July 31, 2020

Dear Mike Pfeiffer, Greg Wheeler, and Dominic Sims:

As members of the West Linn (Oregon) Sustainability Advisory Board, we wish to voice our opposition to efforts to overturn the updated International Energy Conservation Code. The widespread acceptance and implementation of the IECC could make a significant contribution to the optimization of energy performance in new and renovated buildings across the United States.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2019 residential and commercial buildings in this country consumed 28% of all end-use energy. Environmental Protection Agency data show that carbon emissions resulting from that consumption accounted for 12.3% of the country’s total carbon emissions. The implementation of climate-friendly building codes is one domain where public policy could reduce these emissions by propelling the widespread adoption of energy-saving practices similar to what has happened with the manufacture and use of energy-saving appliances. Weakening these already approved codes would set our country back in its effort to make progress constraining and eventually eliminating the use of fossil fuels. Please honor the process that brought these new codes into being.

Sincerely yours,

Terrence Schumacher, Kim Bria, Gregory Smith

West Linn Sustainability Advisory Board