

# **NORTHCOAST ENERGY MASTERS**

7007 Krick Road (Rear) • Bedford, Ohio 44146

Phone: 440-439-8250 • Fax: 440-439-0670 • [www.WorldClassWindows.com](http://www.WorldClassWindows.com)

## **Do the Fire-Retardant Chemicals in Cellulose Insulation “Break-Down” or “Disappear” Over Time?**

Studies by researchers associated with Oak Ridge National Laboratory have proven that the fire retardant chemicals on cellulose does not deteriorate, evaporate, sublime, leech out, or otherwise disappear over time. After studying the permanency of borate-based fire retardant formulas scientists reported that it would take 300 years for there to be significant change in the chemical content of cellulose insulation.

A more recent study of ammonium sulfate by the same researchers revealed that this fire retardant was even more stable than the borates. This finding was confirmed by tests of aged cellulose insulation taken from homes in Florida. The tests indicated cellulose treated with ammonium sulfate becomes more fire resistant over time. This may be due to continuing absorption of the fire retardant by the fibers.



1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 & 2005

