

Meeting Local Stakeholder Needs in Adoption and Implementation of Building Energy Codes in the United States

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MEEA's Role in the Midwest

- Nonprofit serving 13 Midwest states
- 10 years serving utilities, states and communities
- Staff of 24 in Chicago
- Actions



- Advancing Energy Efficiency Policy
- Designing & Administering EE Programs
- Delivering Training & Workshops
- Coordinating Utility Program Efforts
- Regional Voice for DOE/EPA & ENERGY STAR
- Evaluating & Promoting Emerging EEA Technologies

Stakeholders

Alphabetical not Order of Importance

- Architects (American Institute of Architects)
- Commercial Developers (BOMA)
- Construction Trades (HVAC, General Contractors, Insulation Installers)
- Department of Energy
- Energy Raters (HERS)
- Environmental And Energy Advocacy Groups
- Engineers (ASHRAE)
- Home Builders (NAHB)
- Manufacturers (Insulation, Windows, HVAC)
- State and Local Code Officials
- State Energy Agencies (NASEO)
- Utilities



Opportunities for Stakeholders Development; Adoption; Implementation

- Energy Code Development
 - International Code Council (International Energy Conservation Code)
 - ASHRAE 90.1 and 90.2
- State and Local Adoption
- Implementation



Model Code Development National

International Code Council

- Development of the IECC
- Open process Mediated by Code Officials and other Key Experts
- Opportunity to Present Case for and against Amendments. Committee of Experts

ASHRAE

- Consensus Process
- Multiple Opportunities for Greater Community to Comment on Proposed Amendments



State/Local Adoption Administrative Process

- All but One State in Midwest that Adopts a Statewide Code has Enabling Legislation.
- Most Empanel Advisory Committee to Consider Both the Need and Desire for Adoption as well as Amendments.
- Often there are Multiple Committees (One as Advisory and One that is Decision Making)



Post Adoption Implementation and Enforcement

- Enforcement Occurs at Local Level (sometimes, but rarely, at State Level)
- Enforcement Efforts Chronically Underfunded
- Several Additional Issues Hampering Enforcement
 Include:
 - Complexity of Energy Code
 - Lack of Expertise Among Code Officials (and Builders)
 - Inadequate Educational Efforts
 - Energy Codes Low on Hierarchy of Responsibilities



Implementation/Enforcment Post-Adoption

- Several States have formed "Code Compliance Collaboratives" (Nebraska, Minnesota, Idaho, Delaware)
- Unlike Adoption/Development Processes, Code Compliance Collaboratives are Designed to be Ongoing.
- Collaborative Aims to be Medium to Address
 Enforcement Issues/Hurdles
- Discussion Focuses on Implementation Issues.
 - Bring Together a Broader Group of Stakeholders in Non-Adversarial Discussions.
 - Cover Issues such as Training, Code Interpretation, Construction Research.
 - Facilitate Training/Educational Opportunities;
 Establish Importance of Energy Codes; Establish
 Leaders Who Can Then Talk to Peers;
 - Build Relationships to Perhaps Make Other Processes
 Less Adversarial.

Thank You! MEEA Buildings Energy Team

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