

Energy and Carbon Advisory Council Structure

Introduction

At all levels of government and within the building industry recent attention has focused on reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). In March 2021, recognizing the need for a coordinated set of solutions, the International Code Council Board of Directors approved an energy efficiency and sustainability framework. The framework, *Leading the Way to Energy Efficiency: A Path Forward on Energy and Sustainability to Confront a Changing Climate*, included a three pronged approach:

1. Updating our energy code development including an expanded scope and intent;
2. Development of resources that align with the codes but provide guidance on related measures that result in energy or GHG savings; and
3. Establishment of an Energy and Carbon Advisory Council to help inform activities under the framework and additional initiatives.

The Code Council is a global leader in the development of codes, standards and related solutions that lead to safe, sustainable and resilient buildings and communities. The Code Council has long recognized and embraced the role of buildings in achieving societal goals. As the built environment gains increased attention from policymakers and the public as both a significant contributor to GHG emissions and an important sector in the response to climate change impacts, the Code Council is in a unique position to provide solutions.

This document lays out the roles, responsibilities and structure for the Energy and Carbon Advisory Council.

About the Advisory Council

The Energy & Carbon Advisory Council will consist of approximately 15 individuals who are not typically involved in our codes and standards development activities, but who are engaged in the energy and carbon conversations happening around the world. We are looking to this group to provide insight into the activities and priorities developing outside our day-to-day work and how the Code Council can help deliver solutions to assist these initiatives. From the international perspectives to the financial marketplace view, to social equity experts, to corporate board rooms, and governmental leaders, we want to develop the solutions and tools necessary to help the building industry and society address their energy and carbon concerns of today and tomorrow.

Through their participation we hope Advisory Council members will also gain insight into the interconnections between multiple sectors of the economy and establish new relationships that can support a holistic and coordinated strategy.

Initial Topics of Focus

Development of the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) under the new process is already underway. Within the new scope and intent, the Energy and Carbon Advisory Council, through the ICC Board of Directors, can help provide the development committees with a broader perspective for their work. The Council will also assess (with the measurement assistance from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)) whether the 2024 draft IECC meets the ICC goal of incremental improvement in overall average efficiency from the 2021 IECC.

Based on feedback from stakeholders, the Code Council has identified several topics for development of resources. Last September we released information on [charging infrastructure for electric vehicles](#) including model code language for jurisdictions interested in implementing such requirements. Development is currently underway on a resource on building performance standards and their intersection with codes and code departments. While several other topics have been identified for future work, the Advisory Council can help assess real market need, identify supply chain readiness and set priorities on timing or help identify additional topics for future resources.

To date, significant attention has been focused on how buildings use energy (operational energy). Tools like energy codes have resulted in significant progress (about a 40 percent reduction in energy use from the 2006 IECC to the 2021 IECC) and are continuing to progress as noted above. Attention is now shifting to include how building materials and the construction process impact GHG emissions. Given our expertise across the design, construction and operations process, the Code Council is uniquely positioned to support a life-cycle approach to carbon reductions. While several pieces are already in place or underway (including verification of environmental product declarations (EPDs) and development of a standard to support measurement and verification of carbon across a building's life cycle), additional tools will be necessary to support the holistic approach needed. The Advisory Council can help inform the pieces necessary and how they can best support the needs of related sectors of the economy.

Advisory Council Logistics

We envision this group meeting in person twice a year for at least 2 days. Our intent is that these meetings are equally beneficial to Advisory Council members and the Code Council. We hope that they will advance the understanding of the energy and carbon landscape and support strategic activities at the Code Council and more broadly. We will work with Advisory Council members prior to attendance and ask some members to share their perspectives, experience, challenges, and potential solutions. We also anticipate inviting presentations from thought leaders from outside the Advisory Council. In advance of each meeting, we will develop a set of objectives and questions to garner meaningful input.

Our goal for these meetings is to inform the tools the Code Council could develop for the marketplace in the area of energy and carbon, how existing codes and standards can help deliver solutions, and the general direction that the built environment should be going on energy and carbon.

Energy and Carbon Advisory Council Members

Oday Al-Buhamad, Director of Standards and Metrology Directorate, Gulf Cooperation Council Standards Organization

Ted L. Clifton, Zero-Energy Plans and CVH, Inc.

Lance Davis, Sustainability Architect, U.S. General Services Administration

Verne Emmanuel, CEO, St. Lucia Bureau of Standards, Caribbean Regional Organization for Standards and Quality

Paula Glover, CEO, Alliance to Save Energy

Bryan Hoffman, Director of Building and Energy, St. Louis Park, MN

Ed Mazria, President & Founder, Architecture 2030

Penni McLean-Conner, Executive Vice President, Customer Experience and Energy Strategy, Eversource Energy

Phoebe Romero, Equity Manager, Clean Energy Procurement, Clean Energy Buyers Association

Arah Schuur, CEO, Northeast Energy Partnership

Larry Sherwood, President & CEO, Interstate Renewable Energy Council

RK Stewart, Principal, RK Stewart Consultants, AIA Past President