



GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE OF ENERGY POLICY

August 6, 2013

Mr. Roland J. Risser
Building Technologies Program Manager
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop EE-2J
Washington, DC 20585-0121

RE: State Certification of Residential and Commercial Building Energy Codes

Dear: Mr. Risser:

Arizona is providing the following information to certify compliance with Title III of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (ECPA) of 1976, as amended. As the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recognizes, the State of Arizona, as a long-term "home-rule" state has no statewide jurisdiction for the adoption and compliance with the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHRAE 90.1-2007 at the local jurisdiction level. However, the State of Arizona, based on the demonstrated adoption and enforcement of the IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2007 at the local jurisdiction level, is on track to meet the intent of the compliance requirements of the ECPA concerning energy codes.

In order to demonstrate compliance with the ECPA, the State of Arizona has worked with the state's utility companies and the statewide association called the Arizona Building Officials to co-sponsor a number of trainings for local jurisdiction code officials, homebuilders, architects and engineers, the building trades, code consultants and State staff. The goal is to provide information to foster a better understanding of the codes and add to the decision-making process in the adoption/compliance of the 2009 IECC for all low-rise residential buildings, along with the ASHRAE 90.1-2007 for commercial buildings at the local jurisdiction level in Arizona.

With funding from DOE, local electric and natural gas utilities, the Governor's Office of Energy (GOEP) assisted with the expansion of the Southwest Building Science Training Center. The Center is a leading resource for hands on laboratory learning as well as classroom training on weatherization, energy efficiency and building science. As an Affiliate of the Building Performance Institute, the Center is the authorized trainer for the Building Analyst Workshop on "whole house" residential energy techniques and has certified hundreds of contractors throughout the southwest.

GOEP monitors the energy code adoption and compliance within the 92 cities and towns and 15 counties in Arizona that directly adopt their own building codes. The GOEP monitors compliance using two methodologies. The first method is to track the adoptions by communities of the 2009 or 2012 IECC. To date:

- Twenty communities have adopted the 2009 or 2012 IECC with a combined population of 4,181,136. This is 65.4% of Arizona's 2010 population (4,181,136/6,392,017)
- Twenty-five communities have adopted the 2006 IECC with a combined population of 940,238. This is 14.7% of Arizona's 2010 population (940,238/6,392,017)
- Arizona has 15 counties. Only one county has adopted 2009 IECC or better. The remaining counties have an unincorporated population of 1,016,045 which is 15.9% of Arizona's population.

The twenty-five communities who have adopted the 2006 IECC hold the best chance to move up to a more efficient code because they already have adopted a version of the IECC. This week, the Flagstaff City Council voted to adopt the 2009 IECC and the Town of Gilbert is currently considering adopting either the 2009 or the 2012 IECC.

The second method used to track compliance is to track the location of housing permits within the state and compare that to the IECC standard adopted in that jurisdiction. This construction activity is a good indicator of compliance. Of the new home permits issued in 2012, 52% were in jurisdictions that have adopted the 2009 IECC or better. This comparison shows that a high level of the new home construction is occurring in jurisdictions that have adopted a complying version of the IECC.

In 2011, Arizona had the highest percentage (54%) of any other state of Certified Energy Star Homes as a percent of housing permits. Of the 10,194 homes permitted in 2011, 5,466 were Certified Energy Star Homes. This helps to demonstrate the high level of energy efficiency in new home construction in Arizona.

If anything further is required as evidence of Arizona's compliance with the requirements of Title III of ECPA, please contact Jim Westberg or Lisa Henderson at the Governor's Office of Energy Policy, jwestberg@az.gov or lhenderson@az.gov

Sincerely,



Leisa Brug, Director
Governor's Office of Energy Policy and
Energy Policy Advisor to Governor Janice K. Brewer