

# **Energy Code Best Practices**

## **The Energy Code Compliance Collaborative**

October 17, 2012



# About BCAP

- Founded in 1994 as a joint initiative of



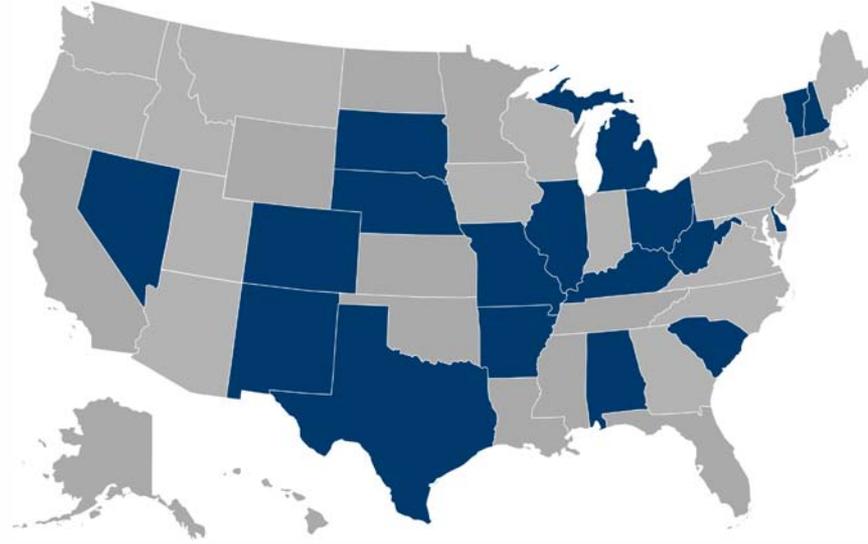
- HQ-ed at Alliance office in DC

# BCAP Mission Statement

*“BCAP strives to be the premier resource for energy code support, coordination, technical assistance, news and information.*

*Our mission is to reduce the energy consumed in the construction and operations of buildings by working with national, state, and local governments and other stakeholders to promote the adoption and implementation of building codes and standards.”*

# Energy Codes Collaborative



- BCAP worked with 18 states to document gaps and best practices
- BCAP helped develop Strategic Compliance Plans
- A best practice that emerged: Energy Code Collaborative
- Based on Idaho model created by Ken Baker (k Energy) and the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA)

# New BCAP-Assisted Collaboratives

- Colorado
- Nevada
- Texas
- Delaware
- New Hampshire

# Agenda

1. What is an Energy Code Collaborative?
  - Purpose of a Collaborative
2. Steps to Get Started
3. Influencing Compliance
4. Finding Higher Value through Collaboration

# What is an Energy Code Compliance Collaborative?

- A group of STAKEHOLDERS that come together to explore COMMON INTERESTS around energy code COMPLIANCE



# As David Cohan, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA) puts it...

*“The Idaho Energy Codes Collaborative includes state agencies, building officials, homebuilders, utilities, trade associations, universities and advocates. It serves as an on-going forum for discussion and an effective launching pad for action since its members are part of or have connections to virtually every organization in the state that works with or influences energy codes.”*

# Purpose of a Collaborative

- To work with all stakeholders that are willing to participate toward a common goal of energy code compliance
- To assist state in developing and/or implementing a compliance plan



# Take Small Steps

- The collaborative won't begin as an agreeing and cohesive group
- **Engage a core group** with common interests to get things going

# Step 1: Assemble a “Forming” Group

- Bring together a small like-minded group that has a known interest in compliance
- This initial FORMING GROUP takes on the responsibility to initiate a collaborative—but this is NOT the collaborative
- Initial group’s role is to:
  - Brainstorm potential stakeholders
  - Organize a first collaborative meeting

# Step 2: Prepare for the Meeting

- Develop a meeting agenda with a clear purpose and clear outcome

*Purpose: Why you are meeting*

*Outcome: What you hope to achieve*

- Use a professional facilitator
- Set a time, date and location
- Consider a neutral location for the meeting Ex: a city or county meeting room; maybe the HBA



# Step 3: Invite Interested and Crucial Representatives

- Do not exclude, but may want to limit the number of reps from each group
- To increase attendance, ask a neutral but known party to extend the meeting invite

*Be fair, be clear. If you plan to have two representatives per organization from your FORMING GROUP, allow other groups to send two representatives*

# Example Interested and Crucial Groups

- Whomever wants or needs to have a voice in energy code compliance
- Look for groups or individuals that have a position on energy codes
- Or a group that has expressed an interest in energy codes

*If you think there is a group or individual representing a group of interests that would derail the collaborative – MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE THEM*

# Example Interested and Crucial Groups

- State agencies responsible for code implementation
- Builder groups
- Architect and engineer associations
- Consumer protection groups
- Building official association representatives
- City and county association representatives
- Others

# Step 4: Prepare for the Initial Meeting: Understand Key Issues

- The purpose of the first meeting is to provide everyone an opportunity to describe their interests and issues in energy code compliance
- Discussion can center around a KEY ISSUE
- The FORMING GROUP should identify the *Key Issues* prior to the first meeting. They should be identified on the agenda

# Step 4: Continued...

## A Key Issue may be:

- *Knowing that code compliance is a key issue to the U.S. DOE, and that our Governor has agreed to achieve 90% compliance to the 2009 IECC, what can we do as a group to assure good compliance? In what time period? And, how will we know when we get there?*
- *This may be the one and only key issue for your first meeting. Discussion on this could be your entire first agenda.*

# Step 4: Continued...

## Don't Fear Group Dynamics

○ It's normal for a group like this to go through a process identified in 1965 by Bruce Tuckman:

1. Forming
2. Storming
3. Norming
4. Performing...

If everyone agreed on the value of energy codes all the time in every way, there would be no need for a collaborative

# Step 5: Initiate the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting

- First meeting is all about FORMING a collaborative

The first group commitment is to actually FORM as a group (Forming). Create interest for forming through listening to all interests (Storming).

- Be clear about purpose and outcome

**PURPOSE:** “We are here to discuss key issues to energy code compliance”

**OUTCOME:** “We would like to establish an on-going collaborative to discuss compliance issues”

# At First Meeting

- Job 1 is to listen to others so that they feel they are heard, and as such want to continue this process
- Seek separation of POSITIONS from INTERESTS



# Separate “Positions” from “Interests”

## EXAMPLE:

- **POSITION:** “Energy codes are too expensive and out-prices buyers from the market.”
- **INTEREST:** “You’re interested in keeping homes affordable for buyers and maintaining or increasing potential buyers.”

# Step 6: Formalize the Collaborative



- You may not be a working TEAM yet but seek some level of agreement to continue working together
- You do not need to call yourself a collaborative
- You do need to keep the first meeting positive and outcome oriented

# How to Avoid a Wreck

- Use a professional facilitator
- Listen to everyone; speak only when it's your turn
- Keep the first meeting short
- Provide a sponsored breakfast or lunch
- Identify and work toward common interests
- You will still experience some STORMING



# Step 7: Normalize... Seek to Perform

- Set up a second meeting with the purpose of setting performance objectives for your group to work toward
- You will not move forward until you find common interest, goals and objectives, and then begin to move toward objective achievement.

# Step 8: Set Performance Objectives

- Determine your compliance goals: Percentage of compliance desired, Quality of workmanship desired, etc.
- Identify the players: Code jurisdiction, Designers, Builders, Sub-contractors, etc.
- Where does ultimate responsibility or authority lie?
- How will you measure compliance? PNNL protocol? Other

# Who Should Lead?

- State? (DE, NH)
- Regional EE Organization? (CO, NV, TX)
- Other? (ID)



# Food for the Collaborative

- It takes \$\$ to keep a collaborative working
- Idaho dollars are used for statewide education and training, support for jurisdictional training programs, legislative education and advocacy, and development of an annual energy conference

NEEA has provided funding for ID's Collaborative since its formation in 2001. DOE grants, and the Bonneville Power Administration, have provided additional funding.



# Accomplishments

- Examples of what the ID Collaborative has accomplished:
  1. Lobbied successfully for state adoption of the 2000, 2003, 2006 and 2009 IECC
  2. Supported statewide education and training
  3. Developed a statewide “Value of Energy Codes” messaging program
  4. Supported the formation of the pilot ICC Energy Code Ambassadors Program
  5. Developed a code Circuit Rider program

# CO, TX, NV, DE, NH

- These new Collaboratives are in the “storming” and “norming” phase
- Decision: to assist the state in developing a plan to measure code compliance; (costs, methodology)
- Also seeking funding
- Developed mission statement

# CO: Example Mission Statement

The **PURPOSE** of this Collaborative is to support achievement of the goal of compliance with the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code and ASHRAE 90.1 2010 (or higher) by 2017, per the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Our **MISSION** is to facilitate compliance with the State's building energy codes through a collaborative effort of identified market actors to better coordinate actions and policies affecting energy code compliance, and to identify and prioritize steps needed to achieve compliance with building energy codes.

The **REASON** multiple stakeholders are asked to participate is that “a rising tide lifts all boats.” Progress in any jurisdiction and in any segment of the building industry will have a ripple effect that will benefit others. We will all likely achieve individual jurisdiction and industry goals more effectively and quickly by working together.

The **RESPONSIBILITIES** of Collaborative members are: to advise the state on a compliance verification plan and process, and to develop strategies to increase compliance rates.

# CO: Early Accomplishments

- Reviewed/prioritized BCAP Strategic Compliance Plan
- Developed mission statement
- Reviewed other state compliance studies
- Helped state budget for a compliance study
- Met w/DOE & PNNL to (1) review 2017 obligations (inc. 90% goal); (2) better understand study methodology procedures/tools
- Set up subcommittees (1) Compliance study design; (2) Outreach to local jurisdictions

# CO: Chose First Collaborative Tasks

1. Assist with Compliance Study
  - Design of study
  - Outreach to local jurisdictions
  - Share expertise with state
2. Determine training needs; education needs
3. Assist state in developing compliance plan
4. Get funding for plan



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## A Best Practice In Energy Code Compliance By 2017: The Compliance Collaborative

Many states have recently updated energy codes, and have committed to achieving compliance by the year 2017. At the same time, states are constrained by budget cuts and resources that are stretched too thin. The Energy Code Compliance Collaborative can help states achieve compliance with updated energy codes by engaging supportive stakeholders that can help ease the load on state energy offices.



### Project Overview

The process of adopting and enforcing energy codes often pits advocates against builders, leaving elected officials, the media, and consumers wondering what to believe, while code enforcement officials are stuck in the middle. An Energy Code Compliance Collaborative provides a forum for all stakeholders impacted by energy codes to come together to work toward common interests.

An Energy Code Compliance Collaborative is a long-term, multi-year initiative for states, designed to:

1. Assist states that are struggling with declining budgets, resources, and staff by assembling a team of local

## HOW TO ESTABLISH A COMPLIANCE COLLABORATIVE

### Step-By-Step Guide

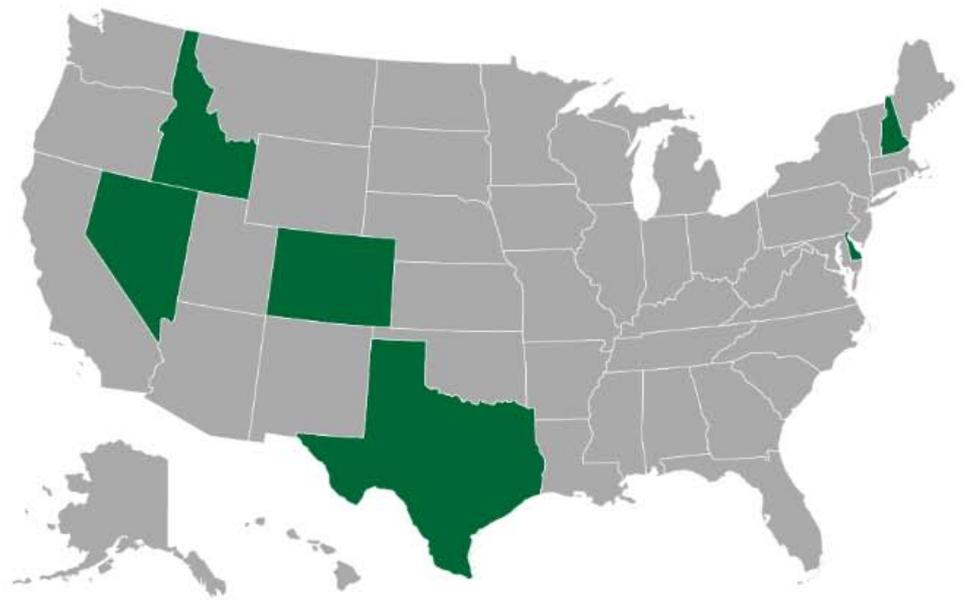
### Webinar

### State Highlights

Click on a state at right to view its collaborative.

If you have staff in one of these states who are interested in participating, please contact the respective collaborative Chairperson about joining the next meeting.

Want to form a Compliance Collaborative in your state? Contact Us!



#### Colorado [Code Status Page](#)

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# How to Influence Energy Code Compliance

1. Form a working collaborative
2. Develop a Strategic Compliance Plan
  1. Educate
  2. Communicate
  3. Set and meet Objectives
  4. Document

# Finding Higher Value through Collaboration

- Understand where the value lies . . .
  - The state
  - The community
  - The individual
  - Designers
  - Builders

Everybody wins when buildings are compliant with the energy code. Collaboration helps us understand the value of that win.

# CONTACTS

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