

Roland Risser
Building Energy Codes Program
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, EE-2J
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington DC 20585-0121

Re: State Certification of Residential and Commercial Building Energy Codes

Dear Mr. Risser:

The State of Iowa has reviewed the provisions of its building energy codes and key actions that have already been undertaken are listed below.

- Iowa has adopted the residential energy code requirements of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), effective as of 01/01/10 (Iowa Administrative Code 661- Chapter 303.2 with reference to Iowa Code section 103A).
- Iowa has adopted the commercial energy code requirements of the 2009 IECC, effective as of 01/01/10 (Iowa Administrative Code 661 – Chapter 303.3 with reference to Iowa Code section 103A).
- ASHRAE standard 90.1 is adopted by reference for the commercial part of the code in Section 501.2 of the IECC 2009.

The State of Iowa's building codes program, which includes adoption and enforcement of energy codes, is administered by the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS). The Iowa State Energy Office, housed at the Iowa Economic Development Authority provides funding for education and enforcement of energy codes through an MOU. DPS is in the process of updating their building codes through normal rule making. As part of this process, DPS formed an Energy Code Workgroup which met three times this year (3/6, 4/17, and 5/8) to review the 2010 ASHRAE 90.1 and the 2012 IECC. As a result, the Building Code Advisory Council and Building Code Commissioner are tentatively scheduled to meet on August 6th to go over all code changes and approve all proposed codes for adoption. The related public hearings will take place in August/September 2013 with a tentative timeline of rules adoption by January 1st 2014.

For that reason, the State of Iowa would like to request a 6 month timeline extension for ASHRAE 90.1-2010 and 2012 IECC to align the certification with Iowa's current adoption timeline. We will then send an additional letter to certify these adoptions by May 17, 2014.

Iowa would support a reprioritization of DOE funding to the Building Energy Codes Program. Such a prioritization would help states place a renewed focus on the Building Energy Codes Program to reduce long-term energy use and costs. The State of Iowa would fully leverage any heightened reprioritization towards the program to continue our energy code initiatives.

I hope this letter meets the statutory requirement of certifying Iowa's review of the building energy codes. If you require further information, please contact me at 515-725-0434 or via email at paritosh.kasotia@iowa.gov.

Sincerely,



Paritosh Kasotia
Energy Team Leader

cc: Kym Carey, US Department of Energy, Building Energy Codes Program
Doug Hoelscher, Iowa Office of the Governor
David Ruffcorn, Iowa Department of Public Safety