

Texas and the IRC/IECC

Prepared by Kathy Howard

President

Energy Sense

HERS =Energy Star

- Energy Star scoring is based on the HERS or Home Energy Rating System
- Energy Star can and is being used as a mechanism for IRC/IECC compliance

Senate Bill 5 Clean Bill Act

- First mandated Statewide Building Code
- First mandated Statewide Energy Code

IRC/IECC Texas Issues

- Senate bill wording less than clear on
 - Effective implementation dates
 - Methodology of compliance
 - Budget to implement
- IRC/IECC first draft typos lead to initial support of building community

Effective Implemenation Dates

- May 2001
- January 2002
- September 2002

Senate Bill 5

Methodology of Compliance

“A building certified by a national, state or local accredited energy efficiency program shall be considered compliance;

Senate Bill 5

Methodology of Compliance

A building with inspections from private code-certified inspectors using the energy efficiency chapter of the IRC or IECC shall be considered compliance;

Senate Bill 5

Methodology of Compliance

A builder who does not have access to either of the above methods for a building shall certify compliance using a form provided by the laboratory, enumerating the code-compliance features of the building.”

Statewide Energy Code Budget to implement

NONE

IRC/IECC Typo Chapter 11

- Omits most of Texas climate zone for SHGC upgrade of .40
- 90% of market using single pane SHGC of 1.10

Grassroots Efforts

- City of Frisco first to mandate Energy Star
- Local groups gather in Code Committees and Governmental Affairs Committees

Stakeholders Group Established Date

- Purpose
- Goal
- Members

HERS/Energy Star issues for IRC/IECC Code Compliance

- Energy Star performance based
- Energy Star not written in Code language and left out a some energy code requirements such as low flow shower heads, recessed cans, required markers for insulation, hvac manuals...
- Energy Code requires SBCCI or ICBO energy code certification different than Energy Star
- Paper trail requirements for permitting, presheetrock and visual finals different for each municipalities in the Greater Houston area

Can Energy Star work as code compliance mechanism?

- Can and Does.
- Make it clear for Energy Star to include all code construction specifications.
- Educate municipalities on HERS=Energy Star (It's still a secret in Texas)
- Educate municipalities on approved HERS software which can also be used to show compliance for permitting as option to MEC/RES
- Have inspectors certified by SBCCI or ICBO
- **BEGIN GRASSROOTS EARLY!**