1/9/2012

Tim Carroll
Town of Chilmark
P.O. Box 119, 401 Middle Road
Chilmark, MA 02535-0119

Dear Tim Carroll,

I am writing in regards to your upcoming Chilmark Community Center upgrade project. I would like to call your attention to the unglamorous, but critical issue of reducing a building's air infiltration and ex-filtration. Why is this important? Because air leakage affects both capital costs and operating costs.

Almost all buildings constructed today are much leakier than they should be. Air leakage negatively impacts many important issues, including indoor air quality, fire safety, building material durability, and energy efficiency. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has identified air barriers as such an essential component of construction that all of their new buildings are required to pass an air leakage test.

A great example of the compounding impacts of air leakage is the havoc it causes on the effectiveness of the HVAC systems. Mechanical engineers have little control over the quality of the air barrier. One reason designers choose larger and more complex mechanical systems is to avoid comfort complaints. It is better to simplify the system and still satisfy occupants by installing good insulation and air barrier design details, with in-field quality control. **The result is a less expensive system to install, maintain, and operate.**

CSG is committed to success in the field for all parties involved. This means a higher performance building for the owner and fewer callbacks for the builder. We are a not for profit, mission-driven company that has been delivering building science and energy efficiency solutions for over 27 years.

Let CSG assist you in achieving a high performance building. Contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully,

Matt Root
Senior Project Manager
Conservation Services Group
508-887-5253 (cell)
Matt.Root@csgrp.com