



INTERNATIONAL
CODE
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Energy Newsletter

International Code Council August 2024 Energy and Sustainability Updates

This is an ongoing bi-monthly newsletter series that includes updates from the International Code Council's Energy Team on everything from energy grants to standards development. Visit www.iccsafe.org/energy for more information.

Top News

- The [2024 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code® \(IECC\)](#) and [Chapter 11 Energy Efficiency of the 2024 International Residential Code® \(IRC\)](#) are now available! The 2024 IECC addresses energy efficiency on several fronts—including cost, energy usage, use of natural resources and the impact of energy usage on the environment—and the residential provisions are expected to be roughly 6 percent more efficient than the 2021 IECC. In addition to these efficiency improvements, the 2024 IECC includes a total of 22 appendices, most of which are aimed at providing increased efficiency or electrification readiness.
- The International Code Council, in partnership with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and American Institute of Architects-New York Committee on the Environment, are hosting a 2024 NYC Climate Week event on September 26 from 8:30-11:00 AM Eastern. The event will include local, state, national and international perspectives on addressing a whole life cycle approach to decarbonizing the built environment. [Learn more and register here!](#)
- Join our Energy Team at the [International Code Council's 2024 Annual Conference, Expo and Committee Action Hearings](#) in Long Beach! The conference includes a full Energy education track as well as energy-related sessions in the Existing Building, Residential, PMG, Fire & Life Safety and Off-Site Construction tracks. The Sustainability Membership Council will present the National Leadership in Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Award and hold an annual meeting. All are welcome! [Learn more about the ABM here.](#)
- **Full Applications for Round 2 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) [Assistance for Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption](#) competitive funding opportunity are due September 13, 2024.** *Applicants that did not submit a Concept Paper under Round 2 are now eligible to submit Full Applications under the Record Number DE-RD2-0003056.* This opportunity assists eligible state, local, territorial, and tribal governments in further decarbonizing their buildings through the adoption of the 2021 or 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), IECC Zero Energy Appendices, and other codes that deliver equivalent or greater energy savings. Successful projects under the first round were recently [announced by DOE](#).

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- The Code Council's Energy Team welcomes Alex Smith to the Code Council as the Director of Energy Programs and celebrates Jason Toves's promotion to Deputy Director of Energy Programs! Alex previously served as the Director of Codes and Standards at the National Propane Gas Association and brings a wealth of knowledge in solar energy, green building, and power systems designs with a degree in renewable energy engineering. Jason has spent 11 years with the Code Council as senior technical staff, providing training on the IECC, supporting membership with technical application of the I-Codes, and performing energy and mechanical plan reviews for ICC's Plan Review Services.
 - In January, the International Code Council participated in a roundtable focused on scaling housing capacity after disaster events. Following, the Humanitarian Supply Chain Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) developed a report to capture key takeaways and policy recommendations that stemmed from the discussions. A significant part of the Scaling Post-Disaster Housing Capacity report stresses the importance of universally adopting [ICC/MBI Standards 1200 and 1205](#) for off-site construction. [Learn more](#) about the roundtable and the Code Council's off-site construction initiative.

IECC Development Process

- The application period for both the International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC) Commercial Consensus Committee (IECC-CE) and the IECC Residential Consensus Committee (IECC-RE) closed August 19. These consensus committees, once appointed, will convene to develop the 2027 IECC and Chapter 11 of the International Residential Code® under its continuous maintenance process. The committees' activities will predominately be conducted through virtual online meetings. For more information on the 2027 IECC development process, visit the Code Council's [Energy Webpage](#).
- The Code Council Board of Directors developed a [draft scope and intent](#) for the 2027 IECC based on feedback from the 2024 IECC appeals process. The draft was open to public comment through August 19. A final scope and intent based on feedback received will be released shortly.

ICC-Evaluation Service

- The International Code Council has been selected by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to receive roughly \$3.5 million through the Reducing Embodied Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Construction Materials and Products grant. ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) will use this grant funding to generate [Environmental Product Declarations](#) (EPDs) in partnership with the states of Washington and Oregon. Learn more about the project [here](#).

Energy and Resilience Grants

- The Code Council and our partners are leading a RECI-funded project ([Code Official Digitization and Efficiency Support \[CODES\]](#)) that's seeking to better understand how technology can help underfunded code departments advance their vital work. **We are seeking participants to complete a short [survey](#)** to identify challenges that small and under-resourced building and fire prevention departments may encounter in transitioning away from paper-based systems. *Specific responses will not be shared externally.*
- [Register](#) for the Code Council's upcoming webinar, *Preparing for the Building Codes Plus Up in the 2024 FEMA BRIC Cycle*, hosted in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on September 10 from 3:00-4:30 PM Eastern. Hear from FEMA and from Code Council members who have successfully navigated previous Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program cycles including last year's code-specific project proposals.

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- On Aug. 7, 2024, EPA issued its [Label Program Approach](#) for Identifying Low Embodied Carbon Construction Materials. The label program will define what constitutes “clean” construction materials in support of the Biden-Harris Administration’s landmark [Buy Clean Initiative](#). Stay tuned for resources to help product manufacturers navigate this new program.
 - The first episode of Season 6 of the ICC Pulse Podcast discusses the critical role of federal grants in enhancing building safety and community resilience. [Listen in](#) to hear from building officials who have used their funding to improve their communities and learn how to navigate the grant application process with the help of our experts.
 - [Click here to learn more](#) about federal grant opportunities to support building code-related activities, or contact Stella Carr (Energy and Resilience Grants Manager) at scarr@iccsafe.org to schedule a consultation.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

- The 2024 Department of Energy Building Energy Codes Program (BECP) Energy Code Webinar Series continues with four great webinar topics. To register for an upcoming webinar, create an account through the newly established [BECP Resource Hub](#). Learn more about the webinars and see detailed registration instructions on the [BECP webinar webpage](#).
 - [Register](#) for the upcoming ICC-led webinar, *Beyond Zero Energy: Balancing Embodied Carbon and Operational Energy Solutions to Achieve Zero Emission Buildings*, on October 17 from 1:00-2:30 PM Eastern. This webinar will discuss the difference between operational energy and embodied carbon and explore integrating a lifecycle approach to achieving zero energy and emission buildings.
- **Stay Ahead of the Game with Education and Training on On-Site Renewable Energy and High-Performance Buildings.** Stay informed and confident as the energy industry transforms. Invest in your education and training with free educational resources and CEU bearing courses from leading industry organizations, including the Code Council, at [CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org](https://www.CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org).
- **Have a training request or recommendation?** [Submit it here](#).

Educational Resources and Other Partner Activities

- New Buildings Institute, in collaboration with the Code Council, WA, and NEEP, and with funding from the Department of Energy, developed a series of educational resources to support the transition to electrification. These resources are aimed at designers, energy auditors, and code officials. The team seeks feedback on the resources from jurisdictions that might distribute and utilize them to educate their local building professionals.
 - [Resources](#) (Note that the first resource on each module is the slide deck. We are looking for feedback on the resources listed below each slide deck - 11 total resources)
 - [Feedback Form](#) (Please submit feedback via this form)

Building Safety Journal

- Check out the International Code Council’s [Building Safety Journal](#), which features articles relevant to current trends and hot topics within the building safety industry. New featured articles include:
 - [2024-2030 National Heat Strategy Emphasizes Energy Codes to Combat Extreme Heat](#)
 - [Understanding ICC 605, Standard for Residential Construction in Regions with Wildfire Hazards](#)

- [Global Off-site Construction Stakeholders Engage in Central Europe Exchange](#)
- [ICC Pulse Podcast Episode 56: Accessing Federal Grant Funding to Update Your Building Codes](#)
- [International Code Council Selected for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Grant to Advance Environmental Product Declarations](#)
- [The International Code Council Supports Federal Government Leaders in Advancing Building Codes for Wildfire Prevention and Disaster Mitigation](#)
- [U.S. Federal Government Reaffirms Support for I-Codes Suite; Adopts Code Council Off-Site Construction Standards in Updated Design Requirements for Largest Civilian Real Estate Provider](#)
- [International Code Council Celebrates High Performance Building Week](#)
- **Submit an article for consideration in the Building Safety Journal.** The Building Safety Journal accepts editorial submissions for categories that include deep dives, technical topics, personal perspectives, member news, and quick hits. [Click here to learn more and submit.](#)

Standards Development

- The next meeting of RESNET/ICC Standards Development Committee 1400—Water and Energy Remote Virtual Inspection (WERVI)—is October 8, 2024, at 1:00 PM Eastern. [Learn more here.](#)

Committees

- [Sustainability, Energy & High Performance Building Code Action Committee \(SEHPCAC\)](#)
 - SEHPCAC meetings are open to the public. The [next meeting](#) will be held on October 2, 2024, at 2:00 PM Eastern.
 - Any interested party can participate in committee meetings and can be considered by the committee for membership on any sub-group that the committee creates. If you want to be listed as an interested party and receive meeting reminders and information, please contact the committee secretariats, [Alex Smith](#) and [Jason Toves](#).
- [Sustainability Membership Council \(SMC\)](#)
 - Join us in congratulating Michelle Jacobson, ASID, MPS, NCIDQ, WELL AP, LFA, LEED AP ID+C, FITWEL, TRUE, Governing Committee Member of the SMC, as she is the recipient of the American Society of Interior Designer’s 2024 [Volunteer of the Year Award](#). Michelle was also recently featured in the [Summer 2024 edition](#) of Atelier.
 - Find out what the SMC is doing to support healthy and sustainable buildings in your community. The [next meeting](#) will take place on September 20, 2024, from 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern. An [agenda](#) will be posted prior to the meeting.
 - Join the SMC for a casual coffee hour on September 20 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Eastern. This month’s topic is *Mass and Glass: Tight Construction*. Future coffee hours will occur on the third Friday of every month.
 - Meeting ID: [943 1788 2063](#); Passcode: [458626](#)
 - Follow the SMC on social media: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).