

Rokowski, Kathy A - Portland, ME

Subject: FW: 12 Alder Street Portland

From: "Rodrigue, James N" <James.N.Rodrigue@maine.gov>

Subject: RE: 12 Alder Street Portland

Date: September 6, 2017 at 9:36:57 AM EDT

To: Ryan Senatore <ryan@senatorearchitecture.com>

Hi Ryan, yes, transite siding (asbestos-containing) can be covered w/vinyl or wood clapboards. The transite does not have to be removed 1st if they don't want to. It's just that they will have to declare when selling the property that asbestos siding is underneath whatever they decide to cover it with. Naturally, it's better and easier to re-side a home by removing the transite prior to re-siding, but it is not required to be removed. The sq. footage being covered is irrelevant.

When folks cover transite w/vinyl siding, which happens all the time, they have to take precautions to assure the transite siding does not break apart and fall off. Transite is thin, about an 1/8th inch thick and cementitious, so it's very brittle, especially when trying to nail/screw into it. The diameter of nail/screw used will impact this cracking/splitting even more, so the smaller the diameter of nail/screw used, the less likely the transite will split apart and fall off in pieces, potentially releasing asbestos into the environment or the siding installers lungs.

Some folks cover the transite 1st with thin insulating board (called fan-fold), or even rigid insulating board (Styrofoam) then tape up all the seams of the insulating board to help trap the transite up against the wall, then nailing/screwing the new siding (or in Kathy's case, strapping & clapboards) into that. That way, when the transite cracks/splits, and it will, the asbestos-containing dust & fibers and transite pieces are trapped up against the wall and don't fall apart onto the ground or cause the vinyl to bulge out here & there as the broken pieces of transite slides down the wall due to its weight & gravity. The goal is to not release or at least minimize the amount of any asbestos-containing fibers when re-siding to protect worker, homeowners & the environment.

Hope this helps, email me if you have other questions. Thanks Ryan.

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From: Ryan Senatore [<mailto:ryan@senatorearchitecture.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 2:46 PM