

Mr. Chairman, member of the committee, my name is Zachary Weis and I am with the Department of Commerce. I am here to give you a brief update on the State Energy Code. In prior years the State Building Code Advisory Committee and the voting members of the Building Code Enforcement Jurisdictions have deleted the entire Energy Efficiency section of the Building Code. With the acceptance of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding, the State has agreed to adopt the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code and to have a plan to achieve 90% compliance with the Energy Code within eight years. Just across the room the voting members of the Building Code Enforcement Jurisdictions are meeting and have agreed to adopt the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code.

This Energy Code is put in place with the intent to save energy. This code requires minimum standards for the major energy consuming components of a building. These standards are for insulation levels, window and door requirements, building mechanical system minimum efficiencies, water heating efficiencies, and lighting systems.

Again I would like to point out that this Energy Code is meant to be the minimum standard for building energy efficiency, just as how the other building codes are minimum standards.

In the International Energy Conservation Code it states that an alternative to the code would be to comply with the requirements set by the ASHRAE 90.1 standard. This ASHRAE 90.1 standard is for the same building components as the IECC, and is typically the standard used by engineers.

This Energy Code ties in to LEED through the ASHRAE 90.1 standard. One of the requirements of LEED is that the design of the LEED building must show a 10% improvement over the baseline building energy performance rating. The baseline building is considered the building being built but designed to the minimum standard. This comparison is done through performing a computer model of each of the two buildings.

Lastly I wanted to touch on one other rating system for buildings. Most types of commercial buildings can receive the ENERGY STAR rating. Our WSI building has received this rating. The ENERGY STAR rating is a comparison of the actual energy use from a building with the energy use from other like buildings around the country. If the building is in the 75th percentile or greater, the building can receive the ENERGY STAR rating. This is something that can be done yearly to maintain the rating.

That concludes my insight on the Energy Code and how it ties in with LEED, and I will try to answer any questions.