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Executive Director, Office of Energy Development

June 29, 2015

Dan S. Jones
Uniform Building Code Commission
Mechanical Advisory Committee
Architecture Advisory Committee
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Transmitted via email

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am writing to update you on an important initiative of the Utah Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED) that will be of value to the Uniform Building Code Commission (UBCC) as it considers adoption of the latest energy codes for the State of Utah. In June 2014, Governor Herbert released his Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan (EECP) – an energy efficiency “roadmap” including 26 total recommendations for enhancing energy efficiency and conservation measures throughout the State of Utah. Increasing the understanding and enforcement of the current energy code and adopting current and future energy codes were identified as priorities by the Building Team Committee in the EECP's final recommendations.

In direct response to the EECP's recommendations, in January 2015, OED requested technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for a cost-effectiveness analysis of the 2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013 for the State of Utah. On April 3, 2015, OED received notification that the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) received approval from DOE to begin this cost-effectiveness analysis on both residential and commercial codes for the State of Utah. The completed PNNL analyses (attached for your reference) include the following results:

- 1) A commercial cost analysis of the new ASHRAE 90.1-2013 standard compared to ASHRAE 90.1-2010 (currently in effect in Utah). PNNL's results demonstrate that adoption of the new ASHRAE 90.1-2013 results in annual cost savings of

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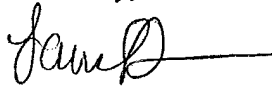


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- \$0.109 per square foot. Additionally, the State of Utah's average simple payback for adopting the latest version of the commercial energy code is only 1.2 years.
- 2) A residential cost analysis of the new 2015 IECC compared to Utah's current residential code, including amendments. PNNL's results demonstrate that, on average, Utah homeowners will save \$3,759 with the 2015 IECC in life cycle costs over the life of the home. Additionally, the State of Utah's average simple payback for adopting the latest version of the residential energy code is only 7.4 years.

These results of the PNNL analyses are encouraging and confirm that updating Utah's commercial and residential energy codes is cost effective. I encourage you to share this letter and the completed PNNL analyses with members of the UBCC and its advisory committees. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



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