

Code & Commentary to the Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State – 2016



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PREFACE

The *New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code* (hereinafter referred to as the “Energy Code”) is promulgated pursuant to Article 11 of the New York State Energy Law.

The *Energy Code* is contained in Title 19 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR), Part 1240, and in the publications incorporated by reference in 19 NYCRR Part 1240. The publications incorporated by reference in 19 NYCRR Part 1240 include:

- The publication entitled “2015 International Energy Conservation Code®” (Second Printing: May 2015) published by International Code Council, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as the “2015 IECC”);¹
- The publication entitled “ANSI / ASHRAE / IES Standard 90.1-2013, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings” (July 2014 Printing), published by American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., July 2014 printing (hereinafter referred to as “ASHRAE 90.1-2013”);²
- The publication, entitled “2016 Supplement to the New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code (Revised August 2016)” (Publication Date: August, 2016) published by the New York State Department of State (hereinafter referred to as the “2016 Energy Code Supplement”); and
- The other referenced standards mentioned and/or referenced in 19 NYCRR Part 1240.

The 2015 IECC includes two separate sets of provisions: the “IECC – Commercial Provisions” (hereinafter referred to as the “2015 IECC Commercial Provisions”) and the “IECC – Residential Provisions” (hereinafter referred to as the “2015 IECC Residential Provisions”).

For the purpose of applying the 2015 IECC Commercial Provisions, ASHRAE 90.1-2013, and the 2015 IECC Residential Provisions in New York State:

- The 2015 IECC Commercial Provisions shall be deemed to be amended in the manner provided in Part 1 of the 2016 Energy Code Supplement;
- ASHRAE 90.1-2013 shall be deemed to be amended in the manner provided in Part 2 of the 2016 Energy Code Supplement; and
- The 2015 IECC Residential Provisions shall be deemed to be amended in the manner provided in Part 3 of the 2016 Energy Code Supplement.

The 2015 IECC Commercial Provisions, as amended in the manner provided in Part 1 of the 2016 Energy Code Supplement, are hereinafter referred to as the “2015 IECC Commercial Provisions (as amended).”

ASHRAE 90.1-2013, as amended in the manner provided in Part 2 of the 2016 Energy Code Supplement, is hereinafter referred to as the “ASHRAE 90.1-2013 (as amended).”

The 2015 IECC Residential Provisions, as amended in the manner provided in Part 3 of the 2016 Energy Code Supplement, are hereinafter referred to as the “2015 IECC Residential Provisions (as amended).”

NOTES REGARDING THIS ENERGY CONSERVATION CONSTRUCTION CODE OF NEW YORK STATE AND COMMENTARY

This 2016 *Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State and Commentary* (2016 Energy Code Commentary) includes the complete *Energy Code* text, integrating the 2016 Energy Code Supplement into the 2015 IECC base code text, with commentary after each section. The 2016 Energy Code Commentary serves as a single reference and resource, making the *Energy Code* easier to use and offering clarification on questions specific to compliance and enforcement.

The 2016 Energy Code Commentary is formatted to include the full text of each section, table and figure in the *Energy Code*, followed immediately by the commentary applicable to that text. Where the *Energy Code* is simple and clear, the commentary

1. The date of first publication of the “2015 International Energy Conservation Code” was May 30, 2014. In the 2016 Supplement to the *New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code* (revised August 2016), the term “2015 IECC” refers to the “Second Printing” of the “2015 International Energy Conservation Code,” which was issued in May 2015.

2. The first printing of “ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings” was issued in October 2013. In the 2016 Supplement to the *New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code* (revised August 2016), the term “ASHRAE 90.1-2013” refers to July 2014 printing of “ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings,” which is denoted by “7/14” on its back cover.

states, “This code text is self-explanatory. No commentary is necessary.” Commentary text is shaded in gray to be easily distinguished from *Energy Code* provisions. Additionally, commentary-specific figures are enclosed in a box and referred to as “Commentary Figure.”

In the chapters that follow, commentary focuses on the meaning and implications of the *Energy Code* provisions. Illustrations are included to aid understanding, although they do not necessarily demonstrate the only methods of achieving code compliance.

Readers should note that the 2016 Energy Code Commentary is not a substitute for the *Energy Code*. The Commentary is advisory only; the code official alone possesses the authority and responsibility for interpreting the code.

Readers should refer to the New York State Department of State for possible updates to the 2016 Energy Code Supplement. To access the 2016 Energy Code Supplement, visit www.dos.ny.gov/dcea.

To improve future editions, reader input, comments, and recommendations are encouraged. Please direct comments to the Publications Department at the ICC Central Regional Office.

Dedicated effort and utmost care ensures that the information in this document is accurate. Any necessary corrections or clarifications will be posted on the ICC website at www.iccsafe.org under Code and Standards/Errata Central.

NOTE REGARDING BUILDINGS THAT ARE “SUBJECT TO THE NEW YORK CITY CONSTRUCTION CODES”

In general, the *State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code* (“Uniform Code”) applies to buildings in all parts of New York State except New York City. However, the *Uniform Code* also applies to buildings that are (1) located in New York City and (2) in the custody of a State agency.

In general, the New York City Construction Codes apply to buildings located in New York City. However, the New York City Building Codes do not apply to buildings that are (1) located in New York City and (2) in the custody of a State agency subject to the *Uniform Code*.

The 2016 Energy Code Supplement includes several sections that refer to buildings that are “subject to the New York City Construction Codes.” Such buildings include buildings that are located in New York City excluding, however, those buildings that are in the custody of a State agency.

NOTE REGARDING 2015 I-CODES

Several provisions in the 2016 Energy Code Supplement refer to the 2015 editions of the *International Building Code*[®], *International Fire Code*[®], *International Fuel Gas Code*[®], *International Mechanical Code*[®], *International Plumbing Code*[®], *International Property Maintenance Code*[®], and *International Residential Code*[®] (collectively, the “2015 I-Codes[®]”). The date of first publication of each I-Code was May 30, 2014. However, references in the 2016 Energy Code Supplement to the I-Codes are references to later printings of the I-Codes. Specifically:

- References to the “2015 International Building Code” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, which was issued in October 2015;
- References to the “2015 International Building Code (as amended)” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, as amended by the publication entitled “2016 Uniform Code Supplement” (publication date: March 2016) published by the New York State Department of State (hereinafter referred to as the “2016 Uniform Code Supplement”);
- References to the “2015 International Fire Code” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, which was issued in June 2015;
- References to the “2015 International Fire Code (as amended)” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, as amended by the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement;
- References to the “2015 International Fuel Gas Code” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, which was issued in June 2015;
- References to the “2015 International Fuel Gas Code (as amended)” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, as amended by the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement;
- References to the “2015 International Mechanical Code” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, which was issued in November 2015;
- References to the “2015 International Mechanical Code (as amended)” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, as amended by the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement;

- References to the “2015 International Plumbing Code” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, which was issued in August 2015;
- References to the “2015 International Plumbing Code (as amended)” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, as amended by the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement;
- References to the “2015 International Property Maintenance Code” are references to the “Fourth Printing” of that publication, which was issued in December 2015;
- References to the “2015 International Property Maintenance Code (as amended)” are references to the “Third Printing” of that publication, as amended by the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement;
- References to the “2015 International Residential Code” are references to the “Second Printing” of that publication, which was issued in January 2016; and
- References to the “2015 International Residential Code (as amended)” are references to the “Second Printing” of that publication, as amended by the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement.

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About the International Code Council

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

IECC—COMMERCIAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 1	SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION	C-1 – C-16
CHAPTER 2	DEFINITIONS	C-17 – C-38
CHAPTER 3	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	C-39 – C-48
CHAPTER 4	COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY	C-49 – C-184
CHAPTER 5	EXISTING BUILDINGS	C-185 – C-190
CHAPTER 6	REFERENCED STANDARDS	C-191 – C-200
INDEX	INDEX C-201 – INDEX C-210

IECC—RESIDENTIAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 1	SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION	R-1 – R-16
CHAPTER 2	DEFINITIONS	R-17 – R-32
CHAPTER 3	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	R-33 – R-42
CHAPTER 4	RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY	R-43 – R-86
CHAPTER 5	EXISTING BUILDINGS	R-87 – R-94
CHAPTER 6	REFERENCED STANDARDS	R-95 – R-100
APPENDIX RA	RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR WORST-CASE TESTING OF ATMOSPHERIC VENTING SYSTEMS UNDER R402.4 OR R405 CONDITIONS $\leq 5ACH_{50}$	APPENDIX R-101 – APPENDIX R-104
APPENDIX RB	SOLAR-READY PROVISIONS— DETACHED ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS, MULTIPLE SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS (TOWNHOUSES)	APPENDIX R-105 – APPENDIX R-106
INDEX	INDEX R-107 – INDEX R-112

IECC—COMMERCIAL PROVISIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION	C-1
PART 1—SCOPE AND APPLICATION	C-1
Section	
C101 Scope and General Requirements	C-1
C102 Alternate Materials—Method of Construction, Design or Insulating Systems	C-6
PART 2—ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT	C-6
C103 Construction Documents	C-6
C104 Inspections	C-10
C105 Validity	C-13
C106 Referenced Codes and Standards	C-13
C107 Other Laws and Regulations	C-14
C108 Interpretation of Energy Code Requirements	C-14
C109 References to Chapters, Sections, Tables or Provisions	C-16
CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS	C-17
Section	
C201 General	C-17
C202 General Definitions	C-17
CHAPTER 3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	C-39
Section	
C301 Climate Zones	C-39
C302 Design Conditions	C-39
C303 Materials, Systems and Equipment	C-41
CHAPTER 4 COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY	C-49
Section	
C401 General	C-50
C402 Building Envelope Requirements	C-51
C403 Building Mechanical Systems	C-80
C404 Service Water Heating (Mandatory)	C-134
C405 Electrical Power and Lighting Systems	C-142
C406 Additional Efficiency Package Options	C-167
C407 Total Building Performance	C-170
C408 System Commissioning	C-178

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 5 EXISTING BUILDINGS C-185
Section
C501 General C-185
C502 Additions C-186
C503 Alterations C-187
C504 Repairs C-189
C505 Change of Occupancy or Use C-190

CHAPTER 6 REFERENCED STANDARDS C-191

INDEX INDEX C-201