



Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic Implementation Workshop

April 26 - 27, 2010

Sofitel Lafayette Square Hotel, 806 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005.

Workshop Highlights and Key Themes

The Energy Foundation and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) hosted a “Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic Implementation Workshop” on April 26-27, 2010, in Washington DC. Attendance at this two-day Workshop was limited to approximately 65 stakeholders representing federal and state energy and code authority agencies, code and standards development bodies, regional energy efficiency organizations, environmental groups, national efficiency advocates, training and technical assistance organizations, local government associations, and sponsoring foundations. An attendees list is included as Exhibit A – “Workshop Attendees List”. The agenda for the Workshop is included as Exhibit B – “Workshop Agenda”.

Workshop Purpose

To bring together key national and regional leaders involved in building energy code adoption, implementation, enforcement and compliance, to discern how to better coordinate and integrate those efforts. Identify and develop strategies to support more stringent, effective and enforceable building energy codes.

Challenge

How do we significantly enhance coordination/integration of the many national and regional efforts at Code advancement, to help, assure states and locales will be able to meet their commitments under the ARRA and also position themselves for more stringent future Codes?

Workshop Expected Outcomes

- A useful representation of ‘who is doing what?’ – a listing of major activities underway by key national and regional organizations + coordination strategies.
- Workshop recommendations to DOE in response to the recent Federal Register Notice.

Key questions and themes evolving from the Workshop discussions

1) How to significantly increase the effectiveness of state and local efforts

- Greater outreach to the building community - Make the connection of home buyers and builders that would demand energy efficient homes; Increased builder buy-in, such that they

can see the profit that can come about from energy efficient homes; Get the builders and stakeholders “on the same page”.

- Make code books widely available on-line/at no charge - More funding is needed for code books and tools to support building code officials, and expanded capability to provide state and local assistance.
- Get the non-traditional allies more involved and influential in the process - Need to educate state legislators, state regulatory commissions, mayors, local officials and the media on the benefits of energy codes, and to generate stronger public interests.
- Closely monitor code adoption and compliance efforts - Enforce the Governors’ signed assurance letters that they all submitted to obtain the ARRA stimulus funding; Put compliance squarely on the shoulders of building professionals, with stricter penalties.
- Encourage the utilities to be more involved in energy code related activities - Integrate utility-administered and public benefit programs with more code support activities.
- Need broader evaluations on energy code impacts - Need real numbers for energy savings, and then translate in a language that can be better understood by decision-makers.
- Better coordination and innovation of activities - There needs to be a better managing of what people and organizations involved in codes do to eliminate overlap; Break away from the silo thinking; The enforcement of codes has not changed in decades; Need innovation/technology for more enforcement and done more cost effectively.
- Need to effectively translate the interdependence of energy codes with other national and state policies - Link energy codes with clean air, attainment, power, peak load, jobs, local economy, national security, everyday life, etc.
- Improve intra-governmental communications on energy codes - Information flow and communication among federal, state and local government agencies needs to be more regular and improved to eliminate duplication, fill gaps, unify policy direction, save resources and operate more efficiently.

2) How to organize ourselves, and what should we do to enhance coordination and help our efforts result in states and locals achieving 90% compliance by 2017

- Create more effective local coalitions - Coordinate beyond traditional advocacy groups; Include utilities, manufacturers, insurance industry; state policy makers to help overcome regulatory and policy barriers.
- Clearly identify group roles - Better define individual group roles with no duplication or gaps; Hold periodic workshops and meetings for networking between ourselves; Leverage the skills and resources of all groups; Customize the messaging for each group; Establish partnership ground-rules (trust, respect, share resources, buy-in, transparency/accountability and jointly celebrate success); Webcast the lessons learned; Establish regional working groups with quarterly calls and an annual code workshop.
- Develop a toolbox of templates with step-by-step directions - Include “best practices”, guidance materials and model code adoption language; Understand and incorporate local players with local success recipes; Establish energy performance as a meaningful market factor through building energy rating/labeling/benchmarking systems; Don’t give “energy hogs” certificates for occupancy.

- Create an environment that encourages success - Establish a compliance challenge competition to force groups to work together; Withhold funding awards for poor performance; Provide sustained funding to support continuing code related enforcement and training; Establish guidelines and standardize the level of code compliance for Weatherization and other Federal programs operated by agencies such as HUD, EPA, FEMA, GSA, etc.

3) How to better convey the importance of codes

- Ramp up long-term education towards a generational change - Energy codes are just a piece of the package of building codes; Bring in safety, air quality, etc. to bring in other objectives, so that it appeal to a much broader audience; Partner with other key groups that are concerned about the non-energy parts of the code, such as with structural, plumbing, electrical, etc. organizations.
- Create simple and straightforward messaging - Link codes to local economy, jobs and other local issues; Legislators glaze over when we get into technical testimony; Address the basic question of what codes achieve and are meaningful; Articulate the message such that it resonates more widely and deeply with stakeholders, general public and decision-makers.
- Expand education and training - There is a huge need for coordinated education and training, not just to builders, but also advocates and potential advocates on the importance of codes; Set up a code “boot camp” for critical stakeholders to better acquaint them with code issues; Residential sector has been a focus, but the commercial sector needs more attention, even though code enforcement in commercial buildings is more of a challenge.
- Insure resources are used as intended - Localities and their officials need educated on importance of code money and should not be raided by politicians to balance budgets, then faced with possible safety problems; Need stronger messaging that the money needs to get used for what it was intended for - inspecting buildings for code compliance.
- Better measurement and verification of savings - Real data on code impacts needs to be factored back into the messaging; DOE needs to compile state building energy code enforcement data; DOE technical experts need to be more engaged in codes.
- Improve coordination of policies across the federal agencies to support codes - Many key players, such as departments of labor, do not see code enforcement as an emerging “green job” opportunity; DOE needs to clarify their position on issues, as opponents twist DOE inaction or silence as an indication of non-support.
- Capture the potential in existing buildings - Current codes do a poor job of addressing existing buildings, substantial renovations and additions; This component of the construction market represents huge energy savings potential.

4) How to enhance energy code related funding levels

- Increase the DOE budget - There should be more funds channeled to code related activities; There should be greater funding of the planned state compliance pilots in order to do more states.

- Sustainable funding needed with new , innovative ways to underwrite the cost - There continues to be inadequate funding to support the code related activities; Permanent/sustainable funding requires continuously delivered performance.
- Follow the money - The investing developers will pay more to have their projects permitted, inspected and completed quicker; Set a quicker, but more expensive expediting fee for local permits; Increase permit fees, such that energy savings will repay the higher fees; The developer has a vested interest to see their project get a certificate for occupancy quicker and therefore make revenue quicker; Increase builder fees, then rebate money like a deposit only upon builder achieving compliance.
- Consider other business models - Lay the groundwork for a long-term sustainable funding model; Generate revenue from continuing education credits, video training, etc.; Look at the possible approaches of other successful organizations (i.e. USGBC).
- Maximize regional or innovative funding to support energy code activities - Integrate codes into the program portfolios of states that have public goods charges, energy efficiency/renewable portfolio standards, energy tax credits, Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Forward Capacity Markets, etc.
- Become more cost effective and efficient in our operations - Make our code related efforts more streamlined and efficient to save on the limited resources; Eliminate waste and duplication of effort by the involved organizations; All groups need to be working together for the broader common good; Need to shorten the time from state adoption to implementation.
- Establish task forces to work on the revenue issues - We need our collective and strategic thinking to address this resource issue during the current difficult economic time; Need to address code advocacy/appropriations and also an assessment of the total national need for code enforcement and compliance; Gather key contacts and success stories on how codes are being used.

5) Federal Register Discussion Session

In response to the April 21, 2010 Federal Register Notice (Vol. 75, No. 76), regarding DOE's interest in receiving comments, the Workshop attendees discussed the problems, issues, and barriers to energy code development, adoption, implementation, enforcement, and improved compliance with better building energy codes. Exhibit C – "Federal Register Recommendations" highlights the recommendations that were put forth by the attendees on what the Federal government and others should be doing. A copy of the Federal Register Notice (Vol. 75, No. 76) is attached as Exhibit D.



**Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic
Implementation Workshop**

EXHIBIT A – WORKSHOP ATTENDEES LIST



Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic Implementation Workshop

April 26-27, 2010
Sofitel Lafayette Square Hotel
Washington, D.C.

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**Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic
Implementation Workshop**

EXHIBIT B – WORKSHOP AGENDA



Building Energy Code Road Map and Strategy Workshop
April 26 - 27, 2010
Sofitel Lafayette Square Hotel, 806 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005

AGENDA

Challenge

How do we significantly enhance coordination/integration of the many national and regional efforts at Code advancement, to help assure states and locales will be able to meet their commitments under the ARRA and also position themselves for more stringent future Codes?

Workshop Purpose

To bring together key national and regional leaders involved in building energy code adoption, implementation, enforcement and compliance, to discern how to better coordinate and integrate those efforts. Identify and develop strategies to support more stringent, effective and enforceable building energy codes.

Outcomes

- A useful representation of ‘who is doing what?’ – a listing of major activities underway by key national and regional organizations + coordination strategies.
- Workshop recommendations to DOE in response to the recent Federal Register Notice.

Monday, April 26, 2010

7:30 – 8:30 am Workshop Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:40 am	Introduction and Welcome David Terry, Executive Director, National Association of State Energy Officials John Wilson, Buildings Program Director, Energy Foundation	Paris Ballroom
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8:40 – 9:00 am	Overview of Workshop Expectations, Agenda Review, Introductions and Round Robin with Attendees This session will provide an overview of the intent and expectations from this Workshop. The attendees will introduce themselves and be asked to provide their thoughts on the following question: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is one thing that would significantly increase the effectiveness of state and local efforts to achieve the goal? 	Paris Ballroom
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Facilitator:
 Doug Brookman, Public Solutions

ROUND ROBIN DISCUSSION

9:00 – 10:30 am	<p>‘Who is Doing What?’</p> <p>The session will provide an opportunity for ‘Building Up’ a Matrix of major activities and players involved in energy codes in real time. The attendees will cluster around a large chart and post-up brief descriptions of the major activities underway and those being planned.</p> <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p>	Paris Ballroom
10:30 – 10:45 am	Break	
10:45 – 12:15 pm	<p>Is This a Fair Representation of Major Activities Originating at the National and Regional Levels?</p> <p>As the attendees survey information provided in the previous session, they will be asked to respond and indicate what it all means to them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there significant gaps? • Is there significant overlap? • Can role differentiation be effective? <p>How Can We Encourage/Incentivize All These Players To Coordinate and Integrate Their Efforts?</p> <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p>	Paris Ballroom
12:15 – 1:15 pm	Lunch (provided)	TBD
1:15 – 2:15 pm	<p>Brief Overview of Code Adoption -> Implementation</p> <p>This session will provide strategies for State and local energy code adoption and implementation, what materials and technical assistance are available and/or needed to facilitate adoption and how it is being delivered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates provided by National/Regional Organizations and others. • Implementation trends by cluster <p>How Should We Configure Ourselves to Assure We Have Coverage for All 50 States?</p> <p>BRIEF UPDATES FOLLOWED BY OPEN DISCUSSION</p>	Paris Ballroom
2:15 – 3:30 pm	<p>Break into Discussion Groups to Address Issues on Coordination of Code Related Activities</p> <p>This session will involve breaking the attendees into concurrent discussion groups in smaller group settings that will focus possible strategies for better coordination among the various parties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we organize ourselves, and what should we do, to enhance coordination and help assure our efforts result in states and locales achieving 90% compliance by 2017? <p>What are the most important things to do?</p> <p>CONCURRENT DISCUSSION SESSIONS</p>	Rooms TBD

3:30- 3:45 pm **Break**

3:45 – 4:30 pm **Report Out by Discussion Groups** **Paris Ballroom**
The groups will reconvene and share the key results/themes of their respective discussions identifying strategies and mechanisms that will help achieve the goals.

GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOWED BY OPEN DISCUSSION

4:30 - 5:00 pm **Closing Discussions, Wrap Up and Adjourn for the Day** **Paris Ballroom**

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

7:30 – 8:30 am **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:40 am **Agenda Review** **Paris Ballroom**

This session will highlight the major themes from Day-1, and refine the agenda as necessary for Day-2.

(Day-2 Agenda may be revised to reflect Day-1 results.):

OPEN DISCUSSION

8:40 – 9:15 am **Show Epiphanies: Issues from Yesterday** **Paris Ballroom**

Building on the comments and issues identified in Day-1, the workshop attendees will continue to clarify and get a better understanding of the needs, resources, materials, training, and other technical assistance required to accomplish the goal of increased building energy code adoption and compliance across the nation.

OPEN DISCUSSION

9:15 – 10:30 am **Brief Overview of Resources Available to Support Code Activities** **Paris Ballroom**

The various technical assistance providers and national advocates will be discussing various state roadmap approaches, resource materials, website tools and solutions to addressing state and locales needs. The attendees will identify gaps in resources (tools, analysis, etc.) and discuss strategies to enhance current efforts.

SHORT PRESENTATIONS FOLLOWED BY OPEN DISCUSSION

10:30 – 10:45 am **Break**

10:45 –12:00 pm **Recommendations to DOE, in Response to the Federal Register Notice** **Paris Ballroom**

In response to the April 21, 2010 Federal Register Notice of DOE's interest in receiving comments, the workshop attendees will discuss the problems, issues, and barriers to adoption, implementation, enforcement, and improved compliance with better building energy codes.

OPEN DISCUSSION

12:00- 1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00 pm– 2:00 pm **Recommendations to DOE, in Response to the Federal Register Notice (Continued...)** **Paris Ballroom**

This session will be a continuation of the previous morning session.

- What the Federal players should do?
- What others should do?

OPEN DISCUSSION

2:00- 2:30 pm	Looking Ahead – How Can We Help Enhance Compliance After ARRA?	Paris Ballroom
	OPEN DISCUSSION	
2:30– 2:45 pm	Roadmap to Success – Strategies to Enhance Coordination and Coverage This session will be an open discussion of workshop attendees on how to best enhance coordination and coverage, improve communications among the all the various players. Including productive role differentiation.	Paris Ballroom
	OPEN DISCUSSION	
2:45 -3:00 pm	Next Steps, Closing Discussions, and Adjournment	Paris Ballroom



**Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic
Implementation Workshop**

**EXHIBIT C – FEDERAL REGISTER
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Building Energy Code Roadmap and Strategy Workshop
Recommendations to DOE (from attendee activity)
April 26-27, 2010 Washington, DC

In response to the April 21, 2010 Federal Register Notice regarding DOE's interest in receiving comments, the Workshop attendees discussed the problems, issues, and barriers to energy code development, adoption, implementation, enforcement, and improved compliance with better building energy codes. The following highlights the recommendations that were put forth by the attendees on what the Federal government and others should be doing¹.

Building Energy Code Development

Federal

- Need to get model energy codes (IECC, IGCC and ASHRAE Standards 90.1 and 189.1), out to everybody (code officials, planners, developers, etc.) with DOE providing or helping to secure the necessary resources to get this done – (this repeated theme expressed continually by the workshop attendees).
- In addition to broader access to energy codes, there is a continuing need for increased
 - Technical support
 - Analytical support
 - Facilitation
- Write codes in plain English for better use and application.
- Shift codes to outcome-based with appropriate measurement and verification to assure building performance.
- Encourage ICC to further “step-up” model Code development.
- Prepare a white paper on technical features, process considerations and implementation strategies for future outcomes-based codes.

Other

- Need expanded building data to support code development -- Energy Information Administration's residential (RECS) and commercial (CBECS) buildings data base, etc.
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Adoption

Federal

- Support more timely energy code determinations.
- Need more extensive benefit/cost data broken down by state to better address the first-cost concerns.
- Talking points needed by stakeholders to better interact with decision-makers/policy-makers, including toolkits, FAQs, etc.
- Clearly articulate penalties for state non-adoption/incentives for adoption, as well as improve accountability mechanisms. A Workshop attendee estimated that \$1 billion

¹ These recommendations should not be considered as a consensus of the Workshop attendees, but a general capturing of the major outcomes voiced during a discussion session among the attendees at the Workshop.

annually would be required from federal funds to the state and local governments to upgrade codes and increase compliance and enforcement. The provision of this level of federal funding is one of the most critical efforts that must be undertaken collectively.

- There needs to be a translation of the state ARRA progress reports, clarifying the code related programmatic information to interested stakeholders.
- More extensive benefit/cost technical and financial analysis needs to be conducted to provide a greater analytical basis for code changes/enhancements.
- To help justify adoption, the cost analysis needs to look at broad market transformation in the economic and technical analysis – that is, consider how code adoption will impact cost and availability of efficient products and services over time.
- Need continuous and incremental enhancements to codes to achieve long-range goals
- Advocacy tools are crucial for energy code adoption.
- More uniform recognition among all DOE offices and across the Federal agencies of the leveraging of critical policy goals that can be supported with enhanced codes.
- DOE should provide technical support documentation for code enhancements with complete analysis - and then aggressively support at code hearings.

Other

- Emulate California case studies, as examples of code adoption strategies.
- More aggressive outreach to builder community, identifying building best practices that can reduce the cost of building to Code.

Implementation (after Code adoption)

Federal

- Provide further technical support for implementers, including best practices from leaders.
- Need more photo libraries-graphics for presentations by energy efficiency providers, regional organizations, code training entities, including success stories on code implementation with outreach strategies to media.
- More effective feedback mechanism, in order to re-define and re-attack problems systematically, including state/local/federal.
- Systematic/continuous use of bully pulpit (very important), while being silent sends the wrong message of non-support.
- All ARRA information should be transparent and accessible to the public.
- DOE needs to work more with other Federal agencies on code related opportunities support Federal policies and build capacity, such as with the Department of Labor in that codes related activities are green jobs.
- State/Local government officials need to be educated on the importance of codes, but parties need to recognize that this is a very small part of the job description of these officials and communications must be tailored to acknowledge that reality.

Other

- Provide additional training tools for individual states to enhance code implementation.

- Need a comprehensive strategy on how to engage utilities on codes, including the removal of regulatory disincentives and provide rewards; also engagement with consumer-owned utilities is critical, especially the 2000 municipal utilities who also are generally owned by localities that are responsible for enforcing building code.
 - Conduct a comprehensive evaluation on the importance of codes.
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Enforcement

Federal

- Educate local governments on enforcement with templates and rationale.
- Undertake methods to standardize the measurement of building performance as the right way to enforce codes, such as tie in smart metering and partner with utilities to obtain real time and trend line data.
- Cost effective ways, commentaries and templates are needed on energy code enforcement.
- Use actual energy performance through ENERGY STAR benchmarking and Portfolio Manager.
- Encourage the local court system/judicial system/state attorney general's offices to take on high profile cases of non-compliance with building codes to generate more public acceptance and understanding of the importance of codes.
- Accountability needs to be laid squarely on the shoulders of the building professionals, with penalties for non-code compliance (i.e. loss of professional license). For example, in some jurisdictions, architects are required to sign key components of building permit applications, including documents submitted late in the process.
- Develop analytical tools to determine the lost opportunity of not enforcing codes.

Other

- Locals need to collect compliance data as well as at the state level.
 - Support the development of a commercial building rating system (i.e., COMNET).
 - Enforcement of DOE buildings as first adopters to encourage other agencies and lead-by-example.
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Evaluation

Federal

- Publish all data DOE collects on state code progress so stakeholders can identify each state's performance.
- Consistent protocols are needed for state code evaluations.
- Convene training sessions and mechanisms to teach evaluation professionals, in order to quickly bring them up to speed with new code evaluation methods.
- Link evaluation to training to access what works and creates feedback loop.
- Utilize data from new smart meters to support code evaluations.
- Undertake a national impact analysis of energy codes.

Other

- Survey all sources of useable data, using measurement data to better understand impacts.
 - For continuous improvement, evaluate the up-stream process and/or perform a process evaluation.
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**Building Energy Code Coordination and Strategic
Implementation Workshop**

EXHIBIT D – FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE

Issued at Washington, DC on April 16, 2010.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2010-9154 Filed 4-20-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

[Docket No. EERE-2010-BT-BC-0012]

Building Energy Codes

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Request for Information.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is soliciting information on how it can better assist the states to adopt, implement, enforce, and assess compliance with the current model building energy codes or their equivalent. DOE is interested in better understanding the barriers and issues involved and the needs, resources, materials and other technical assistance required to accomplish the goal of increased adoption and compliance with the latest model building energy codes, Standard 90.1-2007, *Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings* (or equivalent), for commercial buildings and the 2009 *International Energy Conservation Code* (or equivalent) for low-rise residential buildings.

DOE is publishing this request for information to allow interested parties to provide suggestions, comments, and other information. This notice identifies several areas in which DOE is particularly interested in receiving information; however, any input and suggestions considered relevant to the topic are welcome.

DATES: Written comments and information are requested by May 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons may submit comments in writing, identified by docket number EERE-2010-BT-BC-0012, by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:*

HelpUpdateStateCodes@ee.doe.gov.

Include EERE-2010-BT-BC-0012 in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Ms. Brenda Edwards, U.S.

Department of Energy, Building Technologies Program, Mailstop EE-2J, Building Energy Codes, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Phone (202) 586-2945. Please submit one signed paper original.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Ms. Brenda Edwards, U.S. Department of Energy, Building Technologies Program, 6th Floor, 950 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC 20024. Phone: (202) 586-2945. Please submit one signed paper original.

- *Internet:* <http://www.energycodes.gov/HelpUpdateStateCodes>. Please use the input form and complete all required fields.

- *Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents, or comments received, visit the U.S. Department of Energy, Resource Room of the Building Technologies Program, 950 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20024, (202) 586-2945, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Please call Ms. Brenda Edwards at the above telephone number for additional information regarding visiting the Resource Room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Margo Appel or Jean Boulin, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies Program, Mailstop EE-2J, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Ms. Appel (202) 586-9495, e-mail: margo.appel@ee.doe.gov or Mr. Boulin (202) 586-9870, e-mail: jean.boulin@ee.doe.gov.

Christopher Calamita, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, Forrestal Building, Mailstop GC-71, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 586-1777, e-mail: christopher.calamita@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority and Background

Any strategy to realize the goal of the President and the Secretary of Energy (Secretary)—to achieve 83-percent reductions in energy use by the year 2050—must address the energy performance of the buildings sector. Increases in stringency to building energy codes, along with increased adoption by states and localities and paired with rigorous compliance verification, can provide significant reductions in building energy use. This is consistent with section 304(d) and (e) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act which requires DOE to provide technical and financial assistance to states. (42 U.S.C. 6833(d) and (e))

A number of states are in the process of, or planning to, update, implement, and enforce their building energy codes. Further, many states will implement plans to assess and improve compliance with their updated codes, in response to assurances received by their governors in response to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5), of which the Secretary was notified. This presents a unique opportunity to increase current efforts to ensure that states, municipalities, and local governments, are able to adopt the latest energy codes and increase compliance rates.

In view of the above, DOE believes it is important to provide interested parties with an opportunity to submit information they feel will assist DOE in compiling information.

Public Participation

A. Submission of Information

DOE will accept information in response to this notice under the timeline provided in the **DATES** section above. Information submitted to the Department by e-mail should be provided in WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, PDF, or text file format. Those responding should avoid the use of special characters or any form of encryption, and wherever possible, comments should include the electronic signature of the author. Comments submitted to the Department by mail or hand delivery/courier should include one signed original paper copy. No telefacsimiles will be accepted. Comments submitted in response to this notice will become a matter of public record and will be made publicly available.

B. Issues on Which DOE Seeks Information

DOE is particularly interested in receiving information on the following issues/topics:

(1) Problems, issues, and barriers to the adoption, implementation, enforcement, and improved compliance with improved building energy codes.

(2) Training needed for designers, builders, code officials, owners, and others to support upgraded codes to meet Standard 90.1-2007 (or code that achieves equivalent or greater energy savings) for commercial buildings and the 2009 IECC (or code that achieves equivalent or greater energy savings) for residential buildings. Training and assistance needed to develop and implement a plan to achieve compliance with upgraded codes by 2017.

(3) Processes, information, materials and tools necessary to upgrade building

codes to meet Standard 90.1–2007, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings (or equivalent) for commercial buildings and the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (or equivalent) for residential buildings. Information, materials, and tools necessary to develop and implement a plan to achieve 90-percent compliance with upgraded codes by 2017.

(4) Assistance and resources available from stakeholders, states, local jurisdictions, and others.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 9, 2010.

Cathy Zoi,

Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2010–9152 Filed 4–20–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

April 13, 2010.

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Docket Numbers: RP10–586–000.

Applicants: Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America, LLC.

Description: Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America, LLC submits amendment to the Firm Transportation and Storage Negotiated Rate Agreement with CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas.

Filed Date: 04/08/2010.

Accession Number: 20100408–0205.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–587–000.

Applicants: Midwestern Gas Transmission Company.

Description: Midwestern Gas Transmission Company submits Eighth Revised Sheet 1 *et al.* to its FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume 1, to be effective 05/10/10.

Filed Date: 04/08/2010.

Accession Number: 20100408–0204

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–588–000.

Applicants: Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC.

Description: Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC submits Second Revised Sheet 2 *et al.* to its FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume 1, to be effective 05/09/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0203.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–589–000.

Applicants: Central Kentucky Transmission Company.

Description: Central Kentucky Transmission Company submits First Revised Sheet 2 *et al.* to its FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume 1, to be effective 05/09/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0204.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–590–000.

Applicants: Hardy Storage Company, LLC.

Description: Hardy Storage Company, LLC submits First Revised Sheet 2 *et al.* to FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume 1 to be effective 05/09/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0202.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–591–000.

Applicants: Crossroads Pipeline Company.

Description: Crossroad Pipeline Company submits Fourth Revised Sheet 2 *et al.* to its FERC Gas Tariff, First Revised Volume 1, to be effective 05/09/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0205.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–592–000.

Applicants: Columbia Gulf Transmission Company.

Description: Columbia Gulf Transmission Company submits Third Revised Sheet 2 *et al.* to its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume 1, to be effective 05/09/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0206.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–593–000.

Applicants: Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC.

Description: Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC submits the transportation service agreements under Rate Schedule FT.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0218.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–594–000.

Applicants: Garden Banks Gas Pipeline, LLC.

Description: Garden Banks Gas Pipeline, LLC submits Fifth Revised Sheet 0 *et al.* to its FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume 1, to be effective 05/10/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–0219.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–595–000.

Applicants: Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC.

Description: Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC submits tariff filing per 154.203: Baseline Filing to be effective 04/09/10.

Filed Date: 04/09/2010.

Accession Number: 20100409–5087.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Docket Numbers: RP10–596–000.

Applicants: Northwest Pipeline GP.

Description: Northwest Pipeline GP submits Second Revised Sheet 4 to FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume 1, to be effective 05/12/10.

Filed Date: 04/12/2010.

Accession Number: 20100413–0205.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, April 26, 2010.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. It is not necessary to separately intervene again in a subdocket related to a compliance filing if you have previously intervened in the same docket. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant. In reference to filings initiating a new proceeding, interventions or protests submitted on or before the comment deadline need not be served on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at <http://www.ferc.gov>. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protests.

Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the intervention or protest to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The filings in the above proceedings are accessible in the Commission's