

**TOWN OF EXETER
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
4Apr23**

Meeting was called to order by Chris at 7:02pm

Members present: Chris Zigmont, Adam Dumville, Ryan Jean, Stacey Rogers, and Jackie Ojala

Staff and Select Board Member Present: Kristen Murphy, Conservation & Sustainability Planner
Dan Chartrand, Select Board Representative

Motion by Stacey, 2nd by Jackie to **approve meeting minutes from 7Mar23** as presented.
Motion passes, unanimously.

Presentation from Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) on the role of building energy codes in advancing energy efficiency, decarbonization, and electrification of buildings by Michael Rossi & Cornelia Wu

- NH on 2018 Building Energy Code currently and moving toward 2021
- When adopting a new code, it is standard practice to leave a grace period (~6 months – 1 year) from adoption to enforcement to allow people to learn about it
- 2021 code without weakening amendments has to be adopted by NH to qualify for funds from Inflation Reduction Act
- Resources on NEEP website to learn more about the code & NEEP could potentially draft a stretch code
- Pacific northwest national laboratories has resources on the benefits of adopting the next version of the energy code
- Weatherization assistance programs through the federal government also helps people see the benefit of energy efficiency
- Durham code requires use of current energy code when it becomes available. Keene has adopted International Green Construction Energy Code.
- Energy committee and/or SAC could meet with Durham to see how it's going with them always adopting the most recent version of the code

Single-use plastic document for Exeter

- Warrant article 31 passed
- The select board would like direction from SAC and Kristin on the implementation of the policy
 - Subcommittee of Chris, Chetana, Stacey & Kristin to work on getting thoughts on next steps for this

- May 15th and 22nd select board meetings are possible to present options (tentative June 5th and 19th)

Sub-committee Solid Waste Update

- Getting a better understanding of what drives the solid waste contracts we have now, setting goals for reduction, and drafting recommendations to meet goals
 - Look at blue bag material and look into curbside compost collection
 - Organization of materials is key
 - Written update for next meeting

Earth Week clothes collection at local school

- The principal at Lincoln St School and Helpsy connected and decided that Helpsy bins will be at the school the week of 4/17
- 4/13 from 3:15-4:15 Chris to present to Green Team at Lincoln St school about Helpsy and environmental efforts in Exeter

Alewife Festival

- Planning committee meeting on Monday April 10th from 12-1 online, Ryan will look into it
- Possibly opt-out of junk mail on the spot or talk about single use plastics
- Festival on Sat May 13th

Grants

- Express grant is no longer an option, deadline has been pushed out
- Revisit other grants with rolling deadlines
- Can we add a dollar round-up on water bills to support getting a water fountain? Suggested to request select board opinion on this.

Kristen is working on a graphic annual report of sustainable efforts in town

- Kristen to send out to SAC for comments before the next meeting

Community Clean Up

- 4/17-4/21 anyone can go to public works to pick up gloves, bags and safety goggles to pick up trash
- Drop off bags on 4/22 at Crossroad Landfill or let public works know where to pick up the bags the week of 4/24

Seacoast Eat Local

- Monthly highlight at the farmer's market
- How can SAC engage with this? Possibly reusable bags

With no additional business, Ryan motioned, and Stacey seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:48pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Ojala



Exeter, New Hampshire Energy Stretch Code

April 4, 2023

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)

Cornelia Wu and Michael Rossi

Today's Agenda

- Welcome
 - Exeter, NH – Kristen Murphy
- Introduction and Overview
- Overview of Stretch Codes & Stretch Codes in Region
 - Existing and new stretch codes
- Overview of NH Climate Policies
- State Building Code Review Board Update
- Exeter Stretch Code Opportunities
- Q&A and Discussion
- Next Steps



Welcome



Kristen Murphy
Conservation and Sustainability Planner
Town of Exeter, New Hampshire

Today's Presenters



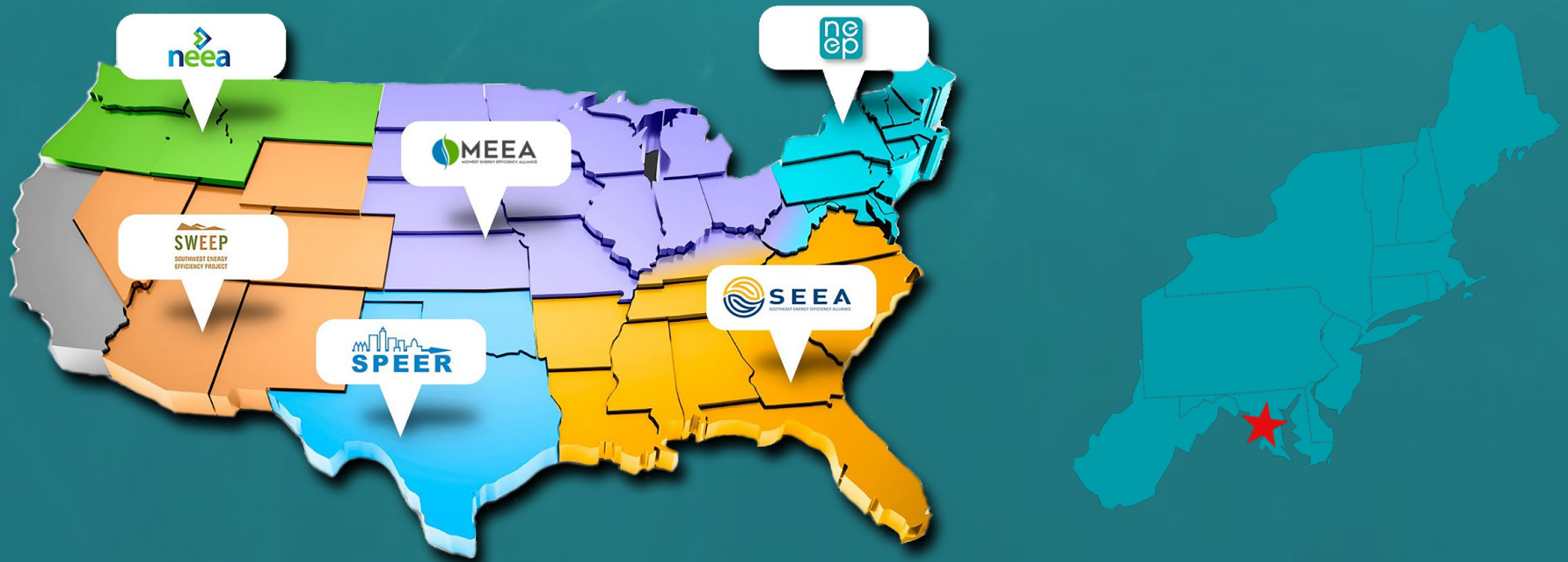
Cornelia Wu
Senior Manager,
Codes and Standards



Michael Rossi
Senior Associate,
Building Energy Codes

About NEEP

A Regional Energy Efficiency Organization



One of six REEOs funded in part by U.S. DOE
to support state and local efficiency policies and programs.

History of NEEP in New Hampshire: Energy Codes



- NEEP advisement and technical assistance regarding model code adoption and amendments last three cycles (2012, 2015, 2018).
- Attended code board hearings, and offered technical assistance public testimony at hearings
- Facilitated NH Code Collaborative
- NEEP contributed utility attribution from the code adoption section to the 2021 triannual plan.

History of NEEP in New Hampshire: Policy



- NEEP is currently working with the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EESSE) Board and other energy efficiency groups in the state to help in the implementation of Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funded programs and provide input on the next round of energy efficiency programs for the state

History of NEEP in New Hampshire: Communities



- NEEP worked with the NH Department of Education, the utilities, and other key stakeholders from 2016-2020 to facilitate the NH High Performance Schools Working Group. NEEP assisted with the development of the state's new [School Building Aid Application](#) which elevates the importance of energy efficiency in new school construction by awarding application points for districts that propose energy efficient buildings meeting the NE-CHPS criteria.
- NEEP also worked with numerous districts directly, providing technical assistance in the form of fact sheets and presentations to ensure new school buildings were being designed, constructed, and operated with healthy, high performance principles. NEEP maintains a [list of high performance schools and case studies](#).



Regional Base Code Overview



NEEP Region Building Energy Code Adoption

2015

ME → 2021*

DC → 2021*

WV

2018

MA → 2021*

NY → 2024*

MD → 2021

VT → 2021*

DE → 2021*

RI → 2021*

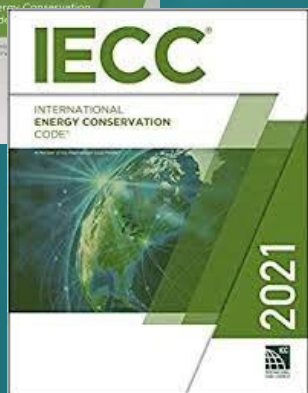
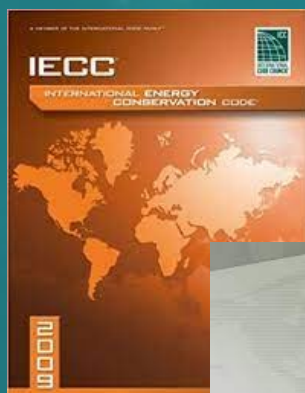
PA → 2021

NH → 2021

2021

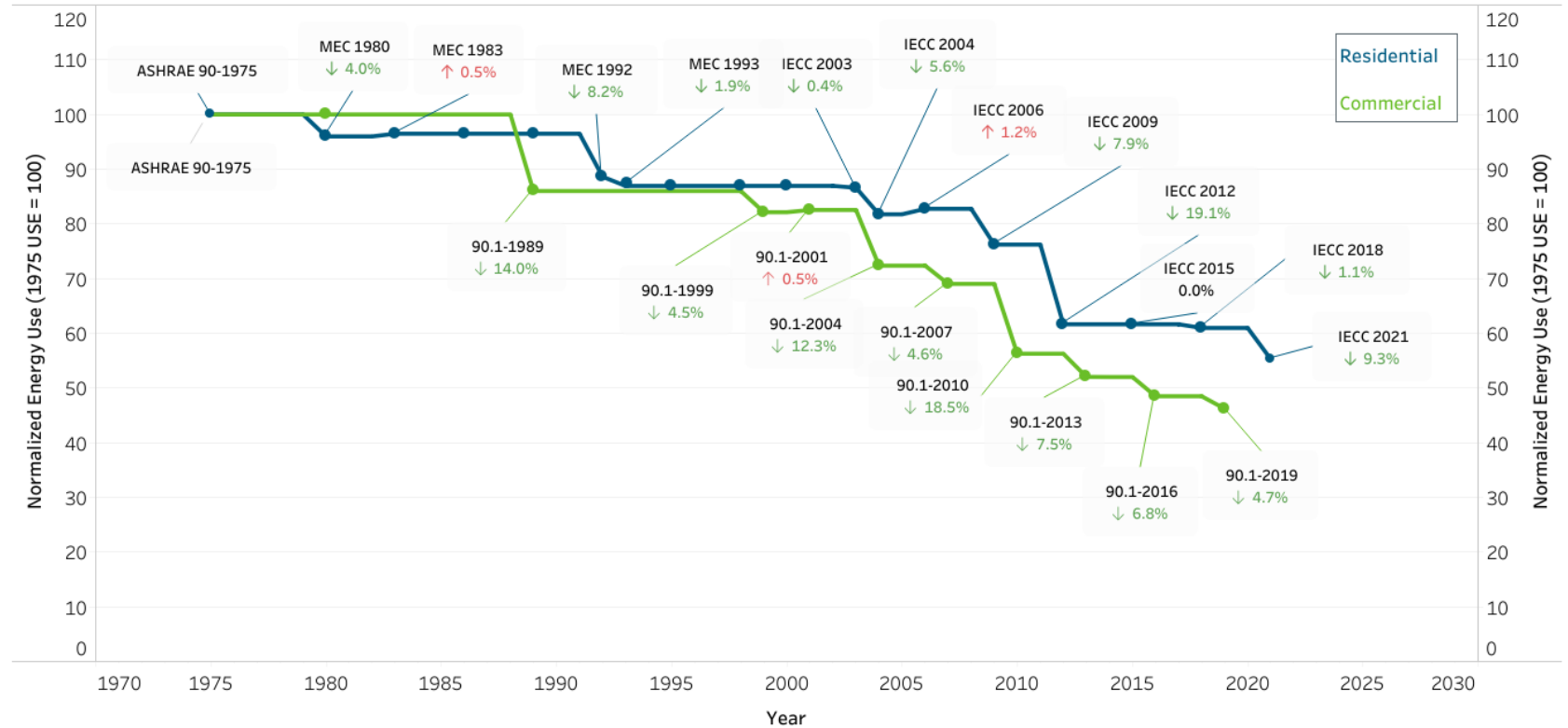
CT

NJ



*Updating/creating stretch codes

Energy Codes (IECC & ASHRAE)



2024 IECC estimated to be 10% better than 2021 IECC



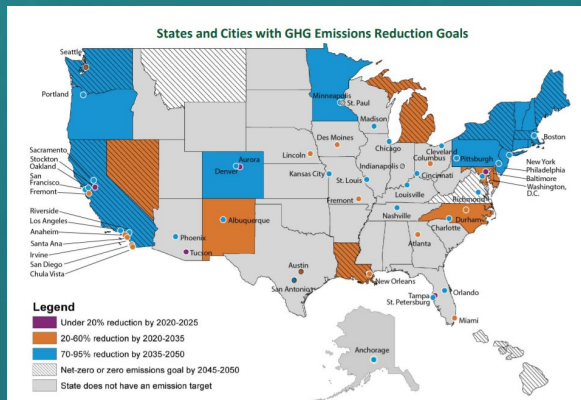
Regional/National Stretch Code Overview



Policies for Energy and Emissions Reduction

Commitments

- Local, State and Regional Emissions Reduction
- Renewables



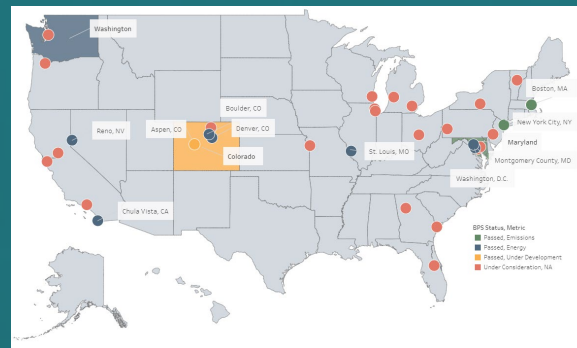
New Buildings / Major Renovation

Building Energy Codes: Base Codes, Stretch Codes, Renewables Codes, Zero Codes, and more

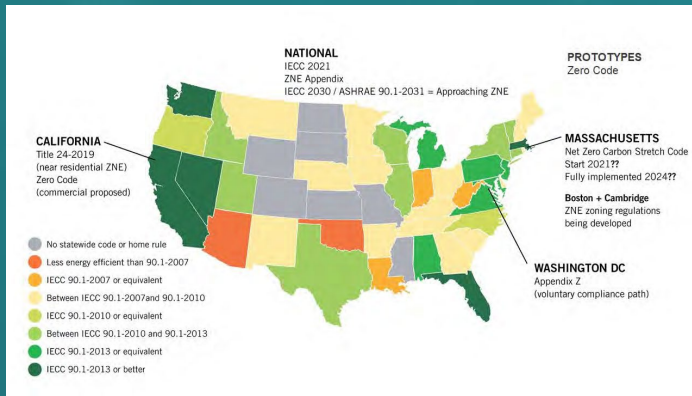
Carbon Neutral Zoning and Ordinances
Zero Emissions/Electric Ordinances
Clean Heating Standard
Appliance Standards

Existing Buildings

- Benchmarking
- Building Performance Standards (BPS)
- Clean Heating Standard
- Appliance Standards



Stretch Codes



ZERO ENERGY READY HOME
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

A Symbol of Excellence

- HEALTHFUL ENVIRONMENT
- COMFORT PLUS
- ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY
- ULTRA EFFICIENT
- QUALITY BUILT
- DURABILITY

KEY: ■ DOE Zero Energy Ready Home, ■ ENERGY STAR Certified Home, ■ ENERGY STAR Certified Home

nbi new buildings institute

Building Decarbonization Code

An overlay to model building codes on the path to net zero

Version 1.2 | August 2021

Codes for Climate

phius
ZERO

Existing State Stretch Codes NEEP Region



State	Residential	Commercial	Notes
MA	HERS/ERI	Percent Better	Stretch, Muni Opt-In (All Electric-HERS 0)
NY	IECC	IECC/ASHRAE	Updating; ZE base 2026
DC	All new construction electric	Appendix Z (zero energy)	Electrification measures in base code 2021, ZE base 2027
VT	Point Based	Base code additional measures	EV Charging, Solar Ready, Air Sealing, Points, HERS; Embodied Carbon, ZE base 2030
RI	DOE ZERH	IGCC	Updating - Zero Code Option
ME	IECC ZE Appendix	IECC ZE Appendix	2021 IECC
MD		IGCC	Statewide Stretch Zero/Elc Code

New Hampshire Local Stretch Codes

- Durham, NH
 - 2021 International Energy Conservation Code
 - Adopt latest model Energy Codes when they become available through Ordinance #2011-01 in section 38-5:
 - *“The current printed edition of the IECC shall be used for all energy code construction”*

<https://www.ci.durham.nh.us/codeenforcement/energy-codes>

- Keene, NH
 - Stretch Code Compliance via LEED; Green Globes; NGBS (ICC 700); and International Green Construction Code Ordinance Number O-2016-01-C

https://library.municode.com/nh/keene/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=855641

Other Regional and National Stretch & Zero Codes



- Washington
- Oregon
- Illinois
- California (stretch and 115+ fff elc. ord.)
- Massachusetts 300 Munis of 315



Breckenridge, Ithaca, Boulder, Scottsdale, Keene,
Portland & South Portland, ME
Las Vegas, Mesa, New York, Philadelphia,
Phoenix, Reno, San Antonio, St. Louis, Tucson



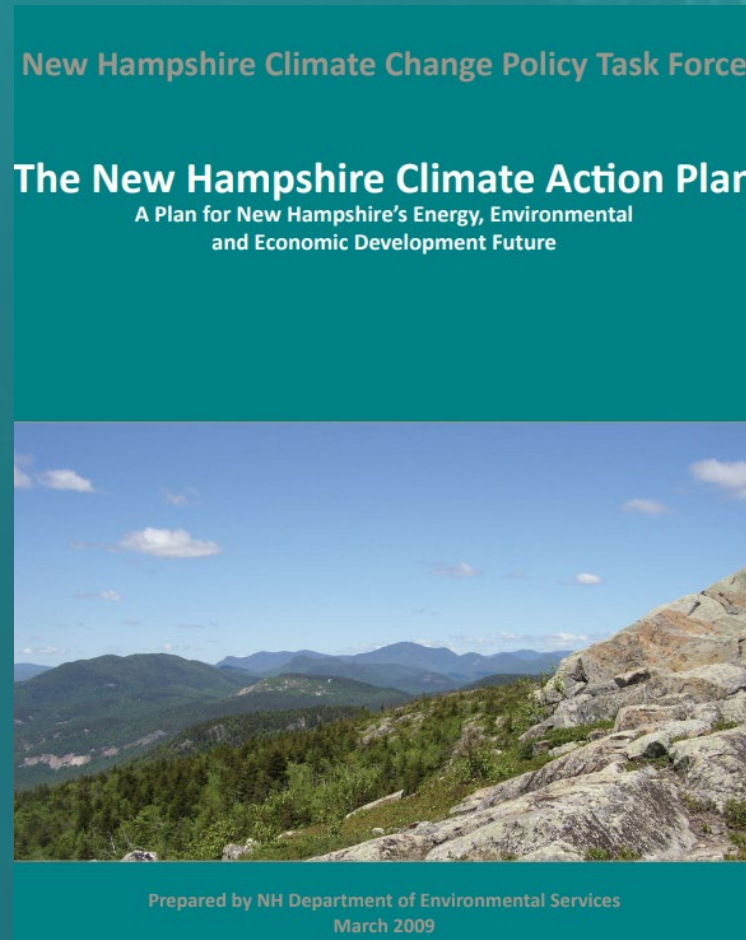


State of New Hampshire Policies



New Hampshire Climate Action Plan

- Adopted in 2009
- Sets greenhouse gas emission reduction goals of 85% (compared to 1990 levels) by 2050



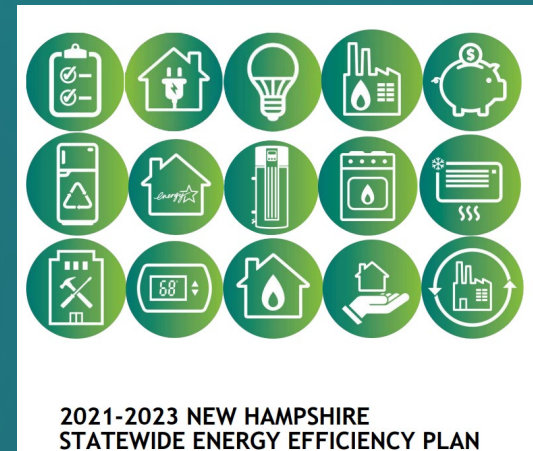
<https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/r-ard-09-1.pdf>

New Hampshire Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan 2021-2023



Submitted by NH's Electric and Natural Gas Utilities
Chapter Four: NHTSaves Residential Energy Efficiency Programs
Design Program Tiers and Bonus Incentives to Encourage
Sustainability:

- US DOE Zero Energy Ready Home (“ZERH”) Program
- Passive House Certification
- EV-Ready Homes
- All-Electric Home Package
- Above-and-Beyond Code Measures
- Energy Star V3.1



https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-092/LETTERS-MEMOS-TARIFFS/20-092_2021-01-19_EVERSOURCE_REV_PLAN_NARRATIVE_INCORPORATE_SETTLEMENT_TERMS.PDF



State of New Hampshire Building Code Review Board Update

New Hampshire Model Energy Code Status



- NH adopted the 2018 IECC with weakening amendments on July 1, 2022
- The Building Code Review Board (BCRB) is currently reviewing the 2021 IECC and will have a public hearing for it currently scheduled for June
- BCRB meets every second Friday of the month in Concord
- Building code will go to the state legislature for a vote in 2024
- [Meeting Agenda for 2/10/23](#) notes several possible recommendations as noted on the following slide

Possible Energy Code Recommendations



1) Motion one...

- That the 2018 IECC as adopted by the New Hampshire Legislature remain in effect until the new ICC Energy Standard (sometimes referred to as the 2024 IECC Commercial and the 2024 IECC Residential) is published and can be reviewed.
- That the 2021 IECC be available for adoption by local government as a stretch code amendment.
- That the 2018 International Green Construction code and/or ASHRAE 189.1 be available for adoption as a further stretch code.

2) Motion two...

- That legislature adopt the 2021 IECC as one of the model codes adopted as the New Hampshire State Building Code and report compliance to Congress through the Department of Energy (DOE).

3) Motion three...

- That legislature adopt the 2021 IECC as one of the model codes adopted as the New Hampshire State Building Code with an effective date of July 2024

Q&A





Exeter Stretch Code Options



The following information is based on industry best practices and trends throughout the region and beyond. The following ideas do not constitute a formal proposal by Exeter, NH.

The information being presented today is the beginning of a process to establish a stretch energy code for Exeter, NH.



Stretch Code Options

- Model after Durham- Adopt the latest IECC when it becomes available
- Model after Keene- Adopt the latest IGCC
- Adopt the 2021 IECC with Amendments
- Adopt Alternative Compliance Pathways or Stretch Code for DOE Zero Energy Ready Homes or Passive House
- Adopt “Electrification Ready” Provisions

Q&A/Discussion



Next Steps

- Further discussion with Exeter (scope, timeline)
 - Draft proposal from Exeter
 - Form a public advisory group (TAG/TAC)?
 - Refine proposals
 - Public Listening Sessions
-
- Exeter Drafts Ordinance codifying stretch code
 - Exeter Adopts Ordinance/Stretch Code
 - Resources published for implementing stretch code
 - Training opportunities for builders, officials, design professionals, raters



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