

SOUTHEAST ENERGY EFFICIENCY ALLIANCE



Arkansas and Georgia Residential Energy Code Field Study



Additional Stakeholder Input

Utility Involvement



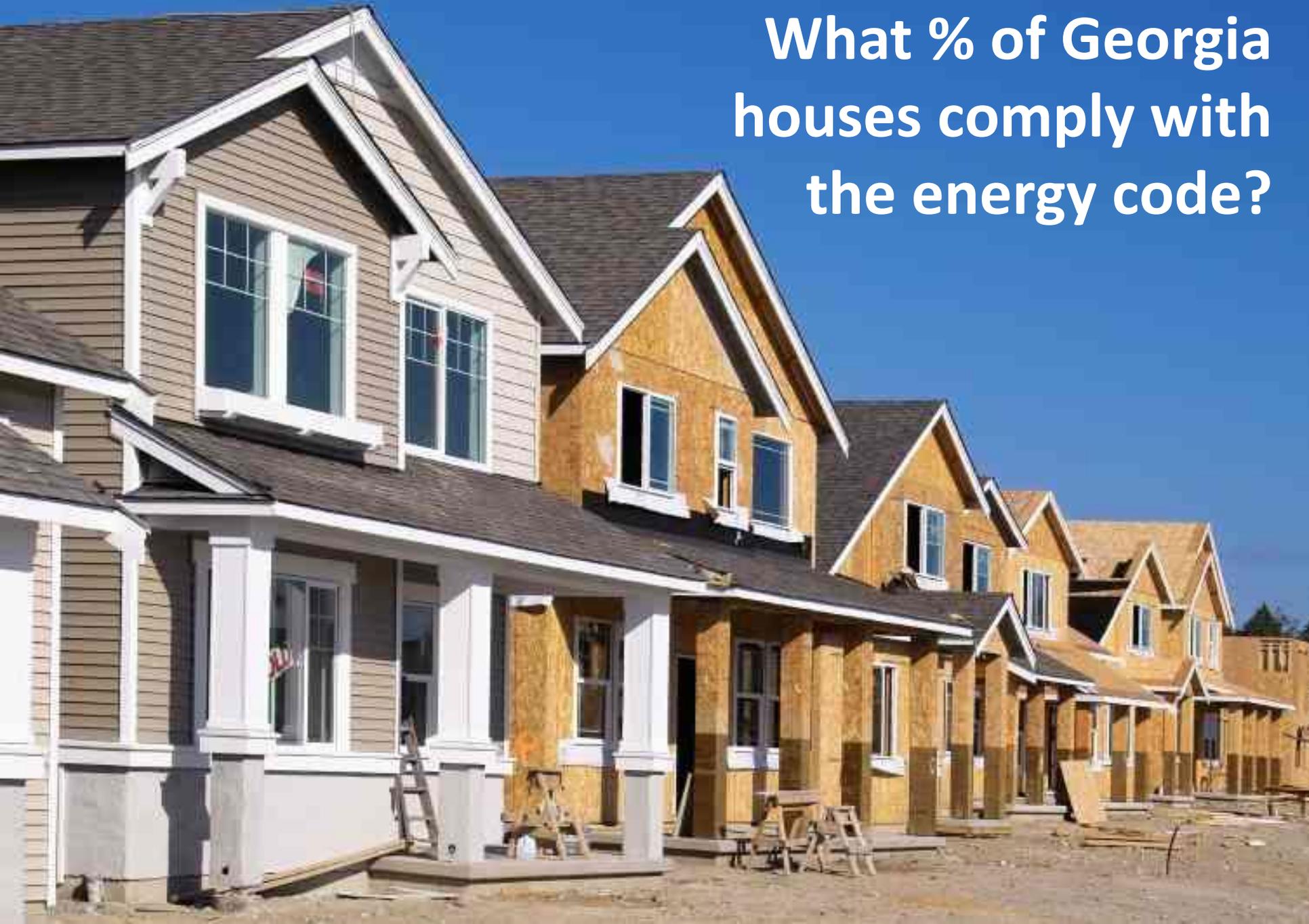
ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDER INPUT

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- 3 open Energy Code Forums in each state
- Adding the “why” to the “what”
- Participants: code officials, builders, trades, design professionals, associations, utilities
- Goals:
 - Project awareness for the construction industry
 - Construction industry feedback on energy code challenges
 - Potential solutions to address challenges



What % of Georgia houses comply with the energy code?



58%

57%

48%

CODE ISSUES

- VAGUE / UNCLEAR CODE LANGUAGE
- INCONSISTENT APPLICATION OF CODE
- INCONSISTENT INTERPRETATION
- OVERLY STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS

GAP IN KNOWLEDGE SKILLS & ABILITIES

- KSA GAP FOR ENTIRE INDUSTRY
- LACK OF CAPABLE SUBS / TRADES
- LIMITED SUPPLY OF DET VERIFIERS
- LACK OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- REAL ESTATE PROS (REALTORS, APPRAISERS ETC) DON'T SELL ENERGY EFF
- WHY?

LACK OF PROCESS

- NEW REQUIREMENTS NOT IN PLANS / SCOPES
- CODE OFFICIALS CAN'T CHECK ALL THAT THEY WANT TO CONFIRM
- BUILDERS CAN'T CHECK ALL OF THE TRADES' WORK

- TRADES DON'T HAVE TIME TO DOUBLE CHECK THEIR WORK

COST CONSTRAINTS

- HOMEOWNER DOESN'T WANT TO PAY
- BUILDERS DON'T WANT TO PAY TRADES
- PRODUCT TOO EXPENSIVE OR NOT AVAILABLE

- BUILDERS / CODE OFFICIALS DON'T HAVE TIME FOR TRAINING
- TRADES DON'T HAVE \$ OR TIME TO TRAIN PEOPLE OR BUY NEW EQUIPMENT

MEETING SUMMARIES

- Great code official attendance
- Poor builder attendance
- Similar challenges highlighted in dot exercise
- Participants were interested in project team solutions, but also had creative ideas



UTILITY INVOLVEMENT

UTILITY INVOLVEMENT: WHY?

- For utilities:
 - Baseline of new home energy usage in Arkansas
 - Pilot energy code compliance program
 - Cost-effective program
 - Gigantic market (compared to above-code programs)
 - Role of trusted advisor (not enforcement)



UTILITY INVOLVEMENT: PRIOR TO AWARD

- SEEA Membership
- Current and previous projects (all project teams)
 - Used knowledge
 - Contacted through existing contacts
- DOE FOA application
 - Asked for utility letters of support
 - Required potential project introduction

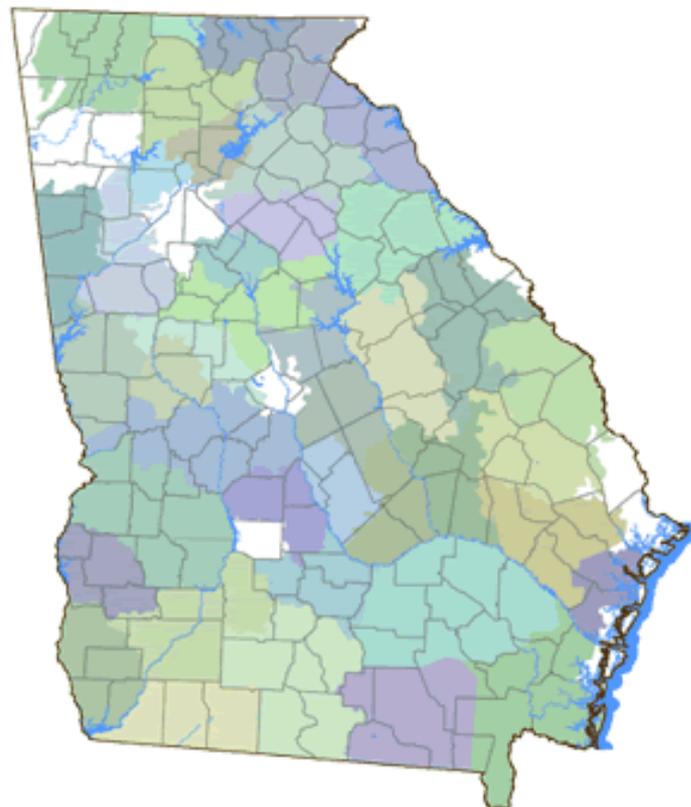


UTILITY INVOLVEMENT: WHEN AWARDED

- Followed up with utilities in Arkansas and Georgia AND the Public Service Commissions
- Utility Consultant: Tierra Consulting
- Asked for feedback/questions/comments
 - Adjustments made to Georgia data collection: Inclusion of HVAC model info as key item
- Communicated to everyone and their mother in as many ways as possible

UTILITY INVOLVEMENT: CURRENT

- PHASE 1: Statistically significant sample for Georgia Power territory.
 - Additional samples to add to DOE's plan
 - Data set acceptable to GA PSC (statewide was not)
 - Match for project team
 - Logistics: utilize samples that fall in both sample sets.



Thank you!

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