

Green Building Coalition Meeting Notes 3/30

Attendees: Darren Port, Andrea Denka, Jen Souder, Kevin Kavanaugh, Tim Riviello, Randy Solomon, Glenn, Haydu and Robin Murray

Discussion:

How can these different paths be implemented? Legislative or administrative?

DP: This is currently open at the moment and will depend on what types of action are taken. Once we submit the roadmap, all of the comments, and a summary of the comments, BPU will have their own formal comment period sometime in May/June. Then once the BPU views it, they will present it to the Governor and depending on his interest, the actions laid out can be enacted in different ways. We also suspect that some analysis on these paths will be calculated, such as cost/benefit for builders, before any actions are specifically taken.

Randy: Question on municipality power to enact ordinances and adopt stretch codes now. He thinks they can now. While we wait to see a statewide one, one other option could be for a test case for a local government in the state. Could be a way to get the other pathways enacted by having a test case. A way to have sustainable Jersey involved to put them up to it.

Do they have the authority now?

DP: Columbia law has looked at a number of statutes in NJ statute and think we have more leeway in how these can be enacted (especially a lot of the statutes saying most things are at the discretion of the commissioner).

A stretch code outlined in this presentation would be a statewide one that municipalities could adopt, not them creating their own. Don't think it will be up to DCA to put it together and have a third party. The 2024 IECC could be the stretch code in NJ, just like how Maine has done with the 2021.

Interest in copying NY's stretch code or another states for a model.

Kevin: Built a passivehouse building in the state a couple years ago and one of the issues we had that that BPU prohibits master metering and we needed permission from them to master meter. It was easier to measure the total energy consumption of the whole building rather than unit by unit. If you are talking to BPU, one thing that should be on the table because it's more efficient to design a building with a master meter.