



of State Energy Officials

ENERGY'S WASHINGTON VOICE

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February 11, 2008

Mr. James H. Jorgensen, PE, CBO Chair
International Energy Code Committee
City of Lenexa
12350 West 87th Street
Lenexa, KS 66215

Mr. Stephen J. Turchen, Vice Chair
International Energy Code Committee
Fairfax County Department of Public Works
12055 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035

Re:Adoption of EC-14/EC-154 – “30% Solution”

Dear Mr. Jorgensen, Mr. Turchen and the International Energy Code Committee:

We are writing to urge the IECC Development Committee to adopt EC-14/EC-154, also known as the “30% Solution.” This should be endorsed by the International Energy Code Committee later this month and should be adopted by the full ICC at your meeting in Minneapolis in September, 2008.

The National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) represents the energy offices in the states, territories and the District of Columbia. We are committed to a balanced national energy policy, including a robust improvement in energy efficiency throughout the economy. The states have taken the lead in promoting energy efficiency programs, with a myriad of new initiatives announced recently.

The improved energy efficiency of building codes is a critical measure in achieving our goals to greatly increase energy efficiency. There is no reasonable basis for not supporting this minimum “30% Solution.” Once this new code is adopted, we are committed to working on the state level to accelerate the implementation of the new code, including necessary training for code officials and local building officials. With non-industrial buildings utilizing 40% of our energy and

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a larger percentage of our electricity, needlessly wasted energy in homes cannot be permitted to persist.

Considering the national security implications of our dependence on imported energy, the need to enhance economic development and the need to respond to environmental challenges, every day you wait to increase the energy efficiency of the code, is another day wasted. The “30% Solution” is a necessary step that should be taken. We would strongly support other measures to increase energy efficiency and we would urge you to reject any weakening amendments that would further reduce energy efficiency. Arguments suggesting that initial costs are increased with increased energy efficiency codes simply fail to recognize the dramatically improved life-cycle costs of energy efficient housing. If you fail to adopt the increased code, you will require the states to take other steps in this and other areas that will improve energy efficiency in ways that you might not fully appreciate.

We would be available to discuss this with you and the Committee if it would be productive. A partnership between the state energy offices and the Code Committee would be welcomed as we move forward to adopt and implement the “30% Solution.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dub Taylor". The signature is stylized and cursive.

William “Dub” Taylor
Chairman

cc: State Energy Directors
The Honorable John D. Dingell
Chairman, House Energy and Commerce Committee
The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Chairman, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
The Honorable Andrew Karsner
Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy