



6/28/2015

Attn: Stephen Carley
Department of Public Safety

RE: Proposal to Update Massachusetts's Base Energy Code

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) is a regional non-profit organization founded in 1996 whose mission is to promote the efficient use of energy in homes, buildings, and industry throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic through regionally coordinated programs and policies that increase the use of energy efficient products, services and practices, and help achieve a cleaner environment and a more reliable and affordable energy system. NEEP's Building Energy Codes Project, one of NEEP's oldest initiatives, helps the region to increase building energy efficiency by providing technical resources and assistance to states to develop, implement, and comply with building energy codes. NEEP has been designated by the U.S. Department of Energy as the regional building energy codes support organization for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region.

Building energy codes are a highly cost-effective source of demonstrated, long-term energy savings, and the proposal to adopt the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as the foundational document for this update of the current 8th Edition of the Base Code as well as the forthcoming 9th Edition would provide the Commonwealth with the latest, most efficient national model energy code.

- By adopting 2015 IECC / ASHRAE 90.1-2013, Massachusetts will stay on track with its energy efficiency goals and provide benefits to its building and home owners and tenants for many years. New construction is the most cost-effective time to install better insulation, quality fenestration, and efficient heating and cooling equipment that is properly sized. The increase in construction costs should be reduced over time through economies of scale as suppliers and retailers reduce inventories and streamline production to meet these new energy targets.
- The adoption of 2015 IECC / ASHRAE 90.1-2013 will facilitate compliance and enforcement of the code since many of the provisions are simpler and easier to apply than previous versions. Builders and code officials can take advantage of free resources, REScheck and COMcheck compliance software, and other programs through the Department of Energy.

NEEP is available to assist in answering inquiries about any aspect of building energy code adoption and implementation. Please do not hesitate to contact NEEP for technical guidance in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rose', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kevin Rose
Building Energy Senior Technical Associate
NEEP - Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships