

CHAPTER 5  
COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SECTION 504.7.3  
IECC Interpretation No. 01-08  
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**504.7.3 Pool covers.** Heated pools shall be equipped with a vapor retardant pool cover on or at the water surface. Pools heated to more than 90°F (32°C) shall have a pool cover with a minimum insulation value of R-12.

**Exception:** Pools deriving over 60 percent of the energy for heating from site-recovered energy or solar energy source.



**Q:** Do the provisions of Section 504.7.3 of the *International Energy Conservation Code* apply to both indoor and outdoor heated swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas?

**A:** Yes. The purpose of the vapor retardant pool cover is to minimize energy losses caused by the loss of heat from the water itself, as well the loss of energy caused by the evaporation of the heated water in the pool. The loss of energy will occur in both indoor pools and outdoor pools. Although the loss of energy would likely be greater for outdoor pools, the goal is to minimize any loss of energy. There are no provisions to establish a specific loss of energy to be achieved or maintained.

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