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# *Johnson & Associates Consulting Services*

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February 5, 2024

To: 2024 IECC Appeals Panel  
ICC Board of Directors

RE: In support of the Region VI general appeal on cost justification

ICC Region VI has identified a key flaw in the cost justification methodology used for electrification proposals generally and for electric vehicle charging infrastructure (EVCI) specifically.

The code change proposals requiring EVCI in the draft 2024 IECC relied on a cost justification that was solely based on avoided future costs. In other words, the code change proposals were founded on an assumption that EVCI retrofits would be mandated retroactively in the future and, since future retrofit costs would be more expensive than the installation costs for new work in the present, it was financially justified to require EVCI at this time.

However, there is no reason to believe EVCI will be mandated retroactively in the future. Indeed, given rapidly evolving charging and battery technologies, and obvious market forces, it is safer to assume EVCI needs will be addressed through the normal workings of the marketplace and EVCI will never be required retroactively.

If the only fiscal reason to mandate any building feature is *'because it would cost more later if it were required,'* anything can be cost justified, which cannot be the intent of the processes used to develop the IECC or any ICC code or standard. There needs to be more intellectual discipline in the process.

Setting aside that EVCI is obviously out-of-scope of the IECC, EVCI requirements in the 2024 IECC should be deleted for failing to provide an adequate cost justification.

Further, the ICC should prohibit cost justifications that rest solely on assumptions that the proposed building feature will be mandated as a retrofit in the future. History suggests that type of mandated retrofit almost never happens; certainly not often enough for it to provide the sole fiscal reason to adopt a proposed building feature.

Yours in building safety.

Greg Johnson