



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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Sheila J. Hayter, P.E., FASHRAE
President

Reply to: Nat'l Renewable Energy Lab
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April 25, 2019

Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Members of the Texas House of Representatives:

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society with more than more than 57,000 members who focus on improving building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. ASHRAE advances the arts and sciences of building technologies and systems through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education.

The great state of Texas is home to nearly 3,000 ASHRAE members. As the 2018-19 ASHRAE President, I am writing in support of the Texas PACE program, which enables property owners to upgrade their buildings with water conservation, energy efficiency, resiliency, and distributed generation projects. By providing access to long-term financing not typically available through traditional funding sources, owners can conserve natural resources and improve their properties.

As the Texas House of Representatives considers Senator Bill 1281, which aims to improve administration of the PACE program, we want you to know that ASHRAE strongly supports the goals of the Texas PACE program.

In particular, we are pleased that PACE has strong technical underpinnings, as it references seven ASHRAE standards. Using ASHRAE standards helps to ensure that these property investments use recommended practices established through a robust consensus-based process, certified by ANSI. In addition, ASHRAE's standards are supported by technical committees that develop publications and educational materials to assist in the application of these standards.

Further, the PACE program requires an independent third-party review of each project financed through PACE. The program requires the reviewer to be a licensed Professional Engineer with an appropriate certification, including the ASHRAE Building Energy Assessment Professional (BEAP) or the Building Energy Modeling Professional (BEMP). Having an independent professional review will ensure only qualified programs move forward.

We hope PACE will continue to use strong technical standards and certified reviewers. We also want you to know that ASHRAE would be pleased to provide technical assistance to ensure sound building investments are made. The PACE program aligns with ASHRAE's mission to advance the arts and sciences of heating, ventilating, air conditioning and refrigerating to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world.

We applaud you for these efforts in Texas.

If you need additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or you may email GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila J. Hayter".

Sheila J. Hayter
President