Tracking Statewide Code Compliance

Most NEEP states have adopted one of the two most recent model International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) energy codes, but not all of them measure energy code compliance. NEEP has compiled all state-conducted energy code compliance studies from the region to help understand how, why, and where new homes and buildings are or are not complying with energy code requirements and relevant regional trends.

Main Points

- Tracking energy code compliance means regularly measuring how, why, and where new homes and buildings are or are not complying with energy code requirements.
- Measuring energy code compliance provides insight into industry practices that can inform activities to help increase code compliance rates.
- Energy code compliance and enforcement relies on both the design and construction industries (architects, contractors) and the inspection and enforcement industries (code officials, raters).
- Offering resources to educate and support the industry to comply with the energy code is crucial to achieve high compliance rates.

Measuring energy code compliance via regular (triennial) code compliance baseline studies, implementing electronic plan review, electronic permitting, virtual inspections, and supporting the workforce with compliance materials yields data and materials that can help to continuously improve energy code compliance rates.

Best Practices: Tracking Energy Code Compliance

1. Establish a Statewide Energy Code Compliance Enhancement and Attribution Program with Dedicated Funding
2. Conduct an Energy Code Compliance Baseline Study for All Building Types After Each New Code Adoption
3. Develop Electronic Plan Review, Online Building Permitting, and Virtual Inspection Infrastructure
4. Continuously Apply Data to Support the Workforce (code officials, designers, contractors) via Targeted Trainings, Resources, and Technical Support
5. Conduct Ongoing Outreach and provide Educational Opportunities on the Importance of the Energy Code and Energy Code Compliance

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