



Shaping Tomorrow's  
Built Environment Today

Farooq Mehboob  
2022-2023 ASHRAE President

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Carl Martin  
Secretary  
North Carolina Building Code Council  
North Carolina Department of Insurance  
1202 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1202

Sent via email to: [carl.martin@ncdoi.gov](mailto:carl.martin@ncdoi.gov)

Dear Secretary Martin:

The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), founded in 1894, is a global society that exists to serve humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration, and their allied fields. Our 53,000 members, including more than 1,100 in North Carolina, focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration, and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

We write to you today to urge swift approval of the 2024 North Carolina Energy Code, which uses the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (2021 IECC) model code that includes ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2019 as an alternative compliance pathway. Given that buildings account for 40 percent of energy consumption and 13 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, the adoption of an up-to-date energy code is crucial for mitigating climate change. Furthermore, adoption and use of the most up to date energy codes and standards creates a healthier, more resilient built environment, while also benefiting the state's economy and lowering energy costs for North Carolinians. Adoption of the 2021 IECC/ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2019 will confer the following benefits:

- A single-family home built to the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) will save \$335 annually on energy costs compared with the current outdated standard.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/NorthCarolinaResidentialCostEffectiveness\\_2021\\_0.pdf](https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/NorthCarolinaResidentialCostEffectiveness_2021_0.pdf)

- The update to Standard 90.1-2019 will result in expected total energy cost savings of \$1.82 million in the first year, and \$817.6 million over 30 years.<sup>2</sup>
- Multifamily housing projects built to the updated code will enable both residents and housing authorities to realize substantial average cost savings.
- Updated energy codes inherently create more resilience by requiring less energy to operate core systems, thus decreasing stress on the electrical grid.
- Updated codes ensure better indoor air quality through reduced emissions, protecting occupant health.
- Adoption and use of the most up to date energy code creates jobs, makes homes more affordable over time, and increases property values.

Energy codes play a pivotal role in creating affordable buildings that are resilient to climate risks, while also mitigating instead of fueling climate change. This is an opportunity for North Carolina to lead the nation by adopting the most up to date building energy code, and so we strongly urge swift approval of the 2024 North Carolina Energy Code.

Sincerely,



Farooq Mehboob  
2022-2023 ASHRAE President

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/Cost-effectiveness\\_of\\_ASHRAE\\_Standard\\_90-1-2019-NorthCarolina.pdf](https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/Cost-effectiveness_of_ASHRAE_Standard_90-1-2019-NorthCarolina.pdf)