

The Energy Code Coach Model

Best Practices for Code Enforcement

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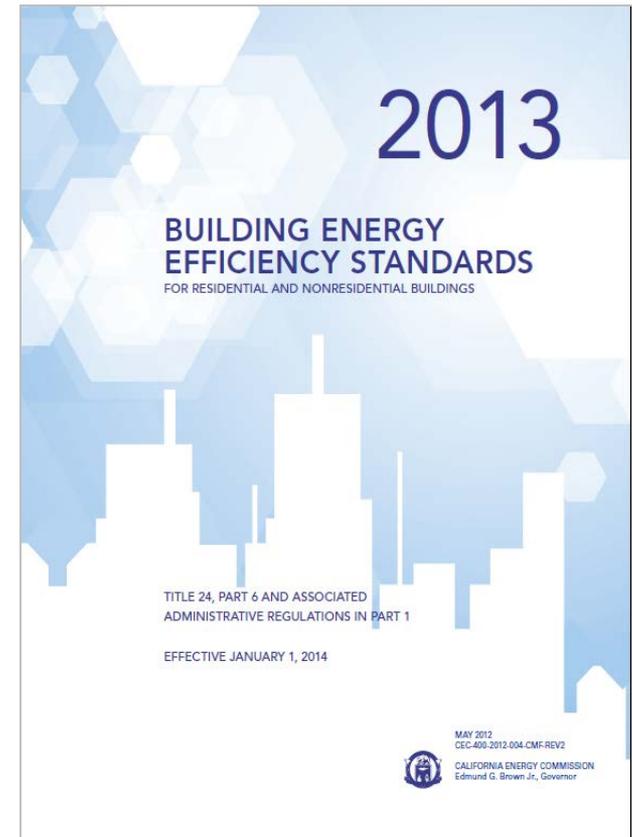
Jeanne Fricot, Project Manager

Speaker Introduction

- Jeanne Fricot, Project Manager at CSE
 - Code and standards programs
- 25 yrs. energy consultant
- Experienced in 6 energy code cycles
- California HERS Rater
- Building Performance Institute analyst

California's Energy Code

- Enacted in 1978
 - Updated every 3 years
- Each version of the code is more progressive
- Zero Net Energy goals
 - Residential 2020
 - Commercial 2030
- Local building departments enforce the code through the permitting process



Importance of Code Compliance and Permitting

- Ensures quality installation & construction
 - Clients value quality and integrity. Pulling a permit means you are doing it right and can be trusted as a quality contractor who doesn't take shortcuts.
- Saves energy
 - Statewide savings from Codes & Standards between now and 2020 ≈
 - deferring a 500 MW power plant for 16 years
- Saves money
 - Energy efficient buildings can save on energy costs

Why Building Depts. Struggle with the Code

- Codes can be complicated
 - Each code builds on the previous version
 - New staff at a disadvantage
- Energy is just 1 of 11 sections in Title 24
- Staff do not have time to attend outside training regularly
- Projects vary greatly

Energy Code Coach



Energy Code Coach

- Work directly; counter staff, plans examiners & inspectors
 - Staff trainings every other week
 - Streamline internal processes
- Code-specific topics
 - Envelope, mechanical systems, lighting, CALGreen
- Hands-on training with real projects
 - Plans Examiners > plans
 - Bldg. Inspectors > shadowing
- Tools and resources
 - OTC cheat sheets; plan and inspection corrections list
 - Improve website content
 - Energy Code Ace, <http://energycodeace.com>



Energy Code Coach

- Program implementation
 - City of Chula Vista: 2014-present
 - City of San Diego: 2015-present
- CSE is contracted directly with the jurisdictions
 - The program is funded by San Diego Gas & Electric's Local Government Partnership (via rate-payer dollars)
- Coach's credentials
 - At least 5 years with the state's Energy Codes & Standards
 - Direct building department experience (i.e. plan check, bldg. inspections, etc.)
 - Technical skills in reading plans, energy modeling, HERS, or construction experience
 - Good communication skills

Energy Code Coach

- Outcomes
 - Tangible tools used to perform their job more effectively
 - Increased the amount of internal training
 - Staff feel more confident with the standards
 - Communicate how and why the standards apply to a project
- Lessons learned
 - Training is more effective when it's one-on-one or hands-on
 - Plans examiners and bldg. inspectors do not collaborate
- Changes to the program
 - Less classroom time and more hands-on training
 - Plans examiners highlight energy code measures directly on plans for inspectors

Thank you

- We encourage building departments to adopt this model.

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