

# NFRC Regulatory Affairs & Marketing Committee: Energy Codes Update

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# Refresher – The Importance of Energy Codes

- States and local jurisdictions adopt energy efficient codes to establish the minimum legal standards for building construction – including fenestration
- Energy codes generally establish requirements for new buildings, additions & remodeling and replacement windows
- Jurisdictions typically adopt model codes, occasionally with local amendments

# Federal Law Requires Consideration and/or Adoption of Model Energy Codes

- For almost two decades, federal law has required jurisdictions to consider and/or adopt model energy codes
- Two primary national model energy codes
  - Residential construction = IECC
  - Non-residential construction = ASHRAE 90.1 and IECC

# Today There is Substantial Emphasis on Energy Codes to Achieve National Policy

- There has been much emphasis at the national policy–maker level for using energy codes to provide energy efficiency for national security, economic and environmental reasons
- Example: DOE target for 2012: 30% improvement over 2006 IECC

# Current Model Codes Require Efficient Windows

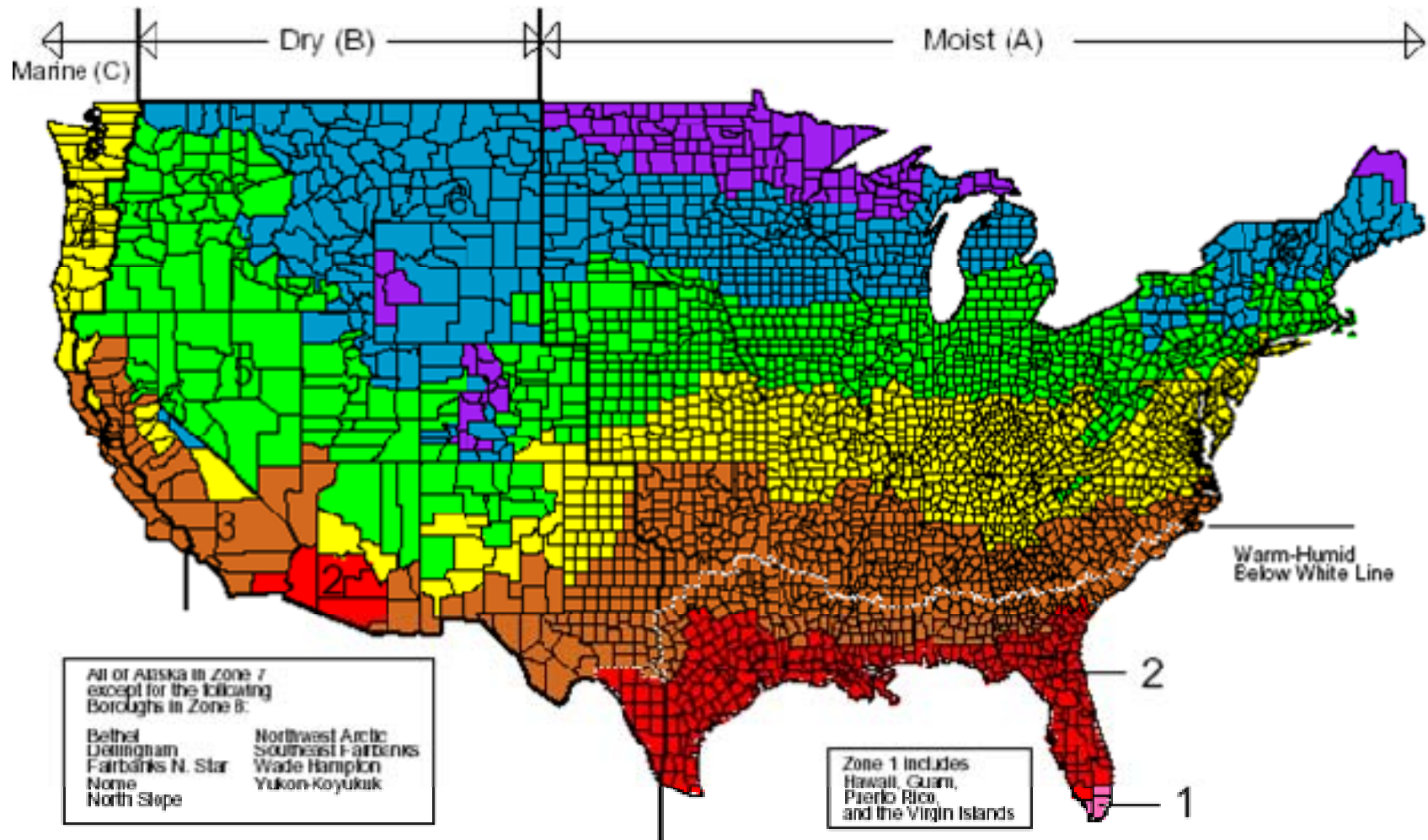
Future model codes expected to require even more  
efficient windows ....

NFRC ratings are key to code compliance for  
fenestration ....

## NFRC Role in Energy Codes

- Modern model energy codes incorporate NFRC procedures as the exclusive method for determining fenestration energy performance for both residential and non-residential construction (U-factor and SHGC)
- The only alternative is an extremely limited default table
- Virtually all state codes currently incorporate these requirements

# U.S. Energy Code Requirements Vary By Climate Zones



# 2012 IECC Final Action Hearings

- Completed in Charlotte on October 30
- During 2012 development process, over 200 IECC proposals were reviewed and either approved or rejected, plus IRC proposals
- ICC adopted proposal to replace IRC residential energy provisions in Chapter 11 with a requirement to comply with the IECC
- ICC revised IECC intent -- excerpt:

“regulate the design and construction of buildings for the effective use and conservation of energy over the useful life of each building.”

# 2012 IECC and NFRC

- U-factors and SHGCs:
  - Same approach as 2009 IECC
  - All fenestration ratings must be determined in accordance with NFRC or limited default table
  - AAMA 507 alternative disapproved
- VT:
  - NFRC VT recognized by IECC for first time
  - VTs for fenestration (if required by the code) must be determined in accordance with NFRC or limited default table

# Increased RES Energy Efficiency Requirements In The Most Recent Published IECC (2009)

- For windows, lower SHGC and U-factor in the south
- Improved performance path and no mechanical trade-offs
- Overall changes to code are estimated by observers to result in at least a 10% - 15% more efficient residential code

# Improved RES Requirements Approved at Final Action For Next Version of IECC (2012)

- DOE omnibus package proposal approved
- More efficient fenestration in virtually all climate zones
- Window area limits rejected
- Overall increase in stringency over 2006 IECC estimated by some observers to achieve 30% target

# RES: Lower Window U-Factor in Most Climate Zones

	2006 Code	2009 Code	2012 Code
Zone 2	0.75	0.65	0.40
Zone 3	0.65	0.50	0.35
Zone Marine 4 and Zones 5-8	0.35	0.35	0.32

## RES: Lower Window SHGC in Certain Climate Zones

	2006 Code	2009 Code	2012 Code
Climate Zones 1 through 3	0.40	0.30	0.25
Climate Zone 4	NR	NR	0.40



# Final Action Hearings for 2012 IECC: Commercial Fenestration Energy Efficiency – Part 1

- New prescriptive fenestration U-factors using three categories: Fixed, Operable and Entrance Door (skylights are addressed separately)
- New weighted average approach for U-factor
- New projection factor formula for SHGC

# Final Action Hearings for 2012 IECC: Commercial Fenestration Energy Efficiency – Part 2

- Prescriptive table allows:
  - 30% window to wall ratio
  - Up to 40% window to wall ratio permitted if new daylighting provisions are satisfied
- Compliance may also be achieved through use of performance analysis or ASHRAE 90.1

# Final Action Hearings for 2012 IECC: Commercial Fenestration Energy Efficiency – Part 3

- New, more stringent air leakage requirements for commercial windows
- New minimum requirements for skylights in certain buildings

# COM: Lower U-Factors for Most Zones Along With Changes to Classification

	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4 Except Marine	Zone 5 & Marine 4	Zone 6	Zone 7	Zone 8
U-Factor – Fixed	0.50	0.50	0.46	0.38	0.38	0.36	0.29	0.29
U-Factor – Operable	0.65	0.65	0.60	0.45	0.45	0.43	0.37	0.37
Entrance door U-Factor	1.10	0.83	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77

# ASHRAE 90.1 Update

- New proposed 2010 Fenestration U-factor, SHGC and VT requirements subject to reconsideration
- Appeal by various fenestration-related interests was successful recently in returning Addendum bb back to the Committee
- Future outcome uncertain ....



# Federal Action: American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009

- \$3.1 Billion available from the Federal Government for state energy programs
- For states to qualify for this stimulus money, two conditions must be satisfied:
  - Must Adopt the Most Recent IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2007
  - Must create a plan for achieving 90% code compliance and enforcement over 8 years

# State Reaction: American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009

- 50 State Governors requested stimulus money & made commitments to meeting those conditions (along with others)

## EXPECTED RESULTS: Unprecedented Adoption & Enforcement of Most Recent Model Energy Codes

- Many states have already adopted the 2009 IECC and/or ASHRAE 90.1-2007
- Many more are in the process to do so
- DOE and the states are working toward improved compliance rates

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