**IECC TAG MEETING MINUTES**

**2/11/16**

**Department of Public Safety, Florian Hall**

Meeting started at 9:15 a.m.

**TAG members present**: Bob Ward (Builders Installed Products), Barbara Berry (Maine Association of Realtors), Heather McNally (CEO for Windham), Rick Meinking (Efficiency Maine), Don McGilvery (Maine State Housing), Rick Karg (Karg Associates), Carl Chretien (Chretien Construction), Eric Jones (Northeast Spray Insulation) and Rob Ingwersen (Ginger Hill Design – Arundel).

**Board members present**: Steve Wintle, Chair; Eric Dube, Dick Tarr and Russ Martin.

**Introductions**

Steve Wintle, Chairman presented a Power Point presentation. The 80 slide power point presentation has (since) been summarized in the attached four pages.

Steve’s presentation began with a comparison of 2009 IECC vs 2012/2015 IECC. These are:

* The visual *qualitative* inspection of the envelope (and air barriers) for total building air leakage with and optional blower door test at 7ACH would now be a Mandatory Blower q*uantitative* test at 3 ACH.
* Duct testing now required would be lowered from 6 CFM per 100 LF to 4 CFM.
* The wall Insulation values would increase with R-5 continuous.
* The Manual J Heating Load calculations would remain mandatory from 2009 IECC.

Steve then presented four case studies that addressed compliance concerns raised by the full board: *the degree of difficulty, the cost and the payback*. Steve’s recommendation would be to adopt the 2012 and 2015 IECC energy code with several amendments that would, initially **stick only** with the requirements of 2009 Energy Code, but, immediately add the requirement of mandatory Blower Door tests of the envelope at no required ACH. Then, say over a period of 12-24 months, evaluate the progress of compliance with 2009 and discuss phasing in the other salient components of 2012 and 2015, per Option #1.

The cost of the blower door tests range from $150 and $200. However, Steve believes this cost and the added cost of 2012 and 2015 items *can be* offset by the avoided cost of downsized mechanical heating and cooling equipment. “As illustrated in case study #1, we find that when we build to the energy code and have q*uantitative* verification of air leakage we no longer need a capacity of 100,000 BTU/Hr. boilers in 2400 SF homes. We need to encourage our building code officials to collect the Manual J heating load calculations (per 2009 IECC) to save consumers thousands.” The Manual J’s calculations are typically prepared by the mechanical equipment suppliers for the contractors for “free”.

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Question about the list of HERS raters who do perform the Blower Door tests? Rick Meinking assured the group with over 200 individuals available the market would fill the void of any need.

Bob Ward, TAG member also advised that for the sake of costs, to stay with the 2009 Energy Code as well. Russ Martin, Board member, also advised he thought we should stay with ASHRAE 62.1 for commercial ventilation and make it mandatory.

In addition, Steve reviewed the ASHRAE 62.2-2013 and IRC ventilation standards. A 3001-3500 SF home would require 128 CFM by ASHRAE and 75CFM by IRC. Steve is more comfortable with IRC being phased in over time.

Discussion ensued on what if any amendments could be made to the 2015, if adopted or to the 2009 with added amendments/requirements of Blower Door tests, etc.

Motion to get some money for training on the 2015 IECC if proposed to adopt it.

Steve presented the following Option #1 for discussion and vote:

**Option #1**

**Adopt 2015 IECC**

* **Amend Residential**:  delay adoption of R-5 rigid insulation, delay adoption of blower door and performance rate of 3 ACH and delay duct testing performance rate of 4 cfm/100LF of duct.
* **Amend 2015 IECC**: Require blower door test/inspection with no ACH performance rate.   Blower door test conducted by BPI certified person; report ACH and ventilation findings to builder and consumer; recommend initial target of 7 ACH.  If below 5 ACH; recommend whole house ventilation per 2015 IRC section R303.4 and M1507.3

**Phase in the following requirements:**

* R-5 exterior or R-25 cavity (=3.7”spray foam), “R-20 walls + R-60 attic” options, with both requiring improved (U-0.28) fenestration
* Mandatory blower door performance @ 5 ACH (not 3 ACH pe)
* Mandatory ventilation when tested below 5 ACH per 2015 IRC section R303.4 and M1507.3
* Duct testing performance of 4 cfm per 100 LF of duct
* Note \*Chapter 11 of 2015 IRC  is verbatim of  IECC 2012  chapter 4

**Vote**: Yes 4 - No 3

Barbara Berry advised that unless there was training, $$ to do so and a cost analysis between the 2009 and the 2015, her vote would be no for fear of losing all of the Building Codes.

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**Option #2**

Addenda to 2009 IECC

* Insert:  Mandatory Blower Door Performance Evaluation -  ≤ 7 Air Changes per Hour (ACH) Conducted by: Building Performance Institute (BPI certified person)
* With Mandatory Blower Door there would be no increase in building cost due to the following: No Requirement for multiple visual Inspections at completion of

Framing, Air Sealing, Insulation or Duct Rough In.

**Vote**: Yes 4 - No 1

Meeting ended at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Robitaille,

Building Codes Secretary