REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON
INFLATION REDUCTION ACT
Section 50131. Technical Assistance for Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption
DE-FOA-0003054

ISSUE DATE:	March 31, 2023
RESPONSES DUE:	April 26, 2023, 5:00 PM ET
SUBJECT:	Request for Information (RFI) and Announcement of a Stakeholder Workshop
AGENCY:	Department of Energy, State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP)

Description

This Request for Information (RFI) is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP). The intent of this RFI is to obtain public input regarding the solicitation process and structure of a potential DOE Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to support the development, adoption, and implementation of the latest model building energy codes and zero building energy codes for residential and commercial, new and existing buildings (or equivalent codes or standards,) throughout the U.S. in accordance with Section 50131 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).[1] Specifically, this RFI seeks input on:

- Selection Criteria
- Other Funding Sources
- Compliance Plans
- Existing-Building Opportunities

Information collected from this RFI will be used by DOE for planning purposes to develop a potential FOA. The information collected will not be published. This is solely a request for information and not a FOA. SCEP is not accepting applications.

A Notice of Intent[2] is being issued together with this RFI. Additional information regarding a potential FOA supporting Technical Assistance for the Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Codes or Standards is available in that NOI. A public workshop to gather additional input on this potential FOA will be held on April 18, 2023. Additional information on the public workshop is available at: https://pnnl.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_yKIg2RtNRh6OQC53b1ba0A.

[1] Inflation Reduction Act, Public Law 117-369 (August 16, 2022), Part 3 – Building Efficiency and Resilience, Section 50131 – Assistance for Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption. https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr5376/BILLS-117hr5376enr.pdf

[2] Technical Assistance for the Adoption of Building Energy Codes | Department of Energy

Statutory Authority

On August 16, 2022, President Joseph R. Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) into law, making the single largest investment in addressing climate change through clean energy technologies. In addition to the IRA, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act,[3] commonly referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), infused more than $62 billion into the economy when it was passed into law in November 2021. Although these laws are different in their approach, many parts are intentionally complementary, and collectively, they will be a driving force toward a clean energy future. Investment in building energy codes is just one of many areas where BIL and IRA build on one another, resulting in a dynamic program to achieve a more energy efficient building stock and laying the groundwork for new and renovated code-compliant and zero-energy buildings throughout the country.

IRA funding supports the adoption and implementation of the latest model energy codes (i.e., 2021 IECC & ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2019[4]),[5] zero energy building codes (e.g., zero energy provisions shown in Appendices RC and CC of the 2021 IECC), or other codes or standards that achieve equivalent or greater energy savings. Through Section 50131 of the IRA, *Assistance for Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption*, the 117th U.S. Congress appropriated $1 billion available through September 30, 2029. Specifically, this provision makes the following investments to assist states and units of local government with authority to adopt building codes:

- **$330 million** to adopt the latest building energy code that meets or exceeds the energy savings in the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for residential buildings and the ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1–2019 for commercial buildings; and
- **$670 million** to adopt a building energy code that meets or exceeds the zero energy provisions in the 2021 IECC code or an equivalent stretch code.[6]

For savings to be fully realized from new code updates, effective implementation is needed, including training and education, compliance and enforcement support, implementation tools and resources, and compliance assessment. The IRA criteria specifically requires jurisdictions to develop a compliance plan to achieve full compliance with the adopted code or standards in affected new and renovated, residential and commercial buildings. This plan must specifically

[3] Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58 (November 15, 2021). https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684. This FOA uses the more common name "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law".
[4] The IECC is developed by the International Code Council (ICC). Standard 90.1 is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard developed jointly by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES).
[5] This Request for Information refers to the 2021 IECC and ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2019 collectively as "the latest codes."
[6] Congress provides that DOE can use up to $50M of the IRA funds for the administrative expenses.

include active training and enforcement programs and activities to measure the rate of compliance each year.

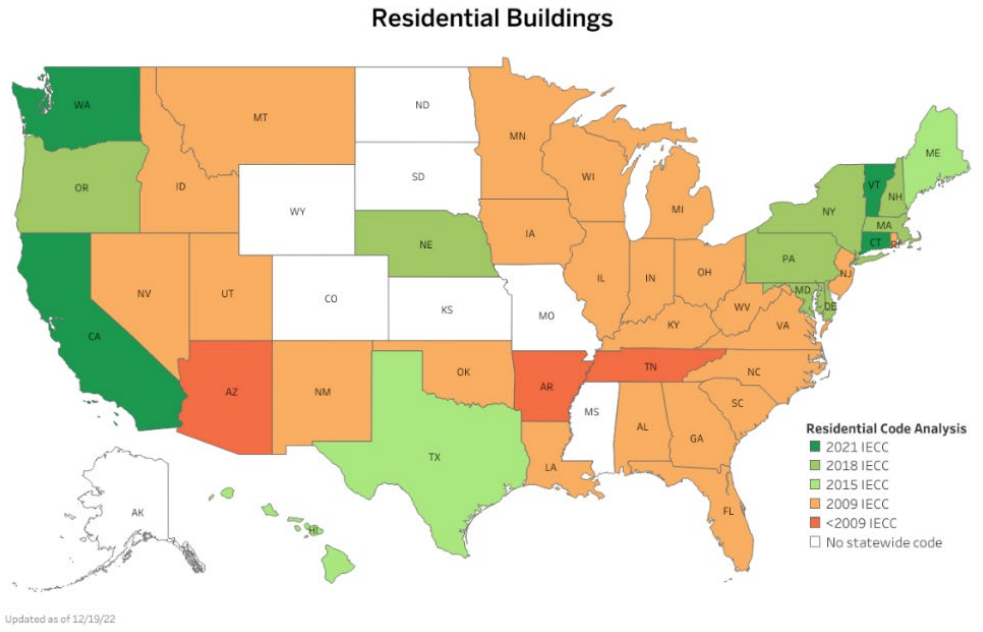
Background

Traditional building energy codes establish minimum levels of energy efficiency for new construction and major renovations of existing residential and commercial buildings. Model energy codes, such as the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1, are developed and updated through national consensus processes. Through each update cycle, model energy codes have made continuous improvements in levels of efficiency. The latest codes are now approximately 50% more efficient than ASHRAE 90-1975; however, the latest model code is still only roughly halfway to a zero-energy building and less than halfway to a zero emissions building.

States and local governments ultimately implement building energy codes through various adoption, compliance, and enforcement processes, which can vary widely across the United States. The implementation of building energy codes also depends on a significant number of stakeholders, including state and local government agencies, building and safety departments, builders, contractors, and design professionals, as well as affected community interests. Successful implementation of the latest building energy codes and standards is critical to ensuring their benefits are realized in American homes and businesses.

DOE encourages states and local governments with code making authority to implement the latest model energy codes. DOE currently supports code adoption and implementation through technical assistance activities, including the issuance of code determinations,[7] state cost-effectiveness analyses,[8] compliance tools,[9] hosting stakeholder forums to encourage sharing of successful practices,[10] and more. As presented in Figure 1, many different editions and amended versions of model energy codes have been adopted and are being implemented around the country. Helping states and local governments embrace the latest energy codes, stretch codes that may be of particular interest to a given jurisdiction, zero energy codes, and innovative building performance standards creates significant opportunities to reduce energy, emissions, and costs. At the same time, states and local jurisdictions are also trying to deliver greater compliance and enforcement capacity, cultivate a next generation workforce trained on the latest codes and standards, and produce cost-competitive solutions needed for effective energy code implementation.

[7] https://www.energycodes.gov/determinations
[8] https://www.energycodes.gov/national-and-state-analysis
[9] https://www.energycodes.gov/software-tools
[10] https://www.energycodes.gov/2022-national-energy-codes-conference



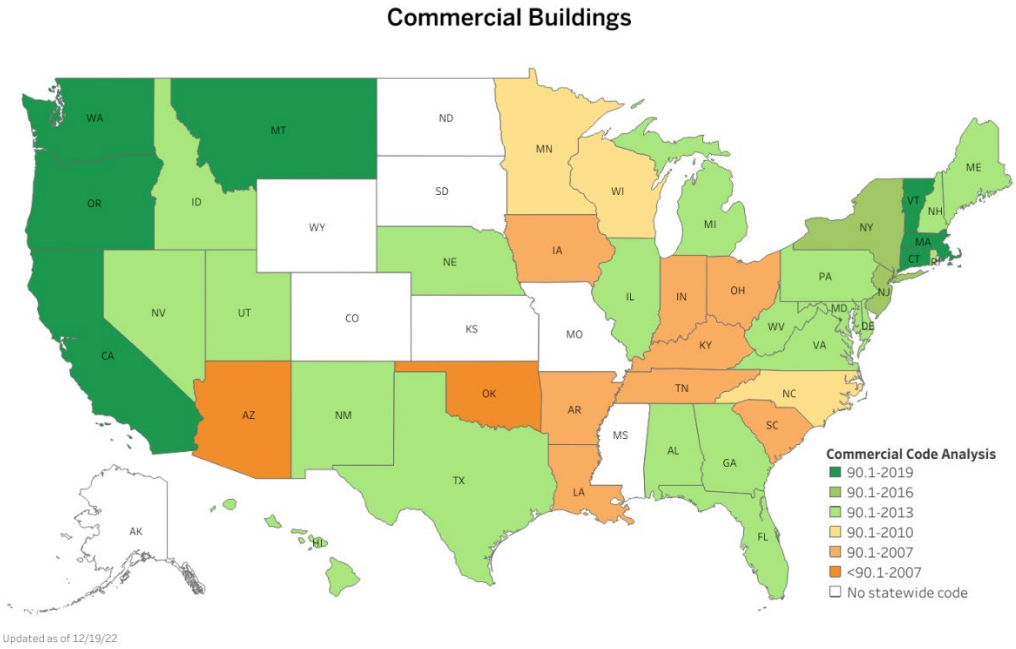


Figure 1 *Status of Residential (top) and Commercial (bottom) State Energy Codes (as of 12/19/22). This map is derived from a quantitative energy use indicator (EUI) analysis of each state energy code to determine each state's energy index. The energy index is then compared to the energy indices of the latest six versions of the IECC-R and IECC-C to determine a code category by which to label each state.*[11] *Note that the energy index may not correspond with the actual version code adopted by the state,*

[11] More information on DOE's state energy code analysis can be found at https://www.energycodes.gov/status.https://www.energycodes.gov/status

but instead indicates which code version the state code is most equivalent to, including consideration for state-level amendments.

DOE recognizes that building energy code funding provided through the IRA follows the $225 million dollar appropriation to support the adoption and implementation of resilient and efficient energy codes through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Like the IRA codes provision, Section 40511 of the BIL, *Cost-Effective Codes Implementation for Efficiency and Resilience*, addresses many of the same energy code improvement fundamentals, such as energy code adoption, compliance, workforce training, and other technical assistance activities. The BIL specifies eligible entities as a relevant state agency or partnerships that include a relevant state agency, as determined by the Secretary of Energy and focuses on the adoption of building energy codes, workforce support, and compliance. Complimenting some of the same activities, the IRA codes provision provides funding to directly assist states or local governments that have the authority to adopt building codes in adopting the latest model and zero energy codes and other innovative building standards that achieve equivalent or greater energy savings, recognizing the opportunity to make an even greater impact with program funding and includes flexibility to provide resilience planning for existing building stock. DOE believes both these funding sources are complementary and can be utilized in a cyclic manner by jurisdictions over time.

Purpose

Through this RFI, DOE seeks to solicit feedback from state and local governments, building officials, contractors, designers, builders, other industry representatives, community organizations, environmental justice organizations, academia, research laboratories, and other stakeholders on issues related to key provisions in Section 50131 of the IRA. The IRA provides direction on certain high-level eligibility criteria and overall goals but does not detail how to develop and effectively implement an IRA codes program that will empower States and local jurisdictions to update their building energy codes and standards for new and existing buildings. To further support program development, DOE has identified several categories and questions where the Department is requesting feedback. These categories are as follows:

1. Selection Criteria & FOA Issues
2. Other Funding Sources
3. Compliance Plan
4. Existing-Building Opportunities

This is solely a request for information and not a FOA. SCEP is not accepting applications for funding at this time.

You may answer as few or as many of the questions below as you would like. Please use the bolded Category numbers and sub-numbers as headings in your response to the greatest extent possible and refer to the questions (e.g., C1.1.a, C2.2.b, etc.) in the body of your responses. This helps save time both for the responder and the reviewers.

Specifically, DOE is requesting input on the following categories and questions:

Category 1: Selection Criteria & FOA Issues
There are many scenarios to consider when developing selection criteria for the eventual FOA. Many scenarios are addressed in the contemporaneous Notice of Intent;[12] however, DOE seeks input on a few specific topics related to selection criteria.

Questions

1) Should DOE specify a period within which adoption of a code must be achieved? If so, what timeframe should be required for states to adopt the code (i.e., 2021 IECC/90.1-2019, Zero Energy Code, or other code/standard achieving equivalent or greater energy savings) to be eligible for funding?
2) What guidance should DOE provide applicants around "equivalent or greater energy savings," including both timeframe over which savings must be achieved, and scope of where savings occur? How should emissions reductions be considered?
3) How can DOE incentivize innovative Building Performance Standards, including standards that focus on affordable and sustainable housing for underserved communities?
4) What tools or services should DOE provide to support applicants?
5) What tools or services should DOE provide to support grantees?
6) Should eligible entities include authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) (e.g., certain city governments, State Energy Offices, etc.) in addition to state and local government agencies?
7) How can DOE incentivize rapid adoption of codes or standards with long-term commitment to robust compliance activities?

Category 2: Other Funding Sources
Over the last year, through BIL and IRA, $1.225 billion has been appropriated to encourage the adoption and implementation of updated energy codes throughout the United States. Although BIL and IRA requirements take different approaches, their intent and goals are complementary. As such, DOE envisions these funding sources can be leveraged to help states and local governments make regular updates to their energy code. For example, a jurisdiction may apply for BIL funding with a proposal to update their code from the 2009 IECC to the 2018 IECC and facilitate a statewide education and training program. If awarded, this would provide critical funding to adopt and implement a new and more efficient energy code, but also lay the foundation to adopt the latest model code or something more efficient during their next adoption cycle, potentially making them eligible to apply for IRA funding. This is just one of many examples of how states and local jurisdictions can leverage BIL and IRA funding to make continuous progress and have a greater long-term impact.

[12] Technical Assistance for the Adoption of Building Energy Codes | Department of Energy

In addition to direct codes-related funding, other sources such as the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) could potentially be leveraged. The EECBG Program provides federal grants to states, units of local government, and Indian tribes to assist eligible entities in implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions and total energy use across sectors in their jurisdiction. Section 40552(b) of BIL authorized an additional $550 million to the EECBG starting FY22, to remain available until expended. Although this funding is not targeted directly at codes, one eligible use of funding listed in a recent EECBG Notice of Intent is the "development and implementation of building codes and inspection services to promote building energy efficiency."[13] If a state or local government adopted a new code using IRA codes funding, this EECBG funding could be leveraged to further support effective implementation of the new code.

There are also opportunities to leverage external funding sources such as programs supported by states, utilities, foundations, and others. To the extent practicable, DOE encourages other funding sources be leveraged to increase the potential impact of the IRA codes program.

Questions

1) How can DOE encourage coordination between BIL and IRA codes funding and aid States and localities in developing a holistic plan for adoption, implementation, and compliance?
2) How should funding under other federal programs (e.g., BIL Section 40109: State Energy Program, BIL Section 40552: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, other federal programs, or tax incentives for efficient buildings) be leveraged to maximize the impact of the IRA codes funding?
3) How can IRA building energy codes funding best leverage other sources of funding from states, utility programs, and others?
4) Should DOE prioritize projects that leverage other funding sources?

Category 3: Compliance Plan

To ensure that IRA funds help states and local governments achieve energy savings and emissions reductions commensurate with adopted codes and energy standards, the IRA requires each jurisdiction that accepts funds to implement a plan to achieve "full compliance" with the adopted energy code (i.e., all new and renovated residential or commercial buildings must meet all requirements of the adopted code). This "compliance plan" is required to include several elements. A state or local government must have a plan to demonstrate it is making progress or has achieved full compliance through annual measurements of compliance rates. The compliance plan must also include an active training program and an active enforcement program.

[13] Notice of Intent to issue Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), Section 40552(b): Administrative and Legal Requirements Document (ALRD) and application instructions for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/FileContent.aspx?FileID=b3e1568b-2136-4bb4-b859-1ac82e2df37c

DOE has historically evaluated energy code compliance through an established methodology.[14] DOE has generally encouraged states to assess compliance with their codes every three to five years and provides a suite of resources, including statistical sampling and field evaluation protocols, data collection instruments, and analytical support. A compliance plan could include periodic assessments similar to (or using) the DOE methodology, which could provide longer-term trend and comparative information, and could also incorporate other approaches to provide frequent or ongoing assessments of compliance rates. Given the need for annual assessment specified in IRA Section 50131, DOE is interested in identifying other successful means of compliance measurement, including means by which states and local governments can build on existing DOE guidance and resources, as well as supplemental methods of assessing compliance which may be useful in supporting state and local code implementation.

In addition to compliance assessments, the IRA specifies that the compliance plan must include active training programs. DOE envisions this as encompassing both workforce training to provide the skills needed to build to the new code and training needed for inspectors and other code officials. For some states and local governments, education and training programs are commonplace – either through established state or local agencies, often tied to state- or industry-based professional licensing or continuing education programs. In other cases, trades organizations, non-profit organizations, or academic institutions, including trade and vocational schools, provide such training. In other cases, training and education programs can be linked to utility energy efficiency programs. The presence of energy code education, training, and compliance-support programs can vary widely, with some states and local jurisdictions not currently having such programs, in which case they may have to develop this type of support program from the ground up. Recognizing the critical need to grow and upskill our workforce based on the latest codes, and to achieve the desired energy code outcomes in the IRA, DOE is highly interested in best practices and replicable models that have demonstrated success.

In addition to education and training, consistent and robust enforcement mechanisms ensure code benefits are realized and reach developers, building owners and occupants. The IRA also requires the compliance plan to include an active enforcement program. DOE recognizes that the authority to enforce energy codes (also known as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in this context) often lies in the hands of the local government, in many cases a municipal building department. Energy code enforcement varies widely across jurisdictions, with some of the most commonly cited barriers to enforcement being lack of available staff and resources. Some AHJs have dedicated enforcement staff with specific subject matter expertise in energy codes while others may not have the ability to enforce the energy code at all. The ability of AHJs to enforce energy codes can also vary based on factors such as local construction volume, and whether the jurisdiction is predominantly located in an urban, suburban or rural area. Many jurisdictions, for example, particularly those in rural areas, employ third-party models to code enforcement, where plan review and field inspection services are contracted out through a consulting service.

[14] https://www.energycodes.gov/energy-efficiency-field-studies

Others have pursued circuit-rider approaches where a single code official, such as one who specializes in energy codes, provides services to multiple jurisdictions and across geographic boundaries. DOE seeks input on a range of typical enforcement programs, and which should be deemed appropriate under the specification of the IRA, including the potential for alternative and innovative approaches which can address challenges such as varying resource intensity, and which could be embraced by additional states and AHJs across the U.S. DOE is also interested in any unique challenges faced by AHJs in underserved communities and how IRA funds could potentially help overcome those challenges.

Questions

1) The IRA requires each jurisdiction receiving funds to implement a plan to achieve full compliance. Emphasizing that full compliance refers to 100% of buildings subject to the energy code/standard meeting all aspects of that code or standard:
   a) How should DOE require jurisdictions to demonstrate full compliance? Through audits of completed buildings? Through design evaluations at permitting? Through demonstrated reductions in energy consumption in the relevant building stock? Through another approach? In what scenarios would different approaches be appropriate?
   b) Should there be a timeframe for when full compliance must be achieved? Should this be a set timeframe, or should it be partially dependent on the degree to which an energy code is improved?
2) The compliance plan must include "measurement of the rate of compliance each year."
   a) For AHJs with currently active compliance and/or enforcement programs, by what method(s) do those AHJs evaluate success? Please provide information regarding the resources needed to implement those methods.
   b) What approach(es) to measuring the annual rate of compliance should DOE accept and why?
   c) Should DOE require its established methodology on a periodic basis (e.g., 3 or 5 years)? Would information derived from the existing DOE methodology be useful to verify annual metrics, to track improvement over time, to allow comparison of effectiveness of different approaches across jurisdictions, or for other purposes?
   d) Should DOE accept ongoing compliance measurement (e.g., ongoing data collection and tracking in lieu of an annual compliance assessment)?
   e) Should DOE require energy use or emissions data as part of code compliance in a manner that helps validate the proposed energy or emissions savings to be delivered by the adopted code or standard?
3) The IRA requires an "active training" program as part of the compliance plan.
   a) What should constitute an "active training" program? What metrics should DOE track to demonstrate a program is "active"?
   b) If a jurisdiction does not have a training program, what should be the allowable timeframe to establish such a program?
   c) What best practices and/or replicable models have states, AHJs, or others implemented with demonstrated success?

d) What resources could DOE provide to help jurisdictions establish training programs?

4) The IRA requires an "active enforcement" program as part of the compliance plan.
   a) What should constitute an "enforcement program" for both codes and building performance standards? What metrics should an AHJ track to demonstrate a program is "active"?
   b) If a jurisdiction does not have an enforcement program, what should be the allowable timeframe to establish such a program?
   c) What best practices and/or replicable models have states or AHJs implemented with demonstrated success? What resources were required to achieve success?
   d) What guidance, templates, or other resources could DOE provide to help jurisdictions establish enforcement programs?
5) Should DOE develop guidance around what constitutes a compliance plan?
6) Should DOE develop a template to support the compliance plan requirement?
   a) As discussed in the accompanying NOI, DOE anticipates providing a streamlined competitive process for some funding. What resources, including tools, could DOE provide to facilitate streamlined applications that address the requirement for a compliance plan?
7) What equity considerations should DOE incorporate into any guidance or plans, especially surrounding workforce and training?

Category 4: Existing-Building Opportunities

The IRA Codes provision specifically references support for "new and renovated residential or commercial buildings." There are a variety of approaches that can address opportunities for performance improvements in existing buildings across state and local jurisdictions. Building Performance Standards (BPS) are state and local laws that require existing buildings to achieve minimum levels of energy or climate performance. Working in tandem with new construction energy codes, these standards empower states and localities to deliver on their energy and equity goals through accelerated retrofits. They focus on outcome-based building performance, enabling existing buildings to improve core components and systems to meet increasingly ambitious targets. Unlike new construction, existing-building opportunities present over a longer time horizon, demanding comprehensive solutions that exist on a similar timeline – one that spans decades or more. Capital expenditure plans and staggered equipment lifetimes add another layer of complexity to efforts requiring coordinated investments. Existing buildings also must work around occupants in many cases – temporary relocation, rehousing, and impacts on rent and affordability must also be considered as major changes to a given building may have unintended consequences on the community it is there to support. Despite these challenges, approaches to improve the energy performance of existing buildings have the potential to achieve deep energy and emissions savings, improve indoor air quality, preserve and stabilize housing for occupants, and lower energy costs.

Building performance standards, and other existing-building codes and standards, are often implemented by state and local jurisdictions. State governments and many local jurisdictions,

such as cities and counties, are able to adopt existing-building codes and standards. Agencies that do not traditionally amend and adopt energy codes may have authority to adopt existing-building standards. DOE expects that applicants may be interested in a wide variety of innovative approaches to improve existing buildings since existing-building standards have shown the potential to produce substantial energy and emissions savings. Existing-building standards may be proposed provided that they are implementable, verifiable and enforceable, and deliver equivalent or greater energy savings relative to building energy codes, in accordance with the statute.

DOE is particularly interested in the structure, timing, and impact of various approaches that can be taken to address energy and emissions performance in existing buildings.

Questions

1) What types of existing-building codes or standards (e.g., building performance standards) should be considered? Should these existing-building codes or standards be encouraged to focus on particular types of buildings?
2) How should DOE think about calculating equivalent energy savings for existing-building codes or standards? How should emissions savings be considered?
3) Stakeholder and community engagement are critical components for designing an inclusive existing-building policy driving toward equitable outcomes. What critical considerations should be included when evaluating community impacts for equitable outcomes and workforce opportunities under an existing-building code or standard?
4) Given that existing-building codes or standards necessarily have longer timelines for compliance, should there be minimum thresholds set on the amount of time required or permitted before the first assessment of compliance by covered facilities?
5) What resources and tools should DOE provide, as well as those that DOE can leverage that already exist, to support existing-building codes and standards?

Disclaimer and Important Notes

This RFI is not a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA); therefore, SCEP is not accepting applications at this time. SCEP may issue a FOA in the future based on or related to the content and responses to this RFI; however, SCEP may also elect not to issue a FOA. There is no guarantee that a FOA will be issued as a result of this RFI. Responding to this RFI does not provide any advantage or disadvantage to potential applicants if SCEP chooses to issue a FOA regarding the subject matter. Final details, including the anticipated award size, quantity, and timing of SCEP funded awards, will be subject to Congressional appropriations and direction.

Any information obtained as a result of this RFI is intended to be used by the Government on a non-attribution basis for planning and strategy development; this RFI does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals or abstracts. Your response to this notice will be treated as information only. SCEP will review and consider all responses in its formulation of program

strategies for the identified materials of interest that are the subject of this request. SCEP will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred in responding to this RFI. Respondents are advised that SCEP is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted under this RFI. Responses to this RFI do not bind SCEP to any further actions related to this topic.

Confidential Business Information

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.11, any person submitting information believed to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should submit via email two well-marked copies: one copy of the document marked "confidential" including all the information believed to be confidential, and one copy of the document marked "non-confidential" with the information believed to be confidential deleted. Submit these documents via email. DOE will make its own determination about the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

Evaluation and Administration by Federal and Non-Federal Personnel

Federal employees are subject to the nondisclosure requirements of a criminal statute, the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1905. The Government may seek the advice of qualified non-Federal personnel. The Government may also use non-Federal personnel to conduct routine, nondiscretionary administrative activities. The respondents, by submitting their response, consent to SCEP providing their response to non-Federal parties. Non-Federal parties given access to responses must be subject to an appropriate obligation of confidentiality prior to being given the access. Submissions may be reviewed by support contractors and private consultants.

Request for Information Response Guidelines

Responses to this RFI must be submitted electronically to iracodes@hq.doe.gov no later than 5:00p.m. (ET) on April 26, 2023. Responses must be provided as attachments to an email. It is recommended that attachments with file sizes exceeding 25MB be compressed (i.e., zipped) to ensure message delivery. Responses must be provided as a Microsoft Word (.docx) attachment to the email, and no more than 12 pages in length, 12-point font, 1-inch margins. Only electronic responses will be accepted.

Please identify your answers by responding to a specific question or topic if applicable. Respondents may answer as many or as few questions as they wish.

SCEP will not respond to individual submissions or publish a compendium of responses. A response to this RFI will not be viewed as a binding commitment to develop or pursue the project or ideas discussed. Respondents are strongly advised NOT to include any information in their responses that might be considered business sensitive, proprietary, or otherwise confidential. If, however, a respondent chooses to submit business sensitive, proprietary, or otherwise confidential information, it must be clearly and conspicuously marked as such in the

response as detailed under “Confidential Business Information” above. Failure to comply with marking requirements may result in the disclosure of the unmarked information under the Freedom of Information Act or otherwise. DOE is not liable for the disclosure or use of unmarked information and reserves the right to use or disclose such information obtained through this RFI for any purpose.

Respondents are requested to provide the following information at the start of their response to this RFI:

- Company / institution name;
- Company / institution contact;
- Contact's address, phone number, and email address.

Teaming Partner List

In addition to responding to the RFI questions above, SCEP is using the Clean Energy Infrastructure (S3) Funding Opportunity eXCHANGE https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/ to compile a Teaming Partner List to facilitate the widest possible participation for this potential Technical Assistance for the Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Codes or Standards FOA. The list allows organizations with expertise in the topic and wishing to participate in an application, to express their interest to potential applicants and to explore potential partnerships. SCEP strongly encourages teams from different organizations, engineering and building science disciplines, and building sectors to form interdisciplinary and cross-sector teams that span organizational boundaries in order to enable and accelerate the achievement of outcomes that were previously viewed as extremely difficult, if not impossible.

The Teaming Partner List will be available on https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/ under this RFI (DE-FOA-0003054) until a potential FOA is posted. After a potential FOA is posted, the Teaming Partner List will be available under the supporting Technical Assistance for the Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Codes or Standards FOA. The Teaming Partner List will be updated at least weekly until the close of the Full Application period, to reflect new Teaming Partners who have provided their information. Any organization that would like to be included on this list should submit the following information to the Teaming List (iracodes@hq.doe.gov**)** with the subject line “IRA supporting Technical Assistance for the Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Codes or Standards FOA: Teaming Partner Information”:

- Organization Name,
- Generic Organization Contact Email,
- Generic Contact Phone,
- Organization Type,
- Area of Technical Expertise (bulleted list less than 25 words), and
- Brief Description of Capabilities (less than 100 words).

By submitting a request to be included on the Teaming Partner List, the requesting organization consents to the publication of the above-referenced information. Each organization should provide a generic point of contact email address to receive queries. Direct personal email addresses will not be posted. By facilitating this Teaming Partner List, SCEP does not endorse or otherwise evaluate the qualifications of the entities that identify themselves for placement on the Teaming Partner List. SCEP will not pay for the provision of any information, nor will it compensate any applicants or requesting organizations for the development of such information.