



# WHY ARCHITECTS NEED TO CARE ABOUT ENERGY CODE COMPLIANCE

## THE 2030 COMMITMENT

Energy Codes have been cited as an important part of the 2030 Challenge, however, energy code performance is lagging behind the milestones set by Architecture 2030.

## CLIENTS CARE ABOUT PERFORMANCE

The market is demanding more efficient buildings. The adoption of energy disclosure policies is putting even more pressure on design professionals to deliver energy savings. As the amount of data continues to grow, so will the accountability of architects with regard to building energy performance.

## THREATS IN THE MARKET

Failure to treat performance as a crucial element in design could diminish how much owners value architects. Organizations like ESCOs have responded to the demands of the market and thrived in the down economy. As the industry continues to grow, it is logical to expect their services to compete with those of architecture firms.

## OPPORTUNITIES

The energy code provides a unique opportunity for architects to associate their design decisions directly to value for their clients. Making clients aware of the value of design could also help architects expand into new markets where design is overlooked, such as deep energy retrofits.

## CHALLENGES

### ARCHITECTS OVERBURDENED

- There are many different codes to comply with and many provisions lack clarity and contain inconsistencies.

### MISALIGNED INCENTIVES

- Compliance efforts aren't valued by clients so architects are not incentivized to prioritize them.

### CODES OVERLOOKED

- Owners rarely consider energy codes as a tool for savings, particularly in existing building projects.

## ACTIONS FOR THE AIA

- Coordinate with local chapters to **increase engagement in the code development process** and ensure that architects voices are heard.
- Place an **emphasis on building performance** as an element that defines good design. Promote code compliance as a means to achieve it.
- Develop educational sessions to **inform the membership of the threats and opportunities** that exist.