YEARS IMPROVING BUILDING ENERGY CODES

2013 Annual Report
BUILDING CODES ASSISTANCE PROJECT

a proud team of the
WHO WE ARE

STAFF
Maureen Guttman, AIA
Executive Director

Cosimina Panetti, CEM, LEED AP
Deputy Executive Director

Maria Ellingson
Senior Program Manager

Dennis Hidalgo, LEED AP
Program Manager

Paul Karrer, LEED Green Associate
Project Manager

Matt Kerns
Project Manager

Seul Rhee, LEED Green Associate
Program Associate

Thomas Woodruff
Intern

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jared Blum
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association

David Cohan
United States Department of Energy

William Fay
Energy Efficient Codes Coalition

David Goldstein
Natural Resources Defense Council

Jeff Harris
Alliance to Save Energy

Aleisha Khan
ICF International

Harry Misuriello
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

William Prindle
ICF International

Amy Schmidt
Dow Chemical Company

Garrett Stone
Brickfield Burchette Ritts & Stone, PC

John Wilson
Energy Foundation

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A brief history of BCAP goes hand-in-hand with the evolution of building energy codes. In 2014, BCAP is celebrating twenty years of providing technical assistance and advocacy support to states and local governments as they adopt and enforce increasingly strong energy codes for buildings.

**History of U.S. Energy Code Improvements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Savings</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Standard 90-75</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Standard 90A-1980</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>MEC 1983/86</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Standard 90.1-1992</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Standard 90.1-1995</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>IECC 1998</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Standard 90.1-2004</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Standard 90.1-2007</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Standard 90.1-2010</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>IECC 2015</td>
<td>15%</td>
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*Source: American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)*
Twenty years ago, BCAP started as a small organization with a big dream of bringing all stakeholders together to push building energy codes and the zero energy building movement forward. While we’ve grown in size and influence, our mission and commitment to promoting energy codes remain the same.

Without the work of BCAP and many other energy code groups, consumers face serious health, safety and economic risks. Our families and children, our work colleagues and clients – all building occupants – have a right to comfortable homes and buildings that function optimally and can be operated affordably. Buildings exist to protect us from the environment, but they should also serve to protect the environment by minimizing our impact on our land, water and air.

Energy codes are as crucial to the public welfare as structural, electrical and fire codes. They are also vital to the nation’s energy independence and economic well-being. Moving this idea into a generally-accepted truth has been, and will continue to be, BCAP’s overarching mission.

On behalf of the dedicated BCAP team and fellow energy code advocates who dream of improving our environment through advancing building energy codes, I am deeply grateful to our many funders for their confidence and their generous financial support. We thank many state energy offices and organizations we’ve worked with for their commitment and collaboration, and we thank our fellow advocates for bringing the issue of building performance into the national consciousness.

There are still many challenges to tackle but our work has never been more relevant nor as alive with opportunities. It’s great to see where that big dream has taken us, and the large and small impacts our efforts have made!

Please enjoy this 20th Anniversary Report of BCAP’s work. We are filled with bigger dreams of the accomplishments that the next twenty years will bring.

Yours truly,

Maureen Guttman, AIA

VICE-PRESIDENT, BUILDINGS AND UTILITIES, ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BUILDING CODES ASSISTANCE PROJECT
ENERGY CODE DEVELOPMENT

INFLUENCING MODEL CODE AND CODE POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Continuing as a valued technical and policy resource on energy codes, BCAP collaborated with the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC) and other stakeholders to develop the codes that we promote.

As a long-time collaborative partner to the International Code Council (ICC), we participated and provided our insights in the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) Final Action Hearings this year.

Opportunities to improve the usability of energy codes extended to the development of the 2015 International Green Construction Code (IgCC), ASHRAE Standards and Guidelines, and others.

Our BCAP Executive Director, Maureen Gutman, also participated in the ICC’s Sustainability Membership Council to widen our engagement in the development process of the model codes, focused on energy performance in buildings.

ACTIVITIES WE WERE INVOLVED IN

2015 IECC Final Action Hearings
Helped public officials reject numerous attempts to decrease the efficiency of the code and vote on a 2015 IECC that is equivalent to or slightly more energy efficient than the 2012 IECC.

2015 IgCC Code Development
Participated in the national discussion on improving the usability of the IgCC, adoption and compliance, and adding clarity to messaging its impacts on the built community.

Development of ASHRAE Standards and Guidelines
Joined in the discussion on improving ASHRAE 90.2—a Residential Energy Standard.

SEHPCAC
Developed several existing building code proposals for better usability and compliance of the IgCC.

Governing Committee of the Sustainability Membership Council
Encouraged ICC members to actively support both the IECC and IgCC.
As more and more states adopt the 2009 IECC and ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2007 to meet the energy code compliance requirement under federal law (EPAct 1992 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009), the primary focus of the codes community has been to address the question of compliance to realize the full benefits of energy codes.

From creating Compliance Collaborative groups in new states to starting a conversation with the architecture community, we continued to expand and extend our compliance efforts.

We are committed to assisting states and energy code stakeholder groups in their efforts to reduce energy use and achieve the financial savings that result from robust energy code adoption and compliance policies.

**OUR ACHIEVEMENTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Energy Code Compliance Collaboratives</th>
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<td><strong>March 2013:</strong> Nebraska Energy Code Compliance Collaborative (NECCC) was established with 30 representatives from 26 different groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 2013:</strong> Pennsylvania Energy Code Compliance Collaborative (PECCC) was established with 32 representatives from 19 groups.</td>
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<th>Compliance Planning Assistance</th>
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<td><strong>In 2013:</strong> BCAP worked with Ohio and Minnesota to assess the states’ existing energy code infrastructure, to quantify any code slippage, and to identify best practices and offer initial recommendations for improvement through gap analysis reports.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Energy Code in Existing Buildings</th>
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<td>Partnering with the United Technologies Research Center, BCAP conducted research analysis on building energy codes in existing buildings in the greater Philadelphia region for the Energy Efficient Buildings Hub (EEB Hub). The study identified ways in which the energy code application and enforcement processes can be improved to ensure that existing buildings reach their energy savings potential when opportunities arise.</td>
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<th>Engaging Design Professionals</th>
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<td>As an ongoing effort to activate more leadership support for building energy codes within the architecture community, BCAP developed one-pager resources, a study report, and a presentation for the 2014 AIA National Convention.</td>
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For more information on compliance programs, visit: [www.energycodesocean.org/compliance-portal](http://www.energycodesocean.org/compliance-portal)
Building a strong local base and developing the leadership skills of code enforcement officials are critical to improving energy code implementation and compliance. Through a partnership with the ICC, BCAP developed the Energy Code Ambassadors Program (ECAP) as a pilot project in 2010. The pilot program was to develop a support network and expertise for building code officials with the specific goal of improving state and local building energy code implementation, enforcement, and compliance through peer-to-peer support.

After ECAP’s successful pilot, BCAP launched an enhanced ECAP in 2013 by partnering with local groups to establish the program in Ohio and Texas.

In Ohio, we partnered with the Ohio Development Services Agency’s Office of Energy and Redevelopment and two utilities: Columbia Gas of Ohio and Ohio American Electric Power. The enhanced program offers a paid honorarium to Ambassadors that visit local jurisdictions in their region to provide free energy code education, which includes Continuing Education Units.

In Texas, BCAP partnered with the South-central Partnership for Energy Efficiency as a Resource (SPEER), the regional energy efficiency organization for Texas and Oklahoma. Through monthly meetings, SPEER provides momentum to Texas ECAP and encourages Ambassadors to offer peer-to-peer support to other code officials about the importance of good energy codes enforcement.

ECAP is one of BCAP’s ongoing efforts to build a network of support for code officials and the construction communities.
CONSUMER OUTREACH
ENGAGING CONSUMERS AS ADVOCATES FOR ENERGY CODES

BCAP CONSUMER PROGRAMS FOCUS ON:
• Educating the public on the impact of home energy use and the role of energy codes;
• Supporting the public to become a direct market force encouraging builders to meet and exceed energy efficiency requirements; and
• Getting the public to engage more actively as advocates to influence their state and local energy code adoption processes and code enforcement activities.

1. WHY TARGET CONSUMERS?
• Stand to benefit the most yet least heard from due to a lack of awareness or understanding of code.
• Can become a market force encouraging builders to meet or exceed code.
• Have the ability to be influential code advocates.

2. OUR 2013 APPROACHES
• Leverage past state-level efforts.
• Target cities that are already considering the 2012 IECC with adoption likely to happen before fall of 2013.
  - Input from REEOs and other organizations.
• Identify and train local spokespeople in support of code update.
• Expand OCEAN capabilities and features for consumers.

3. CHOOSE PLACES
In 2013, BCAP chose to work with:
• Columbia, MO
• Lincoln, NE
• Omaha, NE

OUR 2013 GOALS
Locally Focused Strategy
• Educate consumers on the energy code.
• Increase levels of awareness among residents through media and local organizations regarding adoption.
• Get consumers to "Take Action" and write letters in support of the energy code to local decision makers.

WORK WITH MUNICIPAL PARTNERS
• Connected with local officials to get a sense of the issue and how the adoption process is carried out.
• Reached out to local utilities and educated them on the code update.
• Constantly communicated with the State Energy Office about our efforts.

GAUGE CURRENT AWARENESS
• We asked Omaha, NE residents to rate their level of agreement with a list of statements about energy code.

Here’s What We Found:
• 55.1% of respondents did not know whether Omaha has a residential building energy code in place, but 72.1% said they would be willing to pay more for a home built to energy code standards.
  - To see the full survey results of Omaha City, please visit www.energycodesocean.org/resource/omaha-residents-energy-code-perception-survey

4. MEDIA OUTREACH
• Total of 5 press releases and 2 media advisories announcing resources, events, upcoming hearings, surveys, and opportunities to interview local energy experts.

Where did we get coverage?
• 2 Articles in Columbia Missourian
• 2 Articles in Columbia Daily Tribune
• Radio segment in Omaha's KVNO News Radio
• TV news segment in Omaha's FOX42 – KPTM

5. ADOPTION!
• Sept. 16, 2013, Columbia, MO adopted the 2012 IECC, becoming the largest municipality in the Midwest to adopt the full 2012 IECC.
• Lincoln and Omaha, NE are planning to finish updating their municipal energy code in 2014.

For more information, visit: www.energycodesocean.org/consumers-take-action
COMMUNICATIONS
RAISING AWARENESS OF THE POWER OF EFFECTIVE ENERGY CODES

NEW vs. RETURNING VISITORS
- 47,843 unique visitors in 2013
- 175,142 pageviews
- 78% NEW
- 22% RETURNING

MOST POPULAR CONTENT
1. Code Status Maps
2. 2013 Residential Code Ohio
3. Resources

CONTINUING EFFORTS

CODE ALERT
BCAP provides a weekly update to an exclusive group of 208 stakeholders interested in taking immediate steps to influence state and local policy outcomes. Because of our subscribers’ active engagement, Code Alert continued to have a successful open rate of 36.5%, a 5.7% clickthrough rate, and an average of 79 forwarded messages to new readers.

RECA CALLS
The Responsible Energy Codes Alliance (RECA) hosts a monthly conference call with diverse industry trade groups and business associations to promote the most recent version of the IECC nationwide.

Under the leadership of RECA Chairman Eric Lacey, BCAP continued to manage the administrative duties in 2013, including maintaining the RECA website and resources, managing its budget, and increasing member outreach.

LISTENING TO THE VOICES OF ENERGY CODE GROUPS
Every year, BCAP hosts an annual Energy Code Stakeholder’s Meeting for energy code professionals and experts from across the nation to review and evaluate the regional and national efforts in advancing energy codes and to develop actionable strategies for the upcoming year. Leaders from regional energy efficiency organizations, industry trade groups, and the Department of Energy join us to discuss the important role energy codes can play in the U.S. This year’s meeting tapped into such pressing issues as code compliance and the 2015 IECC.

NEW EFFORTS

BUILDING ENERGY CODE CONNECTION
Our first collaborative news vehicle about energy codes. Through collaboration with BECP, NASEO, and the Regional Energy Efficiency Organizations (REEOs), the revamped newsletter delivers unbiased energy code news on the national and regional level, BCAP news of interest, as well as some of the technical information on BECP tools such as REScheck and COMcheck.

BCAP BLOG
As part of our efforts to make the concept of energy codes more accessible to the public, the BCAP Blog is our brainstorming platform of all things and content related to energy codes, both analytical and reflective. The weekly publication only started in October 2013, and yet has already generated an average of 450 reads. If you are interested in submitting an article, please contact Matt Kerns at mkerns@ase.org.

COMPLIANCE COLLABORATIVES BULLETIN & WEBINAR
At the request of State Energy Code Compliance Collaborative members in multiple states, we published our first quarterly “All-Compliance Bulletin” in November 2013. The bulletin allows Collaborative members from eight states an opportunity to share their state activities with each other from recent successes, focus areas, and barriers to their current activities. On August 22, 2013, BCAP also hosted the first annual webinar for the members to exchange progress reports in real time.
BCAP has been creating the code status maps since January 2009 to provide a national snapshot of building energy code adoption status. We are continuously seeking to improve the information the maps convey. In 2013, BCAP also launched a page tracking “green” and “above code” adoptions, which is currently under construction: www.energycodesocean.org/beyond-code-regulations.

In one year, 2 new states have adopted the 2012 IECC, and 3 states plan to update their energy codes.

In one year, 3 new states have adopted the ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2010, and 3 states plan to update their energy codes.
As we reflect on our work over the past two decades, BCAP has made great strides in providing many practical solutions and breaking down barriers to energy code adoption and compliance for states and municipalities. Despite these accomplishments, considerable work and new challenges lie ahead to achieve the full potential of the work we have been promoting.

**IN 2014, OUR GOALS ARE TO:**

- Promote and support amendments and new provisions that maintain or boost the level of energy efficiency while improving the adoptability and usability of the codes.

- Support energy code adoptions with a goal of increasing the number of states using the 2009 or 2012 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2007 or 2010, and preventing “rollback” of energy saving provisions.

- Work closely with partner organizations to develop and implement strategies for increased compliance with energy codes.

- Increase our ability to inform and educate building industry stakeholders on the many benefits of the energy codes.
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE FOR 2013: $1,014,710

BY SOURCE

$889,098 Foundations
$16,817 State Government
$108,795 Other

Thank you to our funders for their support of our energy code initiatives, which allows us to continue to make significant progress toward achieving increased adoption and compliance of building energy codes in the United States.

2013 Funding Sources

American Electric Power (AEP)  
Canton, Ohio

Columbia Gas of Ohio  
Columbus, Ohio

Energy Foundation  
San Francisco, California

State of Ohio Development Services Agency  
Columbus, Ohio

Tilia Fund  
San Francisco, California

United Technologies Research Corporation (UTRC)  
East Hartford, Connecticut

Anonymous