

January 12, 2021

ATTN: Building Energy Codes Program  
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, EE-2J  
U.S. 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. On December 10, 2019, the U.S. Department of Energy issued a determination that the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) would achieve greater energy efficiency in buildings than the 2015 edition.

The Florida Building Commission, which has statutory authority to administer the Florida Building Code (s. 553.72(3), *Florida Statutes*), met on January 12, 2021, and voted to certify that the residential building provisions of the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation meet or exceed the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code, for low-rise residential buildings.

Florida had worked since October 2017, to produce the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) Florida Building Code (FBC), Energy Conservation, which had utilized the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation as its base document. A triennial code change cycle had produced a variety of approved energy code changes, including selected changes from the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), which underwent significant public review. A total of three code change workshops were held on August 13, 2019, February 11, 2020, and April 7, 2020 to accept public input regarding the modifications to the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation, which had been recommended for approval by the Florida Building Commission's Technical Advisory Committees. The combination of the modifications approved by the Commission during these workshops and the existing 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation became the next edition of the Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation. This edition went into effect on December 31, 2020. Enclosed is a copy of the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) FBC, Energy Conservation.

Finally, an analysis conducted by the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC-CR-2102-20), which included qualitative assessment of the proposed code modifications' impact on the energy efficiency of buildings in the State of Florida, and quantitative analysis of the code modifications' impact using simulation, provided the following conclusion:

As catalogued in the analysis, a number of construction type, component and equipment variables enter into an energy code comparison so actual results will depend on the details of the projects eventually built under the new code. However, evaluated as outlined in this report, the 2020 FBC- EC was shown to start to slightly exceed the stringency of the 2018 IECC if 90% or more of compliance is via the performance method.

(Jeffrey Sonne & Robin Viera, Florida Solar Energy Center, Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) vs. 2018 International Energy Conservation Code Residential Stringency Analysis).

Should you have questions regarding the Commission's findings, please contact Mo Madani, Technical Director with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, at (850) 717-1825, or [mo.madani@myfloridalicense.com](mailto:mo.madani@myfloridalicense.com).

Sincerely,



James R. Schock, Chairman  
Florida Building Commission