Building Energy Codes in Texas
Background and Updates

Dub Taylor, Director
Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO)

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The Texas Energy Picture - power

Electricity consumption has increased 14% over 10 years (2003-2013)
- 433,380,166 megawatt hours (2013)
- 109,584 megawatts installed capacity (2013)

Electricity generation – fuel mix (2013)
- Natural gas* 47%
- Coal* 35%
- Renewable 9%
- Nuclear 9%

* 82% via combustion w/air emissions
Energy Efficiency – 2x Benefit

- **44-68% Generation Losses**
- **32-56% Transmission and Distribution Losses**: 8% (of 32-56%)

**Total Efficiency**: 30-51%
ERCOT – an Electric Island
Texas Health and Safety Code

Chapter 388: Texas Building Energy Performance Standards

Legislative findings - an effective building energy code is essential to:

1) reducing the air pollutant emissions that are affecting the health of residents of this state;
2) moderating future peak electric power demand;
3) assuring the reliability of the electrical grid; and
4) controlling energy costs for residents and businesses in this state.

- Adopted by reference 2001 IRC Chapter 11 & IECC
- Amended in 2007 to allow for SECO updates
Texas House Bill 1736 (84R - 2015)

- Passed in House: 111-18, 3 PNV
- Passed in Senate: 29-1
- Signed by Governor: 6/16/2015

**Significant Changes**

- Residential energy code updates on a **six** year cycle
- Establishes new ERI values different from what is in the codebook
- Establishes 2015 IECC as the residential code effective September 1, 2016
2016 Codes Updates via Rule

34 Texas Administrative Code §19.53

• **2015 IRC, Chapter 11- Effective September 1, 2016**
  – Single-family residential construction: Effective September 1, 2016, the energy efficiency provisions (Chapter 11) of the International Residential Code as they existed on May 1, 2015, are adopted as the energy code in this state for single-family residential construction as it is defined in Health and Safety Code, §388.002(12)

• **2015 IECC- Effective November 1, 2016**
  – All other residential, commercial, and industrial construction: Effective November 1, 2016, the International Energy Conservation Code as it existed on May 1, 2015 is adopted as the energy code for use in this state for all residential, commercial, and industrial construction that is not single-family residential construction under subsection (a) of this section

No adverse comments – supporters included:

[Texas Association of Builders](https://www.texasbuilders.com)
[Sierra Club](https://www.sierraclub.org)
[American Chemistry Council](https://www.chemistrycouncil.org)
Education & Compliance

• “Ask the Trainer” webinar held twice a month
• Online interactive training course on SECO website
• Three hour workshops (90) in 25 cities
  – Attendees receive copy of 2015 IECC book
  – Continuing education credits:

• Texas Code Compliance Collaborative & Ambassadors
• NASEO/SPEER/SECO Field Study (‘14-’17)
  Three phases:
  – initial data collection
  – education/outreach
  – follow-up data collection/analysis
Discussion/Questions?

Dub Taylor, Director
State Energy Conservation Office
dub.taylor@cpa.texas.gov

www.seco.cpa.state.tx.us