

February ..., 2024

ATTN: Building Energy Codes Program
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, EE-2J
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0121

To Whom It May Concern:

Title III of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6831-6837), requires states to certify to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that they have reviewed the energy provisions of their building code, held public hearings, and made a determination as to whether their code meets or exceeds the national code within two years of federal notice. On July 28, 2021, the U.S. Department of Energy issued a determination that the 2019 edition of the Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1, would achieve greater energy efficiency in buildings than the 2016 edition.

The Florida Building Commission, which has statutory authority to administer the Florida Building Code (s. 553.72(3), Florida Statutes), met on February 13, 2024, and voted to certify that the commercial building provisions of the proposed 8th Edition (2023) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation, will meet the 2019 edition of the Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1.

Florida had been working since February 2021, to produce the 8th Edition (2023) Florida Building Code (FBC), Energy Conservation, which had utilized the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation, including reference to the 2019 ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, as its base document. A triennial code change cycle had produced a variety of approved energy code changes, including selected changes from the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), which had undergone significant public review. A total of three code change workshops were held on March 14, 2023, May 10, 2023, and June 20, 2023, to accept public input regarding the modifications to the 8th Edition (2023) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation, which had been recommended for approval by the Florida Building Commission's Technical Advisory Committees. The combination of the modifications approved by the Commission during these workshops and the existing 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation became the next edition of the Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation. This edition went into effect on December 31, 2023. Enclosed is a copy of the 8th Edition (2023) FBC, Energy Conservation.

Finally, an analysis conducted by the Florida Solar Energy Center, which included qualitative assessment of the proposed code modifications' impact on the energy efficiency of commercial buildings in the State of Florida, and quantitative analysis of the code modifications' impact using simulation, provided the following conclusion:

The study demonstrates that the deviations of the 8th Edition (2023) [FBC, Energy Conservation] from the ASHRAE 90.1-2019 Standard are quite small (by about 0.45 percent). Hence, the [8th Edition (2023) FBC, Energy Conservation] overall, for all practical purposes, may be considered equivalent to the original ASHRAE 90.1-2019.

(Bereket Nigusse & Muthusamy Swami, Florida Solar Energy Center, Quantitative and Economic Analysis of the 8th Edition (2023) Florida Building Energy Code (2019)).

Should you have questions regarding the Commission's findings, please contact Mo Madani, Technical Director with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, at (850) 717-1825, or mo.madani@myfloridalicense.com.

Sincerely,

Michael Bourré, Chairman
Florida Building Commission