Legislature established the Nebraska Building Energy Conservation Standard: ASHRAE 90-75.

Here’s a brief overview of how the state and its partners moved from the 1983 MEC to the 2009 IECC.

- 1980
- 1985
- 1990
- 1995
- 2000
- 2003
- 2005
- 2010
- 2011

Legislature adopted the 2003 IECC for all state-funded buildings.

Legislature adopted the 2009 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2007 as the Nebraska Energy Code.
Legislature adopts the 1983 Model Energy Code as the Nebraska Energy Standard.

The Legislature considers updating energy code.

- **Partners**: Bldg. Professionals supported commercial energy code update.
- **Electric utilities**: Supported commercial and residential code update.

Legislation killed in committee.
Building Energy Codes Partnerships

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Conclusion after two defeats: A different approach was needed.
Building Energy Codes Partnerships

A New Approach…

• Prove it
• Education
• Involvement
• Continued education
The agency and lenders financed 122 homes totaling $21.38 million which met or surpassed the *1995 Model Energy Code* then 1998 IECC by at least 30 percent. The agency offered interest rate reductions, from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 percent, to encourage the construction of very energy efficient homes.

**Partners:** Home builders, utilities and lenders.
Building Energy Codes Partnerships

2006  US DOE SEP Special Projects grant received
• $24,725 for 37 code workshops for 1,172 building professionals, code officials and suppliers.
• Certification examinations for 75 local codes officials.


Findings: 2006 IECC would have increased energy use compared to 2003; State made no effort to adopt 2006 for this reason.

Legislature passes bill requiring 2003 IECC for all buildings.
US DOE SEP Special Projects grant received
• $303,065 for upgrading the commercial building energy code 30 percent beyond 2006 IECC
• Building Codes Advisory Council created with representatives [Partners] utilities, builders, local codes staff and architects
• Nebraska-specific Advanced Commercial Building Energy Code Study, November 2009

Special Projects Grant cont. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
• ARRA requirement of adoption of 2009 IECC
• Nebraska allocated $315,000 in SEP ARRA funds for building energy codes projects
• $12 million added to loan pool. Financing new homes that are 50 -+ percent or more above code


• Net Zero Home financed and built ($700,000+).
Building Energy Codes Partnerships

Building Codes Advisory Council

- AIA-Nebraska Chapter
- Certified Home Energy Rater
- 4 Code Inspectors: City of Omaha, and North Platte, NE
  Code Officials Assoc., Retired “Dean of Codes”
- City of Lincoln: Senior Policy Aide for Sustainability
- Commercial Contractor
- AGC-Nebraska Building Chapter
- Engineering Firm
- 2 Homebuilders: City of Omaha and City of Lincoln
- Nebr. State Home Builders Association
- HVAC Professional
- NE Board of Architects and Professionals
- Utilities: OPPD, NPPD, LES, MUD, Black Hills
- NE Dept. of Admin. Services: Building Division
- Others: BCAP, ICC, MEEA, NASEO
Building Energy Codes Partnerships

Building Codes Advisory Council

- Not paid
- Monthly meetings
- Discussed
  - Support of/Concerns with 2009 IECC
    - Verification for Duct Tightness Test
  - Support of/Concerns with Rules and Regulations
    - Verification for Duct Tightness Test
  - Training Topics/ Locations
  - Great Plains Energy Codes Conference
Building Energy Codes Partnerships

PNNL Building Energy Codes grant received
• $276,417+ for four tasks:
  1. Assess code compliance; 100 homes evaluated. Findings: State code compliance average is 64%
  3. Provide code training. More than 700 building professionals were trained at 11 workshops; 700 code books distributed.
  4. Evaluate compliance strategies; A “Gap Analysis” suggesting ways to reach 90 percent compliance.

• The Legislature adopted the 2009 IECC replacing the 2003 IECC.
• Supporters: Code Officials, Utilities
• Neutral: Homebuilders, League of Municipalities

International Energy Conservation Code for New Homes in Nebraska
Now completing *ARRA* Building Energy Codes projects

- RESCheck and COMCheck training at 6 workshops.
- Certification for codes officials offered.
- Using findings on compliance for residential construction (100 homes), a retired “Dean of Codes” is providing customized one-on-one training at more than half the state’s jurisdictions.
- *ARRA* financed mortgages: 61 homes totaling $23.51 million.

ARRA financed mortgages: 61 homes at 50 percent above code or better totaling $23.51 million.
What did we learn over 32 years?

1. Updating codes isn’t easy.
2. Compliance is harder than updating a code.
3. You can’t achieve success alone.
4. It takes money: analyzing, training, educating, financing.
5. Work with partners and others wherever possible.
   - **Homebuilders**: provided training, designed, built and financed homes well above code.
   - **Code officials**: provided code tools, training and certification costs.
   - **Utilities**: Provide testimony in code adoption, support trainings, attending meetings, and financial investment
Future of Building Codes Advisory Council

- Who are we missing?
  - Real Estate professionals
  - Consumers
  - Local policy makers
  - Distributors

- Do we need to limit the size?
- What is their role?
Energy Building Code information and resources are a click away at www.neo.ne.gov