INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2013-19 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IES STANDARD 90.1-2013
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

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Request from: Mark Halverson, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, 140 Glendale Road, Quincy, MA 02169.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013, Sections 8.1.4 and 8.4.2, regarding application of automatic receptacle control to alterations.

Background: This question was received by PNNL’s BECP Codes Hotline. The question was submitted by a state level code official from Texas. This question is applicable to both ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013 and ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2016. There are two inter-related interpretations requested here.

Interpretation No.1: If an alteration of an existing building includes the installation of any additional new electrical receptacles then the requirements of Section 8.4.2a must be met. For example, if there were 100 existing receptacles and 2 new receptacles were added, Section 8.4.2a would be triggered.

Question No.1: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer No.1: Yes, your interpretation is correct. However, section 8.1.4 is the text that addresses this question. In this case, 8.1.4, Alterations to Existing Buildings, would be applicable. 8.1.4.1 states that equipment or systems shall comply with requirements. Therefore, 8.4.2 would be applicable to only the receptacles added as part of this alteration.

Interpretation No.2: The “50%” requirement in Section 8.4.2a applies to all receptacles (both existing and new) involved in the alteration. For example, using the example above, Section 8.4.2 would apply to the 102 total receptacles.

Question No.2: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer No.2: No, 8.1.4.1 includes the statement “…this section applicable to those specific portions of the building and its systems that are being altered.” In this example, only 2 receptacles were added. Only the receptacles added as part of this alteration would be required to comply with 8.4.2.