

Submitted to: Renewable Energy Standard Working Group  
From Robert R Stuart , South Burlington

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**Having shielded sealed exhaust vents as part of improving energy efficiency in existing homes .**

I encourage the legislature to examine and add shielded sealed exhaust vents for improving energy standards. Our homes have three common places where exhaust vents are used. The bathroom, kitchen hoods and clothes driers. These 4 inch vent openings are covered by two methods, a metal or plastic flapper which is closed with a small spring or gravity or a louvered door which are opened by the air force from the exhaust fans and closes when the fan is turned off. Both these methods have issues of staying closed or closing completely allowing back draft to occur.

Recently I installed a kitchen hood vent and spent several days trying to locate a good exhaust vent. I checked hardware stores, lumberyards and plumbing wholesale houses more than 8 businesses in the Burlington area. On line I discovered a product I liked in Canada. I checked 6 different stores in Canada before I could locate the best vent. It was in Cowansville, Quebec I purchased 2. The cost was \$31 dollars instead of \$17.

Returning to Vermont I visited more than six different building sites inquiring why they were not installing better vent closers. They said it's not required, it cost more, or they were not aware there were options.

In Canada the store clerk showed me the least expensive vent closing and I had to inquire if they had anything better. THEN he said you want the best and showed me the product I purchased.

Sometimes those small improvements make a big differences. Feel free to contact me by email or phone 802-363-0040 if you have any questions. Thanks Robert R Stuart

