mercer				Waseca	

a. EPA recommends that this county listing be supplemented with other available state and local data to further understand the radon potential of Zone 1 areas.

(continued)

APPENDIX F

TABLE AF101(1)—continued
HIGH RADON POTENTIAL (ZONE 1) COUNTIES^a

Yellowstone	NEW JERSEY	Belmont	Dauphin	McPherson	Botetourt	Monroe
National Park	Hunterdon	Butler	Delaware	Miner	Bristol	Morgan
NEBRASKA	Mercer	Carroll	Franklin	Minnehaha	Brunswick	Ohio
Adams	Monmouth	Champaign	Fulton	Moody	Buckingham	Okanogan
Boone	Morris	Clark	Huntingdon	Perkins	Buena Vista	Pend Oreille
Boyd	Somerset	Clinton	Indiana	Potter	Campbell	Pendleton
Burt	Sussex	Columbiana	Juniata	Roberts	Chesterfield	Pocahontas
Butler	Warren	Coshocton	Lackawanna	Sanborn	Clarke	Preston
Cass		Crawford	Lancaster	Spink	Clifton Forge	Skamania
Cedar	NEW MEXICO	Darke	Lebanon	Stanley	Covington	Spokane
Clay	Bernalillo	Delaware	Lehigh	Sully	Craig	Stevens
Colfax	Colfax	Fairfield	Luzerne	Turner	Cumberland	Summers
Cuming	Mora	Fayette	Lycoming	Union	Danville	Wetzel
Dakota	Rio Arriba	Franklin	Mifflin	Walworth	Dinwiddie	
Dixon	San Miguel	Greene	Monroe	Yankton	Fairfax	WISCONSIN
Dodge	Santa Fe	Guernsey	Montgomery	TENNESSEE	Falls Church	Buffalo
Douglas	Taos	Hamilton	Montour	Anderson	Fluvanna	Crawford
Fillmore		Hancock	Northampton	Bedford	Frederick	Dane
Franklin	NEW YORK	Hardin	Northumberland	Blount	Fredericksburg	Dodge
Frontier	Albany	Harrison	Perry	Bradley	Giles	Door
Furnas	Allegany	Holmes	Schuylkill	Claiborne	Goochland	Fond du Lac
Gage	Broome	Huron	Snyder	Davidson	Harrisonburg	Grant
Gosper	Cattaraugus	Jefferson	Sullivan	Giles	Henry	Green
Greeley	Cayuga	Knox	Susquehanna	Grainger	Highland	Green Lake
Hamilton	Chautauqua	Licking	Tioga	Greene	Lee	Iowa
Harlan	Chemung	Logan	Union	Hamblen	Lexington	Jefferson
Hayes	Chenango	Madison	Venango	Hancock	Louisa	Lafayette
Hitchcock	Columbia	Marion	Westmoreland	Hawkins	Martinsville	Langlade
Hurston	Cortland	Mercer	Wyoming	Hickman	Montgomery	Marathon
Jefferson	Delaware	Miami	York	Humphreys	Nottoway	Marathon
Johnson	Dutchess	Montgomery	RHODE ISLAND	Jackson	Orange	Menominee
Kearney	Erie	Morrow	Kent	Jefferson	Page	Pepin
Knox	Genesee	Muskingum	Washington	Knox	Patrick	Pierce
Lancaster	Greene	Perry	Washington	Lawrence	Pittsylvania	Portage
Madison	Livingston	Pickaway	S. CAROLINA	Lewis	Powhatan	Richland
Nance	Madison	Pike	Greenville	Lincoln	Pulaski	Rock
Nemaha	Onondaga	Preble	S. DAKOTA	Loudon	Radford	Shawano
Nuckolls	Ontario	Richland	Aurora	Marshall	Roanoke	St. Croix
Otoe	Orange	Ross	Beadle	Maury	Rockbridge	Vernon
Pawnee	Otsego	Seneca	Bon Homme	McMinn	Rockingham	Walworth
Phelps	Putnam	Shelby	Brookings	Meigs	Russell	Washington
Pierce	Rensselaer	Stark	Brown	Monroe	Salem	Waukesha
Platte	Schoharie	Summit	Brule	Moore	Scott	Waupaca
Polk	Schuyler	Tuscarawas	Buffalo	Perry	Shenandoah	Wood
Red Willow	Seneca	Union	Campbell	Roane	Smyth	
Richardson	Steuben	Van Wert	Charles Mix	Rutherford	Spotsylvania	WYOMING
Saline	Sullivan	Warren	Clark	Smith	Stafford	Albany
Sarpy	Tioga	Wayne	Clay	Sullivan	Staunton	Big Horn
Saunders	Tompkins	Wyandot	Codington	Trousdale	Tazewell	Campbell
Seward	Ulster	PENNSYLVANIA	Corson	Union	Warren	Carbon
Stanton	Washington	Adams	Davison	Washington	Washington	Converse
Thayer	Wyoming	Allegheny	Day	Wayne	Waynesboro	Crook
Washington	Yates	Armstrong	Deuel	Williamson	Winchester	Fremont
Wayne		Beaver	Douglas	Wilson	Wythe	Goshen
Webster	N. CAROLINA	Bedford	Edmunds	UTAH	Washington	Hot Springs
York	Alleghany	Berks	Faulk	Carbon	Waynesboro	Johnson
NEVADA	Buncombe	Blair	Grant	Duchesne	Winchester	Laramie
Carson City	Cherokee	Bradford	Hamlin	Grand	Wythe	Lincoln
Douglas	Henderson	Bucks	Hand	Piute	Washington	Natrona
Eureka	Mitchell	Butler	Hanson	Sanpete	Washington	Niobrara
Lander	Rockingham	Hutchinson	Hughes	Sevier	Waynesboro	Park
Lincoln	Transylvania	Hyde	Hutchinson	Uintah	Waynesboro	Sheridan
Lyon	Watauga	Jerault	Hyde	VIRGINIA	Winchester	Sublette
Mineral	N. DAKOTA	Kingsbury	Kingsbury	Alleghany	Wythe	Sweetwater
Pershing	All Counties	Lake	Lake	Amelia	Wythe	Teton
White Pine	OHIO	Lincoln	Lincoln	Appomattox	Wythe	Uinta
NEW	Adams	Lyman	Lyman	Augusta	Washington	Washakie
HAMPSHIRE	Allen	Marshall	Marshall	Bath	Waynesboro	
Carroll	Ashland	Cumberland	McCook	Bland	Winchester	
	Auglaize			Monongalia	Wythe	

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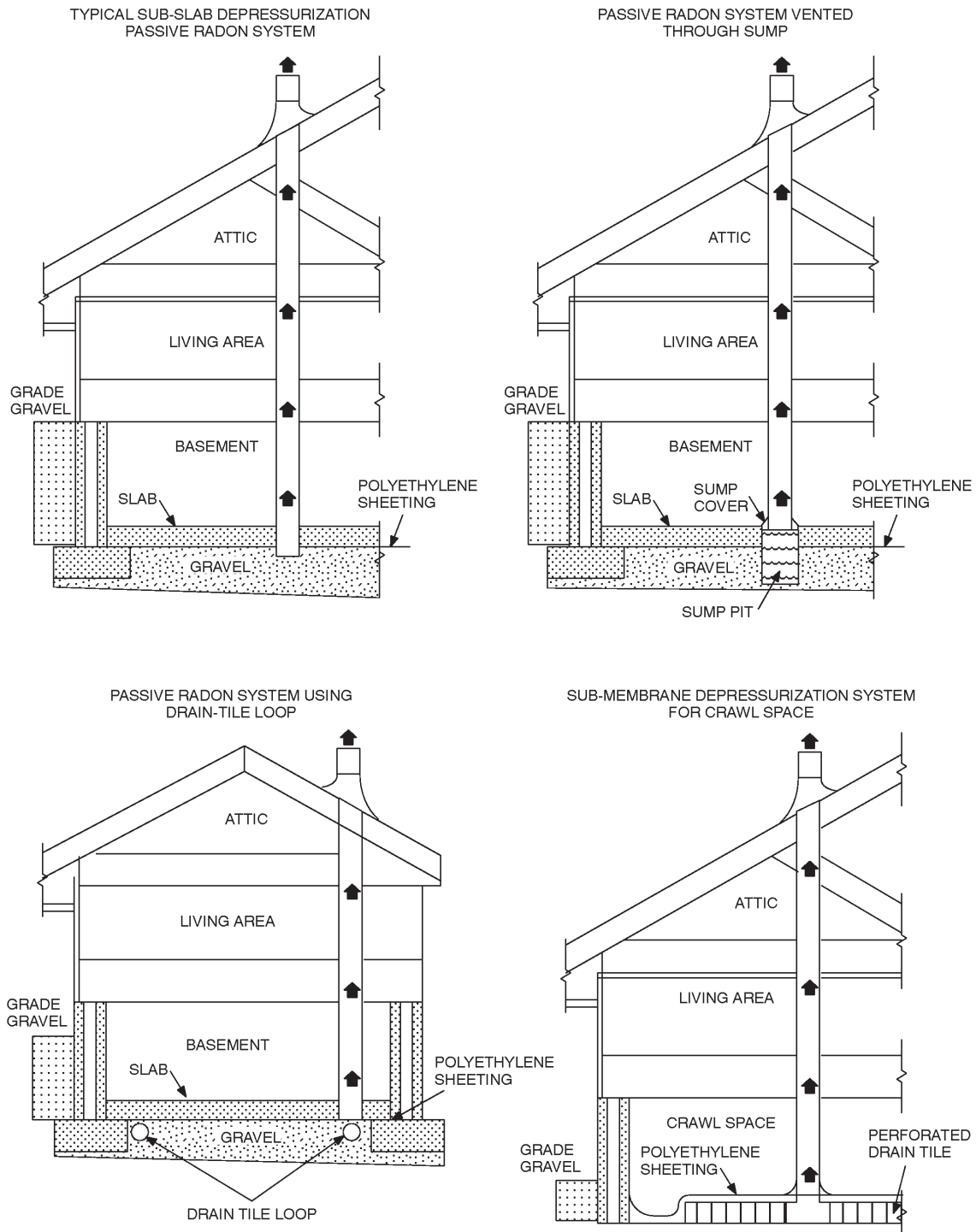


FIGURE AF102
RADON-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION DETAILS FOR FOUR FOUNDATION TYPES

APPENDIX F

AF103.4.4 Sumps. Sump pits open to soil or serving as the termination point for sub-slab or exterior drain tile loops shall be covered with a gasketed or otherwise sealed lid. Sumps used as the suction point in a sub-slab depressurization system shall have a lid designed to accommodate the vent pipe. Sumps used as a floor drain shall have a lid equipped with a trapped inlet.

AF103.4.5 Foundation walls. Hollow block masonry foundation walls shall be constructed with either a continuous course of solid masonry, one course of masonry grouted solid, or a solid concrete beam at or above finished ground surface to prevent passage of air from the interior of the wall into the living space. Where a brick veneer or other masonry ledge is installed, the course immediately below that ledge shall be sealed. Joints, cracks or other openings around all penetrations of both exterior and interior surfaces of masonry block or wood foundation walls below the ground surface shall be filled with polyurethane caulk or equivalent sealant. Penetrations of concrete walls shall be filled.

AF103.4.6 Dampproofing. The exterior surfaces of portions of concrete and masonry block walls below the ground surface shall be dampproofed in accordance with Section R406 of this code.

AF103.4.7 Air-handling units. Air-handling units in crawl spaces shall be sealed to prevent air from being drawn into the unit.

Exception: Units with gasketed seams or units that are otherwise sealed by the manufacturer to prevent leakage.

AF103.4.8 Ducts. Ductwork passing through a crawl space or beneath a slab shall be of seamless material unless the air-handling system is designed to maintain continuous positive pressure within such ducting. Joints in such ductwork shall be sealed to prevent air leakage.

AF103.4.9 Crawl space floors. Openings around all penetrations through floors above crawl spaces shall be caulked or otherwise filled to prevent air leakage.

AF103.4.10 Crawl space access. Access doors and other openings or penetrations between basements and adjoining crawl spaces shall be closed, gasketed or otherwise filled to prevent air leakage.

AF103.5 Passive sub-membrane depressurization system. In buildings with crawl space foundations, the following components of a passive sub-membrane depressurization system shall be installed during construction.

Exception: Buildings in which an approved mechanical crawl space ventilation system or other equivalent system is installed.

AF103.5.1 Ventilation. Crawl spaces shall be provided with vents to the exterior of the building. The minimum net area of ventilation openings shall comply with Section R408.1 of this code.

AF103.5.2 Soil-gas-retarder. The soil in crawl spaces shall be covered with a continuous layer of minimum 6-mil (0.15 mm) polyethylene soil-gas-retarder. The ground cover shall be lapped a minimum of 12 inches (305 mm) at joints and

shall extend to all foundation walls enclosing the crawl space area.

AF103.5.3 Vent pipe. A plumbing tee or other approved connection shall be inserted horizontally beneath the sheeting and connected to a 3- or 4-inch-diameter (76 mm or 102 mm) fitting with a vertical vent pipe installed through the sheeting. The vent pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the roof in a location at least 10 feet (3048 mm) away from any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building that is less than 2 feet (610 mm) below the exhaust point, and 10 feet (3048 mm) from any window or other opening in adjoining or adjacent buildings.

AF103.6 Passive sub-slab depressurization system. In basement or slab-on-grade buildings, the following components of a passive sub-slab depressurization system shall be installed during construction.

AF103.6.1 Vent pipe. A minimum 3-inch-diameter (76 mm) ABS, PVC or equivalent gas-tight pipe shall be embedded vertically into the sub-slab aggregate or other permeable material before the slab is cast. A "T" fitting or equivalent method shall be used to ensure that the pipe opening remains within the sub-slab permeable material. Alternatively, the 3-inch (76 mm) pipe shall be inserted directly into an interior perimeter drain tile loop or through a sealed sump cover where the sump is exposed to the sub-slab aggregate or connected to it through a drainage system.

The pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the surface of the roof in a location at least 10 feet (3048 mm) away from any window or other opening into the conditioned spaces of the building that is less than 2 feet (610 mm) below the exhaust point, and 10 feet (3048 mm) from any window or other opening in adjoining or adjacent buildings.

AF103.6.2 Multiple vent pipes. In buildings where interior footings or other barriers separate the sub-slab aggregate or other gas-permeable material, each area shall be fitted with an individual vent pipe. Vent pipes shall connect to a single vent that terminates above the roof or each individual vent pipe shall terminate separately above the roof.

AF103.7 Vent pipe drainage. All components of the radon vent pipe system shall be installed to provide positive drainage to the ground beneath the slab or soil-gas-retarder.

AF103.8 Vent pipe accessibility. Radon vent pipes shall be accessible for future fan installation through an attic or other area outside the habitable space.

Exception: The radon vent pipe need not be accessible in an attic space where an approved roof-top electrical supply is provided for future use.

AF103.9 Vent pipe identification. All exposed and visible interior radon vent pipes shall be identified with at least one label on each floor and in accessible attics. The label shall read: "Radon Reduction System."

AF103.10 Combination foundations. Combination basement/crawl space or slab-on-grade/crawl space foundations shall have separate radon vent pipes installed in each type of

foundation area. Each radon vent pipe shall terminate above the roof or shall be connected to a single vent that terminates above the roof.

AF103.11 Building depressurization. Joints in air ducts and plenums in unconditioned spaces shall meet the requirements of Section M1601. Thermal envelope air infiltration requirements shall comply with the energy conservation provisions in Chapter 11. Firestopping shall meet the requirements contained in Section R602.8.

AF103.12 Power source. To provide for future installation of an active sub-membrane or sub-slab depressurization system, an electrical circuit terminated in an approved box shall be installed during construction in the attic or other anticipated location of vent pipe fans. An electrical supply shall also be accessible in anticipated locations of system failure alarms.

