

INTERPRETATION:

Policy effective December 16, 2011

- updated June 1, 2018 for 2017 Pikes Peak Regional Building Code*
- updated May 31, 2021 for 2023 Pikes Peak Regional Building Code*

ROOF SHEATHING

Section R905.2.1, 2021 International Residential Code

Section 1507.2.1, 2021 International Building Code

The code sections referenced above state “Asphalt shingles shall be fastened to solidly sheathed decks”. For the purpose of these code sections, “solidly sheathed” shall be defined as a maximum joint width not to exceed 1/4” (0.25 inch) between wood structural panels.

COMMENTARY:

The referenced code sections do not address the maximum allowable width of a joint in roof sheathing. Due to shrinkage and construction tolerances the joint width varies. Most structural panel manufacturers specify a minimum joint width of 1/8” to allow for expansions, but do not specify a maximum. The 1/4” specification allows for shrinkage and additional construction tolerances while maintaining the intent of the code.