

Ken Lawson, Secretary

Rick Scott, Governor

July 18, 2013

Building Energy Codes Program
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, EE-2J
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0121

To Whom It May Concern:

Title III of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6831-6837), requires states to certify to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that they have reviewed the energy provisions of their building code, held public hearings and made a determination as to whether their code meets or exceeds the national code within two years of federal notice. In the July 19, 2011, edition of the Federal Register, the U.S. Department of Energy noticed that the 2009 edition of the *International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)* would achieve greater energy efficiency in low-rise buildings than the 2006 edition of the IECC.

The Florida Building Commission, which has statutory authority to administer the *Florida Building Code* (s. 553.72(3), *Florida Statutes*), hereby certifies that Chapter 4 of the 2010 *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*, meets or exceeds the 2009 edition of the *International Energy Conservation Code* for low-rise residential buildings. A copy of the 2010 *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*, is enclosed for your files.

The Energy Code Workgroup of the Florida Building Commission met eleven times during 2009 -2010, working to integrate Florida's energy code into the 2009 edition of the *International Energy Conservation Code* during its triennial code update process. After such intense scrutiny (two code change processes and three public hearings), the 2010 *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*, went into effect statewide on March 15, 2012.

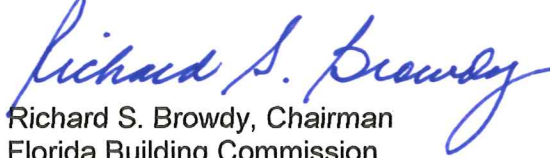
The 2010 Florida residential energy code's Standard Reference Design features for Section 405 of the Code, the Simulated Performance Alternative, are based on the 2006 IECC with a 0.80 multiplier assessed against its Standard Reference Design to make Florida's residential energy code 20 percent more stringent than the 2006 IECC. The U.S. Department of Energy's estimate that the 2009 IECC would achieve site energy saving of 14 percent over the 2006 IECC reflects roughly 6 percent less stringency than the residential provisions of the 2010 *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*. Florida's prescriptive Building Thermal Envelope compliance methodology, as described in Table 402.1.1.1 of the code, demonstrates a significantly more stringent code compliance methodology than that in the 2009 IECC, reflecting Florida's historic policy of making energy code compliance methodologies equivalent. In the report, "Preliminary Report on Integration of Florida's Code Energy Efficiencies using the 2009 IECC as the Foundation Code (see attached), its authors state, "Achieving the new building energy savings required by HB 7135—a 2010 Florida energy code that is 20 percent more efficient than the 2007 FEC—will result in a 2010 FEC that exceeds the performance requirements of the 2009 IECC by 2 – 4 percent."

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At a meeting of the Florida Building Commission on July 18, 2013, the Commission voted to certify that the 2010 *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*, meets or exceeds the residential provisions of the 2009 *International Energy Conservation Code*.

Florida is proud to be one of the first states to adopt an energy efficiency code as part of its statewide mandatory building codes. Its energy code is an important policy to the State and has been maintained since its inception in 1979 to consistently equal or exceed minimum federal standards. Should you have questions regarding the Commission's findings, please contact Mo Madani, Planning Manager for the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Building Codes Office, at (850) 717-1825. His email address is mo.madani@myfloridalicense.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard S. Browdy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Richard S. Browdy, Chairman
Florida Building Commission

ALS/sas
Attachment