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RESEARCH REPORT: RR 26169
(CSI # 072500)

Expires: February 1, 2024
Issued Date: January 3, 2022
Code: 2020 LABC

GENERAL APPROVAL – Renewal - Nichiha Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth Fiber Cement Siding for Exterior Cladding

DETAILS

The Nichiha Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth used as exterior wall coverings are commercial grade panels made of proprietary components and Portland cement. The panels comply with ASTM C1186, Type A.

Sierra Premium Shake boards are a fiber cement siding used as exterior cladding product installed over vertical wood stud framing and minimum 7/16 Performance Category APA Rated OSB or Plywood. The shake siding product must be installed horizontally. Shake siding boards come either Primed or in four (4) color options, Maple, Charcoal, Smoke, and Mahogany. Boards have a manufactured dimension of 8-7/8-in (225.4-mm) wide by 112-in (2845-mm) long with a 1/2-in (12-mm) thickness.

Savannah Smooth boards are a fiber cement siding used as exterior cladding product installed over vertical wood stud framing and minimum 7/16 Performance Category APA Rated OSB or Plywood. The lap siding product must be installed horizontally. Boards are manufactured with a primed finish with available widths of 6-1/4-in, 7-1/4-in, and 8-1/4-in and length of 9-ft 4-in with a 1/2-in thickness.

Sierra Premium Shake and **Savannah Smooth** boards have allowable wind design pressures as outlined in Table 1. It is the responsibility of the design professional of record to verify that this pressure is sufficient to meet the wind loads as specified in Section 1609 of the Los Angeles Building Code.

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Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth boards have a flame spread of 0 and a smoke development of 5 when tested in accordance with ASTM E84.

Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth boards meet or exceed the requirements of ASTM C 1186 Standard Test Method for Flat Non-Asbestos Fiber Cement Sheets for Type A Grade II products.

The Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth boards described above are approved subject to the following conditions of approval:

1. The boards are installed in accordance with the 2020 LABC and the manufacturer's published installation instructions.
2. The wall framing and sheathing must be covered with an approved water-resistive barrier in accordance with Section 1403.2 of the 2020 LABC.
3. All openings must have appropriate flashing to prevent moisture penetration.
4. Siding boards shall be attached to the wall framing using corrosion resistant fasteners.
5. The capacity of the framing members, framing connections, structural and non-structural sheathing connections, or overall wall load carrying capacity are outside the scope of this general approval
6. Complete plans and calculations, signed and stamped by a civil or structural engineer registered in the State of California, shall be submitted to the Structural Plan Check for approval for each job.
7. The design loads to be resisted by the Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth boards must be determined in accordance with the 2020 City of Los Angeles Building Code.
8. Negative Wind Design pressures for approved boards are shown in Table 1 of this report.
9. The Sierra Premium Shake and Savannah Smooth boards are manufactured in Japan under Nichiha U.S.A. Inc. Quality Manual – Iwaki, a copy of which is available with LADBS Engineering Research Section.

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DISCUSSION

The report is in compliance with the 2020 Los Angeles City Building Code.

The approval was based on tests in accordance with ICC- ES Acceptance Criteria for Fiber Cement Siding Used as Exterior Wall Siding (AC 90), dated June 2012, and editorially revised September 2015.

Addressee to whom this Research Report is issued is responsible for providing copies of it, complete with any attachments indicated, to architects, engineers and builders using items approved herein in design or construction which must be approved by Department of Building and Safety Engineers and Inspectors.

This general approval of an equivalent alternate to the Code is only valid where an engineer and/or inspector of this Department has determined that all conditions of this approval have been met in the project in which it is to be used.

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TABLE 1: Allowable Wind Pressures

Panel Type	Panel Sizes	Sheathing	Stud Type/Spacing	Fasteners on Stud (and/or into sheathing, where applicable)	Allowable Load, psf
Sierra Shake & Savannah Smooth	Thickness: 1/2" (12mm) Height: Up to 8-7/8"	Min. 7/16" OSB	16" o.c. 2x lumber	Field (16"o.c.): 6d x 2" ring shank siding nails - Blind	-15.97
				Ends: #8-18 x 1-5/8" wafer head screws -Blind	
		Min. 7/16" OSB	16" o.c. 2x lumber	Field (16"o.c.): #8-18 x 1-5/8" wafer head screws – Blind	-32.93
				Ends: #8-18 x 1-5/8" wafer head screws -Blind	
		Min. 7/16" OSB	16" o.c. 2x lumber	Field (8"o.c.): 11 GA x 1-3/4" roofing nails –Blind	-27.87
				Ends: #8-18 x 1-5/8" wafer head screws –Blind	
		Min. 7/16" OSB	16" o.c. 2x lumber	Field (8" o.c.): #8-18 x 1-5/8" wafer head screws – Blind	-55.03
				Ends: #8-18 x 1-5/8" wafer head screws –Blind	
		Min. 7/16" OSB	16" o.c. 2x lumber	Field (16" o.c.): #7 x 2-1/4" Trim/Finish screws (min. head diameter 0.233") –Face	-119.4
				Ends: #7 x 2-1/4" Trim/Finish screws (min. head diameter 0.233") –Face	