May 17, 2014

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:

In compliance with Title III of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (ECPA) of 1976, as amended, this is to certify that the Commonwealth of Kentucky is now in the process of amending the 2013 Kentucky Building Code to adopt by reference the 2012 version of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), as well as ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2010 for non-residential buildings (by virtue of its reference within the 2012 IECC). The necessary administrative regulation amendments were filed in accordance with Kentucky’s legislative process on April 8, 2014 and are expected to become effective on October 1, 2014.

In addition, the Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction conducted a thorough review of Kentucky’s current residential energy code in order to consider whether it is appropriate to update the 2013 Kentucky Residential Code to meet or exceed the 2012 IECC. This review was performed by a diverse task force of interested and affected stakeholders, constituents, regulators and local industry experts, which made its final report to the Board of Housing, Buildings and Construction at its February 20, 2014 regular public meeting. After having provided public notice and an opportunity for public comment during this meeting, the Board voted not to adopt the 2012 IECC with respect to Kentucky’s residential code. In summary, the Board concluded that the described additional energy benefits of the 2012 IECC were speculative and minimal, and that the potential cost savings to Kentucky residents were outweighed by the increased costs of compliance.
If anything further is required as evidence of Kentucky’s compliance with the requirements of Title III of ECPA, or if you have any questions, please advise me using the contact information in the above letterhead or at ambrose.wilson@ky.gov. At your earliest convenience, please confirm your receipt and approval of this certification.

Sincerely,

Ambrose Wilson, IV
Commissioner

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