



*National Association of  
State Energy Officials*

## NASEO Building Energy Codes Update

Chris Wagner, NASEO Program Manager  
2013 NASEO Annual Meeting | September 15, 2013

# + Presentation Overview

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- DOE Compliance RFI
  - Other Compliance Activities
  - Upcoming ICC Public Comment Hearings
    - Travel scholarships
    - Residential code proposals of interest
  - Q&A and Discussion
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# + DOE Compliance RFI

- DOE's Building Energy Codes Program (BECP) released a Request for Information (RFI) on August 6, 2013: "DOE Activities and Methodology for Assessing Compliance with Building Energy Codes"
  - New submission deadline: September 30, 2013
- This DOES NOT relate to the Recovery Act 90% code compliance provision (Section 410)
- The intent with this RFI appears to be to provide DOE feedback on a variety of compliance-related issues, including:
  - Methodology developed for DOE's energy code compliance evaluation pilot studies in nine states
  - Fundamental assumptions and approaches to measuring building energy code compliance

# + DOE Compliance RFI

## ■ RFI Categories:

### ■ **Defining and Achieving Compliance**

- Definition of compliance and barriers

### ■ **Costs and Benefits**

- State/national/consumer benefits of compliance, and cost of ensuring compliance

### ■ **Compliance Targets**

- How to measure compliance and track progress

### ■ **Evaluating Compliance**

- Who should evaluate compliance (State Energy Offices, local jurisdictions, contractors hired by state, etc.)?
- Where should funding come from?

### ■ **DOE Compliance Evaluation Resources and Actions:**

- What resources should DOE provide?
- How could incentive funding be used to help states increase code adoption and compliance efforts?

# + Other Building Energy Code Compliance Initiatives

- Increasing energy code compliance through use of rate-payer funded energy efficiency programs continues to be a topic of interest
  - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) is developing a “Utility Savings Estimator Tool” to help estimate the electric and gas energy savings that can be achieved through increased code compliance level; Version 1.0 anticipated in October
- NASEO report: [“Leveraging State Energy Office-Utility Partnerships to Advance Building Energy Codes”](#)
  - Examined existing state-utility partnerships to support code adoption and compliance and provided recommendations
- Recent Cadmus/NEEP/IMT/IEE report: [“Attributing Building Energy Code Savings to Energy Efficiency Programs”](#)
  - Explores options for developing code programs that can be recognized like conventional energy efficiency programs that produce savings
- [DOE April 2013 Code Compliance Technical Meeting](#)
  - Included presentations from state representatives from Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Washington on approaches to code compliance

# + Upcoming ICC Hearings

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- International Code Council is holding Public Comment Hearings October 2 -10, 2013 in Atlantic City, New Jersey
    - Final votes for the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) will take place Oct. 5 – 10
    - NASEO has travel scholarship funding available for State Energy Offices that plan to attend
      - Contact Chris Wagner if interested ([cwagner@naseo.org](mailto:cwagner@naseo.org))
      - ICC registration deadline was August 30, 2013
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# + Upcoming ICC Hearings

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- Concern among some energy efficiency organizations that the 2015 code will “backslide” compared to 2012, especially on the residential code.
  - Residential code proposals of note:
    - RE-166: would restore the Equipment Trade-Off provision that was previously voted out of the IECC
    - RE 188-13: voluntary performance compliance path for 2015 IECC; meet mandatory requirements plus a target “Energy Rating Index” score (HERS or other) based on climate
    - RE 186: “Builder Flex Beyond the 2012”; approach to achieve 5% energy savings above the 2012 IECC based on multiple options that a builder can select
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# + Q&A and Discussion

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- Codes website: <http://naseo.org/building-energy-codes>

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