



Commissioner Ken Peterson  
Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry  
443 Lafayette Road N.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Support for updating the state’s building energy code to the full 2018 International Energy Conservation Code**

Dear Commissioner Peterson,

As businesses with operations, facilities, and interests in Minnesota, we write to express our support for updating the state’s building energy code to the full 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). This code establishes a new baseline for energy efficiency by setting performance standards for homes and commercial buildings. An updated code will help Minnesotan businesses and residents save money on their utility bills while reducing emissions, improving indoor and outdoor air quality, and spurring innovation in building design and construction.

Our companies, like many leading businesses across the country, have set significant sustainability goals. We’ve set these goals not only because it makes good business sense, but because it is also the expectation of our customers, employees, and investors. The energy use at our facilities is both a significant cost and a major focus of our sustainability efforts. Updating the state’s building energy code will help us meet our goals faster and more cost-effectively, while creating savings for our customers and tenants.

Minnesota has a long tradition of protecting the environment while significantly cutting energy costs through the building energy code. In less than ten years, the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance estimates that Minnesota’s building owners and tenants have saved nearly \$160 million on their energy bills as a result of building energy code adoption. That’s money businesses can reinvest in their supply chain, generating further savings for customers. Since 2009, Minnesota’s commercial and residential building energy code has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by appropriately 950,000 tons of carbon equivalent. Given that new buildings will be around for more than 50 years, updating the building code now will reduce costs for the entire lifetime of these spaces.

We know building codes are among the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy use and emissions from the buildings sector. This is particularly important given the building sector accounts for 40 percent of all energy consumed in Minnesota. We therefore urge the Department of Labor and Industry to adopt the full

2018 International Energy Conservation Code. Doing so would encourage builders and developers to design and build energy efficient, low-emissions buildings. This spurs innovation in the market that can create new jobs and drive economic development in the state. Continuing to update the building energy code would also ensure a safe and clean environment within which Minnesotans can live and work.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI)  
Ameresco, Inc.  
American Chemistry Council  
BASF USA  
CertainTeed  
Clif Bar  
Covestro  
Cree, Inc.  
Dow  
EPS Industry Alliance  
Johns Manville  
Knauf insulation  
LHB Corp  
National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO)  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA)  
Owens Corning  
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA)  
ROCKWOOL  
SageGlass  
Schneider Electric

CC: Governor Dayton, Construction Codes Advisory Council