ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION


AGENCY: United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC).


SUMMARY: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) is publishing a procedural manual for its Voting System Testing and Certification Program. This manual sets the administrative procedures for obtaining an EAC Certification for voting systems. Participation in the program is strictly voluntary. The program is mandated by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) at 42 U.S.C. 15371.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Background. HAVA requires that the EAC certify and decertify voting systems. Section 231(a)(1) of HAVA (42 U.S.C. 15371) specifically requires the EAC to “...provide for the testing, certification, decertification and recertification of voting system hardware and software by accredited laboratories.” To meet this obligation, the EAC has created a voluntary program to test voting systems to Federal voting system standards. The Voting System Testing and Certification Division has updated sections of the manual to reflect proposed changes in certification procedures.

Comments

This notice is published in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, to request comments regarding the burden of responding to the information collection activities of the proposed manual; please refer to the EAC’s Web site, www.eac.gov, for further information about the submission of comments regarding burden.

DATES: Submit written or electronic comments on this draft procedural manual on or before 5:00 p.m. EDT on May 14, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments via email to VotingSystemGuidelines@eac.gov; via mail to Jessica Myers, Certification Program Specialist, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1335 East West Highway, Suite 4300, Silver Spring, MD 20910; or via fax to 202–566–1392. An electronic copy of the proposed manual may be found on the EAC’s Web site http://www.eac.gov/open/comment.aspx.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Hancock, Director, Voting System Certification, Washington, DC, (202) 566–3100, Fax: (202) 566–1392.

Bryan Whitener, Director of Communications and Clearinghouse, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy


DOE Participation in Development of the International Energy Conservation Code


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) participates in the public process administered by the International Code Council (ICC), which produces the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). DOE develops and publishes code change proposals for the IECC, prior to submitting them to the ICC, to allow interested parties an opportunity to suggest revisions, enhancements and comments. This notice outlines the process by which DOE participates in the ICC code development process. This process will be used when DOE participates in the development of the 2018 IECC and other codes developed by the ICC.

DATES: DOE is requesting written comments on the proposed process by which DOE will develop code change proposals for submission to the ICC by May 14, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Any comments submitted must identify the Notice for DOE Participation in Development of the International Energy Conservation Code, and provide docket number EERE–2015–BT–BC–0002. Comments may be submitted by using either of the following methods:

II. DOE Participation in the ICC Development Process

The Department seeks to advance energy efficiency by cost-effectively strengthening the code and clarifying provisions to be more easily understood, implemented and enforced. DOE is directed to participate in the development of model building energy codes, such as the IECC, for residential and commercial buildings. DOE participates in the ICC development process by:

• Conducting technical analyses to identify concepts for consideration;
• Developing and submitting proposals based on concepts deemed credible and cost-effective; and
• Supporting proposals through the ICC public hearing process.

A. Technical Analyses

In preparation for the development of code change proposals, DOE conducts analyses to ensure that its proposals are technologically feasible and economically justified. DOE analyses will identify anticipated energy and economic savings impact associated with its energy savings concepts. This ensures that DOE proposals are cost-effective as defined by established, publicly reviewed DOE methodologies.3

Analyses performed by DOE or its contractors for the purposes of developing code change proposals are technical in nature. DOE is not obligated to conduct analyses for outside parties, but reserves the right to do so where it believes they will support DOE statutory obligations. In conducting such analyses, DOE does not represent or endorse particular individuals or organizations. DOE also cannot enter into joint code change proposals with the exception of proposals submitted jointly with another federal agency.

B. Proposal Development and Submission

Satisfactory concepts will be turned into draft code change proposals. To allow interested parties to comment, DOE will post these, along with supporting data and analyses, prior to submitting them to the ICC. DOE will modify its proposals as comments and new information become available; modified versions, with preceding versions of each proposal archived, and changes annotated between each version will also be posted. Final proposals will be clearly identified, and will be posted prior to submission to the ICC. All posted information will be available at http://www.energycodes.gov/development.

C. ICC Public Hearings

DOE maintains organizational membership with the ICC. As a Governmental Member, DOE intends to participate as defined by the guiding ICC rules and procedures, including participation in the ICC public hearings and exercising assigned voting privileges. At ICC hearings, DOE:

• Will present and defend its own proposals; and
• May present the results of technical analyses it has conducted, including analyses of other parties’ proposals when it believes the development process will be improved by providing such information.

The presentation of a DOE proposal or technical analysis does not constitute an endorsement of any particular proposal or product. DOE may alter its proposals based on the procedural events of the official ICC hearing process without seeking further public comment. DOE may also seek additional public comment, such as in cases when a particular proposal is significantly modified for resubmission, following the ICC Committee Action Hearings.

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Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name (U.S. DOE) and docket number. Additional information is included in the following sections.


For legal issues: Kavita Vaidyanathan; U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, Forrestal Building, GC–33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585; Telephone: (202) 586–0669; Email: kavita.vaidyanathan@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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3 See http://www.energycodes.gov/about.

See http://www.energycodes.gov/about.

See http://www.energycodes.gov/about.

See http://www.energycodes.gov/about.
communications was published on January 21, 2009 (74 FR 4685). As described in the guidance, individuals or entities that communicate with DOE or its contractors prior to the code hearing must provide a memorandum summarizing the communication, which will be included in the public docket consistent with the ex parte guidance. During each ICC hearing process, DOE will maintain a published Web site containing submitted DOE proposals, which will also contain a link directed to the Web site and materials maintained by the ICC. DOE recognizes that the code development and public hearing process is based on processes established by the ICC, which do not constitute ex parte communications, and therefore, any discussions of the process at code hearings do not need to follow the guidance.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 7, 2015.

David Cohan,

[FR Doc. 2015–08599 Filed 4–13–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Request for Information: Updating and Improving the DOE Methodology for Assessing the Cost-Effectiveness of Building Energy Codes


ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking input on how it may update and improve its methodology for assessing the cost-effectiveness (which includes an energy savings assessment) of residential and commercial building energy codes. DOE is directed by statute to provide technical assistance to states to support the implementation of model building energy codes. As part of this role, DOE conducts national and state-level analysis to assess the cost-effectiveness of building energy codes and proposed changes. DOE is interested in feedback on its analysis methodology, preferred sources of cost data, and parameter assumptions surrounding its cost-effectiveness assessment. In addition, DOE is seeking information on the general costs, benefits, and economic impacts associated with building energy codes. This notice identifies several areas where interested parties may provide suggestions, comments, and other information.

DATES: Written comments and information are requested by May 14, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments must identify the docket number EERE–2015–BT–BC–0001 and may be submitted using any of the following methods:


2. Email: BCMMethodology2015@ee.energy.gov. Include EERE–2015–BT–BC–0001 in the subject line of the message.


Further instructions, including the use of topic identifiers, are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice. Comments submitted in response to this notice will become a matter of public record and will be made publicly available.

Public Docket: The docket, which includes notices published in the Federal Register and public comments received, is available for review at Regulations.gov. All documents in the docket are listed in the Regulations.gov index. However, some documents listed in the index, such as those containing information exempt from public disclosure, may not be publicly available.

A link to the docket Web page can be found under Public Participation at: http://www.energycodes.gov/events. This Web page will also contain a link to the docket for this notice on Regulations.gov. The Regulations.gov site will contain instructions on how to access all documents, including public comments, in the docket.

For further information on how to submit a comment, review comments received, or otherwise participate in the public comment process, contact Ms. Brenda Edwards by phone at (202) 586–2945 or email: Brenda.Edwards@ee.energy.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: