

**ENERGY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING FROM TALLAHASSEE
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**December 10, 2020
10:00 A.M.**

Minutes

ENERGY TAC PRESENT:

Drew Smith, Chairman
Kelley Smith Burk
Oscar Calleja
Bob Cochell
Jan Geyselaers

Tim Graboski
Jonathan Parks
Scott Ranck
Roger Sanders
David Wojcieszak

ENERGY TAC NOT PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Mo Madani
Thomas Campbell
Jim Hammers
Joe Bigelow

Justin Vogel
Chris Howell
Norman Bellamy

MEETING FACILITATION:

The meeting was facilitated by Jeff Blair from Facilitated Solutions, LLC. Consultation, Process Design & Facilitation. Information at: facilitatedsolutions.org

Welcome:

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Blair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Energy TAC.

Roll Call:

Mr. Blair performed roll call for the Energy TAC. A quorum was determined with 10 members present at roll call.

Agenda Approval:

Mr. Cochell entered a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Mr. Geyselaers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

Approval of the Minutes from March 25, 2020:

Mr. Geyselaers entered a motion to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2020 meeting as posted. Mr. Cochell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

DS 2020-059 By Mark Wesson of Wesson Air, Inc.

Mr. Madani provided background on the petition and the full staff analysis with answers to the posted questions.

Question #1: As a Residential <3 stories with a HVAC change out less than 30% of the assessed value of the structure, would this be an alteration governed by the "Existing Building" code?

Answer:

The answer to the Petitioner's question is yes. As per Section 101.4 Applicability of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Existing Building, alteration "i.e., HVAC change out" falls within the scope of the FBC, Existing Building.

Question #2: When replacing a HVAC system in this residence are, we governed by the FBC Energy Conservation code or does R101.4.2 apply?

DS 2020-059 By Mark Wesson of Wesson Air, Inc. (cont.):

Answer:

The alteration in question is governed by Section R101.4.2 of the 7th Edition (2020) FBC, Energy Conservation (the Code) and therefore compliance with the Code is not required.

Question #3: When replacing the thermostat as part of the change-out in this residence, is the thermostat required to be programmable?

Answer:

The answer to the Petitioner's question is no. As per Section R101.4.2 and the definition of "Renovated Building" of the 7th Edition (2020) FBC, Energy Conservation (the Code), the project in question including the thermostat is exempt from compliance with the Code.

Public Comment:

Arlene Stewart stated this would be going against what the code is standing for the need of programmable thermostats.

Committee Member Comment:

Commissioner Calleja asked if it is within legal limits to vote on this as it speaks to the 2020 Code which is not yet in effect.

Mr. Vogel stated yes this is proper in regards to a declaratory statement.

Motion:

Mr. Cochell entered a motion to accept the staff analysis on all three questions. Commissioner Calleja seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously with a vote to 10 to 0.

Review and provide recommendation to the Commission on possible submittals for approve of Energy compliance software for compliance with the 7th Edition (2020) FBC, Energy Conservation. IESVE:

Matthew Duffy spoke on behalf of the submission from IES giving a detailed background.

Review and provide recommendation to the Commission on possible submittals for approve of Energy compliance software for compliance with the 7th Edition (2020) FBC, Energy Conservation. IESVE (cont.):

Mr. Madani stated that this submittal is for ASHRAE performance rating Appendix G. He further advised that staff could not download the program for testing, and that the staff had even tried loading the program on their personal computer systems unsuccessfully, the Committee may wish to defer of this submittal for further review.

Public Comment:

Arlene Stewart requested clarification regarding method of compliance and whether the submittal is for the Energy Cost Budget Method (Chapter11) or Appendix G.

Mr. Duffy stated is not on Chapter 11 but Appendix G.

Arlene Stewart stated there were discrepancies on the checklist.

Mr. Duffy stated the list had been updated and corrected for consistency with ASHRAE 90.1. Mr. Duffy also addressed Mr. Madani's statement or concerns on the download issue and advised that this program has not had any other download issues excluding DBPR staff and will continue to work with them.

Mr. Belcher expressed concerns that the staff could not download and run the program and would suggest that it should not be approved at this time.

Committee Comments:

Commissioner Calleja suggested that the program be checked to ensure that it runs correctly and validated through comparative analysis.

Mr. Madani stated the vendor has self-certified and this was approved before under TAM.

Commissioner Smith stated he was able to download and this should be approved.

Commissioner Smith entered a motion to recommend that the Commission approve IESVE Version 2021 for demonstrating compliance with the commercial building energy requirements of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation for the following code compliance method: ASHRAE 90.1 2016 Performance Method Appendix G. Mr. Ranck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

Energy Gauge 7.0 for the 2020 FBC, EC – Residential:

Rob Viera, FSEC provided background and detail on this program and the code compliance methods covered by the program.

Mr. Madani stated the staff uploaded the program and used existing data samples to generate the compliance report and found no issues and would recommend approval.

Public Comment:

Joe Martell, NEMA expressed concerns in participation and model assembly used. He wanted to know how the new assembly models would show in the software. He asked if there were committees in place to review the software.

Shawn Mullins, Owens Corning, also expressed concerns over not being a part of this process and feels there should be an additional committee to review where stakeholders could participate.

Arlene Stewart stated she is concerned over having an additional committee at this point would miss the window of opportunity on the software if it is approved today and could miss the code updates.

Committee Comments:

Commissioner Smith asked Mr. Viera about the installation in unvented attic calculations.

Mr. Viera addressed the concerns and spoke on the levels in unvented attics.

Mr. Viera spoke to Mr. Mullins concerns on committees and provided information on the committees that are already in place and stated that he will be glad to speak with him on additional information on those committees and that there may be some outside groups that the FBC could consider as independent parties.

Commissioner Smith entered a motion to recommend the Commission approve Energy Gauge USA Version 7 for demonstrating compliance with the residential building energy requirements of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation for the following code compliance methods: R402 Prescriptive R-Value Method, Prescriptive Total UA Alternative Method, Performance Method – R405, and ERI Method – R406. Mr. Graboski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

Energy Gauge Summit 7.0 for the 2020 FBC, EC – Commercial:

Dr. Swami provided a detailed background of this software and the code compliance methods covered by the software.

Mr. Madani stated the program loaded and was tested by staff. He did advise there were a couple of editorial changes and those changes have been made and he would recommend approval.

Public Comment:

Arlene Stewart stated she had sent written comments to Mr. Madani for Dr. Swami and Mr. Duffy and a markup is forthcoming.

Committee Member Comment: None

Motion:

Mr. Cochell entered a motion to recommend the Commission approve Energy Gauge Summit 7.00 for demonstrating compliance with the commercial building energy requirements of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation for the following code compliance methods: FEC Total Building Performance Method, FEC Prescriptive Method, FEC Component Performance Alternative Method, ASHRAE Prescriptive Method, and ASHRAE Energy Cost Budget Method. Mr. Geyselaers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

Review and accept the final draft reports for the following research project: 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation Volume vs. 2018 International Energy Conservation Code Residential Stringency Analysis:

Mr. Madani provided a brief background on the project and the need for certification.

Jeff Sonne provided a detailed Power Point presentation on the project and the report.

Committee Questions:

Mr. Cochell stated historically the performance method has been approximately 95% in utilization as opposed to the prescriptive method and this report still reflects this. He said the report is well done.

Review and accept the final draft reports for the following research project: 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation Volume vs. 2018 International Energy Conservation Code Residential Stringency Analysis (cont.):

Committee Questions (cont.):

Mr. Madani stated this report is going with 90% which is very close.

Commissioner Calleja asked if the model homes were all frame structure or were some masonry.

Mr. Sonne advised they were frame in all cases as they are usually all coming out equally.

Commissioner Calleja stated the majority of the homes in South Florida are masonry.

Mr. Sonne stated he agreed that most of the homes are masonry in that area.

Mr. Graboski stated the group did a great job. He asked how the ERI did on the comparison on the two codes.

Mr. Sonne stated they did not do actual model runs on those and there was some information provided on that, he said in general they are not seeing it as much of a factor.

Public Comment:

Arlene Stewart inquired for the ERI is it primarily for the backstops that were included.

Mr. Sonne stated no the index value was the issue.

Motion:

Commissioner Smith entered a motion to accept the final draft reports for the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation Volume vs. 2018 International Energy Conservation Code Residential Stringency Analysis. Mr. Cochell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

Public Comment:

Dr. Swami stated that for general information ASHRAE has a special committee that looks at software and could be beneficial.

Arlene Stewart expressed her thanks to Chairman Smith.

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Final Roll Call: Mr. Blair performed the final roll call with 10 members remaining on the line.

Adjourn: Chairman Smith thanked everyone for their participation and advised this will be his last meeting as the Chairman of the TAC and wanted to express his thanks to the members for their support during his time with the Commission and the Committee with that he adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.