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# Energy Newsletter

## International Code Council March 2024 Energy and Sustainability Updates

*This is an ongoing series of bi-monthly emails that includes updates from the International Code Council's Energy Team on everything from energy grants to standards development. Visit [www.iccsafe.org/energy](http://www.iccsafe.org/energy) for more information.*

### Top News

- Earlier this month, [DOE announced \\$90 million in funding](#) to support building energy code adoption, training, and technical assistance at the state, territory, tribal, and local levels. This represents the second round of RECI funding. Between 20 and 40 awards will be made, with funding varying between \$500k and \$10 million. Cost sharing is not required. DOE anticipates projects will run between 1 year and 5 years. **Concept papers are due April 5th at 5pm Eastern. Full applications are due June 6th at 5pm Eastern.** The Code Council has developed a dedicated webpage, [www.iccsafe.org/RECI](http://www.iccsafe.org/RECI), and a [factsheet](#) to support industry stakeholders navigate this funding opportunity. If you're looking to submit a concept paper and are interested in working with the Code Council as a partner for your proposed project, please contact [federalgrants@iccsafe.org](mailto:federalgrants@iccsafe.org).
- Join us for the Code Council's inaugural Leadership Week in Orlando! This new event precedes the ICC 2024 Committee Action Hearings. ICC Leadership Week is a FREE CEU and networking event for our members. Come and listen to keynote speakers, participate in industry-leading conversations, network, and be part of this international building safety forum. [Learn more.](#)
- The Code Council, [Standards Australia](#) and the [National Building Specification](#) (NBS) have formed a Global Alliance to develop a [Common Data Model](#) to support climate action in the built environment through digital engineering. Through this alliance, the organizations will develop a unified data model for the buildings and infrastructure sector, utilizing existing standards and engaging with key stakeholders to ensure alignment with global protocols. Learn more [here](#).
- Meet up with the Code Council's Energy Team at the 2024 National Energy Codes Conference, May 6-8 in Sacramento, CA. [Learn more.](#)

### Energy and Resilience Grants

- In December, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) [announced \\$530 million](#) to be awarded through new competitive grant funding to support states, territories, and local and tribal governments seeking to adopt the 2021 and subsequent IECC editions as well as the IECC's zero energy appendices. Of the \$530 million, between 40 and 200 awards will be made, with funding ranging from \$1 to \$20 million, with no cost-sharing requirements. **For those who submitted concept papers to qualify for**

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**the first round of funding, the deadline to submit full applications is April 30, 2024.** Round 1 submissions will be accepted under **record/FOA number DE-FOA-0003056**. Additional information is included within the full [Funding Opportunity Announcement \(FOA\)](#). [Click here](#) for the Code Council's factsheet on this opportunity. Our team is available for grant application assistance. [Read more here](#).

- o DOE has published the deadlines for the second round of competitive funding via a modification to the FOA, available on [Infrastructure Exchange](#). **The submission deadline for the second round of Concept Papers is May 31, 2024 by 5:00 PM Eastern, with Full Applications for the second round due September 13, 2024 by 5:00 PM Eastern.** Round 2 submissions will be accepted under **record/FOA number DE-RD2-0003056**. DOE will host an informational webinar for submitting a Full Application for the FOA on March 28, 2024 at 2:00 PM Eastern. [Register here](#).
- To support industry stakeholders in navigating the diverse array of federal grant support on code adoption and implementation activities, the International Code Council's federal grants team has prepared a [suite of new resources](#) to help communities better navigate these opportunities.
- The International Code Council is prepared to assist communities in seeking federal grants to support code-related activities. [Click here to learn more](#) or contact Stella Carr (Energy and Resilience Grants Manager) at [scarr@iccsafe.org](mailto:scarr@iccsafe.org) to schedule a consultation.

## Standards Development

- The draft *Existing Building Inspection Guideline* is open for Public Comment until April 12, 2024. All public comments should be submitted to the staff liaison for the Guideline Development Committee, Kevin McOsker, via email at [kmcosker@iccsafe.org](mailto:kmcosker@iccsafe.org). [Learn more](#).
- The Code Council published a new resource, [Guideline 6: A Guideline on Advanced Panelization](#), which employs lessons learned from international approaches to panelization. Adding to the suite of resources developed by the Code Council to support the use of off-site construction, Guideline 6 focuses on panelized systems as an opportunity to infuse automation into the construction process, bringing the benefits of increased precision, enhanced productivity and reduced waste. [Learn more here](#).
- The next meeting of RESNET/ICC Standards Development Committee 1400—Water and Energy Remote Virtual Inspection (WERVI)—is April 2, 2024, at 1:00 PM Eastern. [Learn more here](#).

## ICC-ES

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking [public comment](#) on a draft document titled [EPA Criteria for Product Category Rules to Support the Label Program for Low Embodied Carbon Construction Materials](#) (PCR Criteria). **Comments are due to EPA by 5 PM Eastern on March 7, 2024.** The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) authorized \$100 million to EPA to develop a program to identify and label construction materials and products that have substantially lower embodied carbon. EPA is hosting a webinar on March 21, 2024 from 1 – 2 PM Eastern. [Register here](#).

## 2024 IECC Development Process

- More information on the remaining steps of the development process can be found [here](#).

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## Upcoming Training Opportunities

- Join us for two upcoming Learn Live opportunities! These 60-to-90-minute midday live online courses feature a diverse set of topics spanning the entire spectrum of building safety, fire & life safety, administration, enforcement, construction, and emerging topics. [Learn more](#).
  - March 27 1:00 PM Eastern: Increasing Sustainability and Community Resilience Through Water Reuse
  - April 3 at 1:00 PM Eastern: 2021 IECC Commercial Significant Changes
- On March 26 at 2:00 PM Eastern, join our EMPOWERED partners for [Streamlined Permitting & Inspections: Solar, Storage, EV Charging Lessons Learned](#). This webinar takes a deep dive into New Buildings Institute (NBI)'s work with new tools for clean energy permitting and inspection, highlighting resources and case studies. Walk away with comprehensive permitting and inspection guidelines for single family, multifamily, and office PV, energy storage, and EV supply equipment.
- If you missed the webinar on March 7 focused on [Essential Training on Solar, Storage, Electric Vehicles, and Electrification](#), you can find the recording [here](#). In that webinar, we heard about training and resources developed by experts from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), NBI, Southface Energy Institute, and IREC.
- Our BENEFIT grant partners—NBI and the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP)—are offering a series of free, CEU-bearing trainings on High-Efficiency Electrification Technology. [Learn more](#).
  - [The What and Why of Electrification \(March 19, 1:30 - 3 PM Eastern\)](#)
  - [All-Electric Design, New Construction Focus \(April 2, 1 - 2:30 PM Eastern\)](#)
  - [Electrification Spotlight: Heat Pumps \(April 16, 1:30 - 3:00 PM Eastern\)](#)
  - [Electrification Spotlight: Heat Pump Water Heaters \(April 30, 1 - 2:30 PM Eastern\)](#)
- Join SPEER's March 26 webinar, *Why Energy Codes Matter!* At 11:30 AM Eastern, discover, through expert insights and a wealth of data, the importance of energy codes in building energy-efficient homes. Learn how these codes not only contribute to environmental sustainability but also offer substantial cost savings. This informative session will guide you through the benefits, key components, and application of energy codes. [Register in advance](#) for this webinar.
- The DOE Building Energy Codes Program hosts an ongoing Energy Code Webinar Series, with an event the third Thursday of every month at 1 PM Eastern. The March topic is *Energy Code Enforcement Challenges and Opportunities in Rural Communities*. Read more about this offering and catch up on the series [here](#).
- **Stay Ahead of the Game with Education and Training of On-Site Renewable Energy and High-Performance Buildings.** Stay informed and confident as the energy industry transforms. Invest in your education and training with free educational resources and CEU bearing courses from leading industry organizations, including the Code Council, at [CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org](#).
- The International Code Council Training Department has multiple opportunities for our members, clients and partners to share their expertise with the broader Code Council community via select training opportunities. [Submit an idea](#) now for consideration for ICC's Annual Conference.
- **Have a training request or recommendation?** [Submit it here](#).

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## Educational Resources and Other Partner Activities

- FSEC, the Code Council's longtime partner on a project titled *Market Driven Residential Energy Codes: Comparing Performance in a Changing Technological Environment*, completed a study to determine the minimum building improvements necessary to meet the 2021 IECC's Appendix RC Energy Rating Index requirements and the attendant renewable energy power requirements to achieve the net zero energy residential building moniker of the 2021 IECC. Strategies to obtain net zero operational carbon are also evaluated. Don't miss the [Market Driven Residential Energy Codes: Getting to Zero](#) report!

## Building Safety Journal

- Check out the International Code Council's [Building Safety Journal](#), which features articles relevant to current trends and hot topics within the building safety industry. New featured articles include:
  - [Global Alliance Formed to Develop Common Data Model to Support Climate Action in the Built Environment](#)
  - [DOE Announces New Funding Opportunity to Support Building Energy Code Adoption](#)
  - [2024 International Energy Conservation Code Appeals Board Report Now Available](#)
  - [International Code Council and MBI Develop New Off-Site Construction Standard](#)
  - [International Code Council Continues to Foster Innovation and Sustainability in Building Construction](#)
  - [Using Codes and Standards as International Solutions for Global Sustainability and Resilience Objectives](#)
  - [Hydrogen Fuel Generation, Distribution & Usage: What You Need to Know](#)
- **Submit an article for consideration in the Building Safety Journal.** The Building Safety Journal is accepting editorial submissions for categories that include deep dives, technical topics, personal perspectives, member news, and quick hits. [Click here to learn more and submit.](#)

## Committees

- [Sustainability, Energy & High Performance Building Code Action Committee \(SEHPCAC\)](#)
  - SEHPCAC meetings are open to the public. The [next meeting](#) will be held on March 27, 2024, at 2:00 PM Eastern.
- [Sustainability Membership Council \(SMC\)](#)
  - Find out what the SMC is doing to support healthy and sustainable buildings in your community. The next meeting will take place as part of [Leadership Week](#) on April 7, 2024. An [agenda](#) will be posted prior to the meeting.
  - Join the SMC for a casual coffee hour on April 19 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Eastern. This month's topic is *Building Orientation as a Design Tool*. Future coffee hours will occur on the third Friday of every month.
    - Meeting ID: [943 1788 2063](#); Passcode: [458626](#)
    - Follow the SMC on social media: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).