



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

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### MECHANICAL, VENTILATION, PLUMBING and ENERGY CODES COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

**LOCATION:** DES Conference Center, Room 2331  
1500 Jefferson St SE, Olympia WA

**MEETING DATE:** Friday, July 18, 2025

**Members in Attendance:** Todd Beyreuther, Kjell Anderson, Benjamin Omura, Justin Bourgault, Pete Reike, Katy Sheehan

**Staff In Attendance:** Managing Director Dustin Curb, Krista Braaksma, Brandin Groat

**Visitors Present:** Anne Anderson, Larry Andrews, David Baylon, Phaedra Beckert, Joseph Briscar, Andi Burnham, Ian Casey, Kevin Duell, Joel Estelle, Patrick Hanks, Gary Heikkinen, Harshad Inamdar, Gregory Johnson, Jonathan Jones, Duane Jonlin, Jonny Kocher, Eric Lacey, Jon Lange, Jeremy Larson, Nick Manning, Alana Nelson, Nick O'Neil, Kevin Rose, Lisa Rosenow, Poppy Storm, Gavin Tenold, Elizabeth Torske, Eric Vander Mey, Morgan Zehrung

Agenda Items	TAG Discussion
1. Welcome and Introductions	Meeting begins at 1pm Quorum met for MVPE Nomination of Kjell Anderson as Acting Chair for the meeting. Motion made by Benjamin Omura, seconded by Justin Bourgault. Motion passed.
2. Review and Approve Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion made by Todd Beyreuther, seconded by Katy Sheehan. Motion passed.
3. Review and Approve Minutes: May 12, 2025	Motion to approve the minutes from May 12, 2025, meeting. Motion made by Todd Beyreuther, seconded by Benjamin Omura. Motion passed.
4. Opinion Request Ducts in Conditioned Spaces R406 Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opinion Request: Whether ERV systems must have all ductwork within conditioned space to earn credit for R406 (residential energy credits).</li><li>• From public comment Larry Andrews suggested exhaust vent piping should be insulated.</li><li>• Motion to approve the draft opinion as presented, with note that further research on insulation</li></ul>

This material in alternative formats including braille, large print, and audio recording is available on request by emailing the SBCC at [sbcc@des.wa.gov](mailto:sbcc@des.wa.gov).

	requirements may follow. Motion made by Benjamin Omura, seconded by Todd Beyreuther. Motion passed.
5. Review Commercial Energy TAG Recommendations for 2024 WSEC-Commercial Petitions	<p>Kjell Anderson Presented informing that the energy was site energy. Explaining that of the 163 proposals, 123 passed 19 withdrawn leaving 21 petitions that did not pass.</p> <p>Highlight Changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C406 Table Overhaul: Credit paths restructured for greater granularity. Now based on "site energy" (not source), credits allocated by performance above code-minimum fossil fuel appliance standards.</li> <li>• Triple Glazing: Minimum of 20% triple glass for glazing in many commercial buildings, with focus on "thin triple" technology for retrofit feasibility.</li> <li>• Envelope and Systems: Clarified prescriptive requirements, increased credits for incremental system improvements, dehumidification, envelope upgrades, and mass transfer deck discussions.</li> <li>• Heat Pumps &amp; Existing Buildings: Debated requirements for full-system heat pump replacements triggered by equipment failure—concerns raised about EPCA preemption.</li> <li>• Steam Humidification: New limits by zone: 30% (zone 4C/5B west), 50% (zone 5B east).</li> <li>• TAG/PNNL Modeling: PNNL was completing modeling on credit/equation impacts to ensure code's trajectory meets 2030 energy/carbon reduction targets; results intended for public posting with the code proposal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Motion:</b> To move the Commercial Energy Code, including the TAG recommendations and two amendments to proposals (one to align the residential definition and a clerical correction to proposal #238), forward to the full Council for review via CR-102 public comment.</li> <li>○ <b>Motion made by:</b> Todd Beyreuther</li> <li>○ <b>seconded by:</b> Ben Omura.</li> <li>○ <b>Results:</b> Motion passes unanimously</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6. Review Residential Energy TAG Recommendations for 2024 WSEC-Residential Petitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential TAG met 7 times, ~40 hours, 48 proposals reviewed 21 passed, 26 failed, 1 withdrawn</li> <li>• Major changes: addition of Energy Rater Index (ERI) pathway, smoother gradation of home size</li> </ul>

credits, updated fenestration U-values, air leakage limits, ERV/HRV requirements.

- **Motion to Approve O.18 (Electrical Readiness) Revisions**

- Committee debated whether to require a full dedicated circuit or only breaker space for future heat pump installation. Consensus settled on breaker space, sized to anticipated demand; amendments clarified panel/breaker code terminology
- **Motion:** Motion to accept the proposed modifications regarding electrical panel breaker space and sizing for future heat pump or electrification installations.
- **Made by:** Todd Beyreuther.
- **Seconded by:** Benjamin Omura.
- **Result:** Passed.

- **Approve O.19 Modification (A/C to Heat Pump)**

- Concerns about EPCA compliance and costs for forced upgrades; clarified that either a heat pump or central A/C could be used for replacements, with exceptions for hydronic heat and clarified duct requirements.
- **Motion:** Motion to incorporate the proposed changes for requiring heat pump replacements as the preferred or mandated solution, including clarifications on system sizing and exceptions.
- **Made by:** Benjamin Omura.
- **Seconded by:** Todd Beyreuther.
- **Result:** Approved.

- **Approve Johnson Renewable Energy Credit Version**

- The Johnson REC version was presented as a refined or alternative approach to quantifying renewable energy credits, likely with specific enhancements or adjustments compared to previous versions, potentially addressing issues such as credit caps, additionality, or project eligibility
- **Motion: Approve the Johnson version of the Renewable Energy Credit (REC) standard/proposal.**
- **Motion by:** Todd Beyreuther
- **Seconded by:** Katy Sheehan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Outcome: Approved with a 4–1 vote; motion carries.</b> Motion to extend the meeting Katy Sheehan and seconded by Todd Beyreuther. Motion carries.</li> <li>• <b>Approve O.33/40 (ERI QA and PV Limit)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tom formally withdraws his original proposal. The efficiency levels would remain the same between versions. The tier 2 specification includes more than just efficiency requirements. There was acknowledgment that both versions had similar efficiency outcomes</li> <li>○ <b>Motion</b> to move this one forward on as on screen by</li> <li>○ <b>Motion by:</b> Katy Sheehan.</li> <li>○ <b>Seconded by:</b> Justin Bourgault.</li> <li>○ <b>Results:</b> Approved.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Motion on Gas Equipment Standards (AFUE, UEF, Water Heater COP)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Motion:</b> Motion to accept the editorial corrections to gas heat pumps and water heater standards, including AFUE and UEF references.</li> <li>○ <b>Made by:</b> Katy Sheehan.</li> <li>○ <b>Seconded by:</b> Benjamin Omura.</li> <li>○ <b>Result:</b> Approved.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Motion to Maintain 15% Glazing Area Baseline (UA Trade-off)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Motion:</b> Motion to restore and retain the 15% glazing/fenestration area baseline for UA trade-off path, correcting the recent removal.</li> <li>○ <b>Made by:</b> Benjamin Omura.</li> <li>○ <b>Seconded by:</b> Katy Sheehan.</li> <li>○ <b>Result:</b> Approved.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Final Motion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Motion:</b> To accept and recommend the entire amended residential energy code package to council for CR-102 filing, seconded and passed</li> <li>○ <b>Motion by:</b> Todd Beyreuther.</li> <li>○ <b>seconded by:</b> Ben Omura.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7. Other Business	No other business was discussed.
8. Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.