October 1, 2013

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:

By way of introduction, I am writing to you in my capacity as the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction. Pursuant to my appointment by Governor Steven L. Beshear, I have been charged with the duty to head the Department and all of its functions, including the adoption of Kentucky’s uniform state building codes and reference standards.

Pursuant to Section 304(c) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, I am writing on behalf of the Department to request an extension of the October 18, 2013 deadline to file Kentucky’s certification statement with respect to ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2010. Specifically, the Department requests an extension to May 17, 2014, the existing deadline for Kentucky’s certification statement regarding the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

The Board of Housing, Buildings and Construction undertook initial discussion of this Standard and the 2012 IECC at its quarterly meeting on August 15, 2013. Because the adoption of such standards requires a lengthy and public process to amend the Kentucky Building Code via administrative regulation, and considering that the ASHRAE Standard has historically been used in Kentucky as a parallel alternative to the relevant IECC standards, the Board has determined that both should be publicly vetted and acted upon at the same time in one promulgation cycle.
To that end, the Board elected to form a task force of stakeholder representatives from the industry and public to assist the Board in its fact-finding task of analyzing the substantive changes in the 2012 IECC and 2012 ASHRAE Standard as well as the likely cost benefit and/or impact that adoption will have in Kentucky. The task force had its first meeting on September 19, and plans to make its first report of findings to the Board at its regular meeting on December 10, 2013. The group will then make its final report to the Board at its regular meeting on February 20, 2014, at which time the Board is expected to hold its public discussion and determine what actions will be taken toward adoption of each standard in the commercial and residential building industries, as applicable.

Therefore, this letter is offered as assurance that Kentucky will continue its good faith efforts to comply with the requirements of Section 304, and is making progress in doing so. At your earliest convenience, please confirm your receipt and approval of this request in writing at ambrose.wilson@ky.gov or the address above.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ambrose Wilson IV
Commissioner

Cc: Ms. Kymisha R. Carey, U.S. Department of Energy
Governor Steven L. Beshear, Commonwealth of Kentucky
Secretary Robert Vance, Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet
Mr. John Davies, KY Department for Energy Development and Independence