



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Melvin Carter

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August 17, 2020

2019 Group B Appeals Board
Mr. Greg Wheeler, President
Mr. Dominic Sims, Chief Executive Officer
International Code Council
500 New Jersey Ave., NW, 6th floor
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Members of the Appeals Board, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr. Sims:

The City of Saint Paul has participated in the IECC voting process for years, including the 2021 IECC process last year. We are thankful for the opportunity to help shape future energy codes, and we look forward to our continued involvement.

We were pleased to learn in April that challenges to several approved measures were not upheld. We learned recently that these same challenges have resurfaced as appeals. The City of Saint Paul is writing today to encourage you to deny the appeals and uphold the outcomes of the voting process.

The City of Saint Paul is concerned that the validity of the 2021 IECC voting process is being questioned via the appeals grouped together as **Impact of Online Voting, Cost Impact, Voting Guides**. We believe the voting process was open and fair, and the results accurately reflect the opinion of ICC membership. Saint Paul broadened its ICC membership in recognition that the ICC's model codes and standards are central to protecting people's health and safety in the built environment. The votes cast by many of the Saint Paul voters accurately reflect the city's policies and programs that promote efficiency and resilience in our city's homes and buildings, and which contribute to the health, safety, and welfare of our residents.

Furthermore, Saint Paul does not support the appeals related to **Scope and Intent** and the attempt to remove electrification measures from the model code. The intent of the model code is to regulate the design and construction of buildings for the effective use and conservation of energy over the useful life of buildings. Installing electrical outlets near gas-fired appliances to allow for the future installation of electric counterparts, and designing buildings to allow for the charging of electric vehicles both provide for the effective use and conservation of energy over the life of buildings. Therefore, we believe this is within the scope of the IECC. We ask that the voting results of these important code updates be allowed to stand.

The appeals related to **voter eligibility and validation process** challenge the code development process as well our local goals to address energy waste and climate emissions caused by energy use in buildings. ICC Bylaws state that individuals are eligible to participate as "employees or public officials actively

engaged either full or part time, in the administration, formulation, implementation or enforcement of laws, ordinances, rules or regulations relating the public health, safety and welfare.” Saint Paul’s voters meet these requirements, and their votes should not be voided through this appeals process.

ICC is the single most recognized and respected organization for the development of model codes. The people of Saint Paul stand to benefit when model codes are adopted that ensure the design and construction of sustainable, resilient, and affordable structures. It is understandable that some stakeholders filed appeals, but the outcome of the 2021 IECC vote speaks to your organization’s relevance with more people in the public sector joining and voting in favor of buildings that contribute to a cleaner, safer, healthier, more energy-efficient future.

The City of Saint Paul asks that you uphold the outcome of the 2021 IECC vote and preserve the integrity of the ICC voting process. Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about our position in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Stark". The signature is stylized and includes a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Russ Stark
Chief Resilience Officer