

February 5, 2024

Re: ICC 2024 Committee Action Hearings

Dear Board of the International Code Council (ICC) and Appeals Board:

As an architect practicing in multiple states, I urge you to reject appeals 23-01 through 23-09, which seek to overturn measures including electric readiness, EV charging readiness, efficient and resilient code requirements, stretch code appendices, and all-electric appendices. These appeals have no merit: they are trying to relitigate substantive, consensus decisions made according to all applicable policies and procedures as laid out in the ICC Code Development Principles.

Here is one of the critical issues addressed in these code updates. Efficiency saves lives: Watering down efficiency requirements in new buildings is unacceptable. National labs and the Department of Energy have found that more efficient, better insulated and sealed buildings save lives during extreme heat and cold like 2021's deadly heat dome in the Pacific Northwest and frigid Storm Uri in Texas. As these dangerous events increase, we have to plan to protect residents and workers.

Tragically, given what we face with climate change, from my experience as an architect with over four decades of experience, most project owners and even design professionals only aim to meet code minimums. So if we do not significantly raise the code minimums we do not have hope of stopping climate chaos.

Your colleague in working towards an equitable & sustainable society!

A. George Beeler, Principal Architect

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California Technical Forum Safety Assessment Program Evaluator CA OES