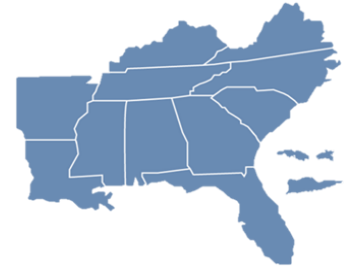


SEEA Policy Team Highlights

January – March 2013

Welcome Mandy Mahoney as SEEA's new President!

SEEA is pleased to announce that Mandy Mahoney has assumed the role of President, effective March 15. SEEA Board Chair Pete Curtice, Senior Director of Client Solutions at Opower, has worked closely with Mahoney since 2011. "I am continually impressed by the expertise, poise, professionalism and collaborative spirit that Mandy infuses into her work," remarked Curtice. "The organization could not be in better hands as it moves into its next chapter."



Mississippi Invests in Future Growth with Adoption of Best-in-Class Energy Efficiency Legislation

<http://www.seealliance.org/Portals/0/pdfs/ms-legisl-press-5-2-13.pdf>

For years, the state has occupied the lowest position in the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy's State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the industry authority for tracking state-level energy efficiency activities. Thanks to the leadership of Governor Phil Bryant and the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), that's about to change.

With their guidance, Mississippi has made energy efficiency a state-level priority and a tool for promoting economic competitiveness and job growth. In April, the Mississippi State Legislature also made headway in this area, adopting landmark pieces of legislation that strengthen the state's investment in energy efficiency infrastructure. They include:

- HB1296: Creates the Energy Sustainability and Development Act, driving further implementation of Energy Works: Mississippi's Energy Roadmap, Governor Bryant's plan for capitalizing on Mississippi's energy strengths and bringing more energy jobs and research to the state. In addition, it gives MDA the tools to promote the state's energy resources and encourages greater energy efficiency within state agencies.
- SB2564: Repurposes an existing unused loan fund as an MDA-administered revolving loan fund (RLF) to finance energy infrastructure on major projects of more than \$50 million. The Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund is one of only a handful of dedicated energy RLFs in the Southeast.
- HB1266: Establishes ASHRAE 90.1-2010, a highly competitive, energy-saving building code, as the statewide standard for public facilities.
- HB1281: Updates Mississippi's commercial building code to ASHRAE 90.1-2010. A testament to the leadership within the state, Mississippi is the first state in the Southeast and third state in the nation to adopt this standard for commercial buildings and public facilities. Through this remarkable initiative, Mississippi updated its optional, 1975 standard for commercial buildings and is defining itself as a "state to watch."

“SEEA commends the Mississippi State Legislature for their continued investment in forward-thinking energy efficiency measures that benefit consumers and businesses,” said SEEA Policy Director Jenah Zweig. “Mississippi shows a clear commitment to delivering on Governor Bryant’s Mississippi Energy Roadmap. By adopting multiple advanced policies this session, they’ve built tremendous momentum for Mississippi’s potential emergence as a regional energy efficiency leader.”

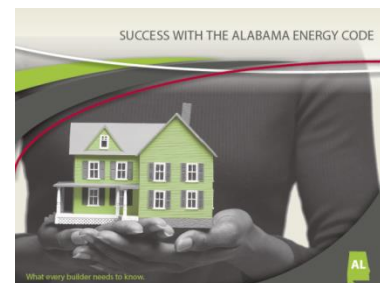
In addition to state legislation, Mississippi is moving toward the formal adoption of energy efficiency rules through its Public Service Commission. A final rule is anticipated by fall 2013.

Southeast Energy Codes Coalition (SECC)

SEEA continues to grow the network of the Southeast Energy Codes Coalition (SECC) participants. SECC is a group of diverse state, regional and national organizations that promote building energy codes in the Southeast. This initiative will foster increased coordination and effectiveness for energy code activities in the region by making the most of collective insights. Additionally, the group will convene targeted working groups based on prioritized areas of needed expertise, such as state adoption efforts and utility involvement in building energy code advancement. Member organizations include: 25 x '25, Advanced Energy, Alliance for Affordable Energy, American Chemistry Council (ACC), Building Codes Assistance Project (BCAP), CORE USA, Mathis Consulting, National Association of State Energy Offices (NASEO), North Carolina Energy Efficiency Alliance (NCEEA), North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA), Responsible Energy Code Alliance (RECA), Sierra Club, South Carolina Coastal Conservation League (SCCCL), Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE) and Southface Energy Institute.

Success with the Alabama Energy Code Books Completed

The Success curriculum was completed in early February and debuted at the Alabama Better Living Expo (ABLE). ABLE is a conference hosted by the Home Builders Association of Alabama (HBAA), with partners representing architects, engineers, general contractors, HVAC, and other construction trades. ABLE is Alabama’s largest conference on sustainability and energy efficient technology. Additional copies of the booklets are being distributed through on-going energy code trainings hosted by ADECA, the state energy office.



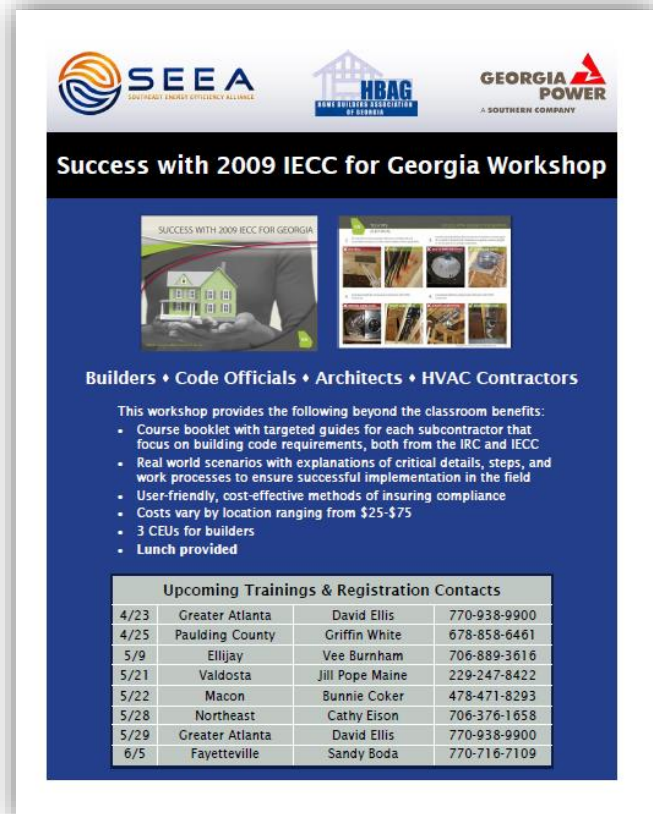
Georgia DET Verifier Program Continues to Generate National Interest

SEEA held a second DET Verifier Program webinar in March, at the request of a partner Regional Energy Efficiency Organization, NEEP, to provide them with the necessary information to explore this program, where well-suited, in their respective states. Georgia’s DET Verifier Program is serving as a useful “how to” model across the nation for other states that have mandatory testing requirements through the 2009 or 2012 IECC.

Success with 2009 IECC for Georgia Training Kicks-Off

The Success with the 2009 IECC for Georgia trainings kicked-off at the end of March and will continue through June. These energy code trainings are a result of the collaborative partnership with Georgia Power and the Home Builders Association of Georgia. Each training is hosted at a local HBA chapter and taught by either Advanced Energy or Mathis Consulting Company and follow the Success curriculum developed for the state. This workshop provides the following beyond the classroom benefits:

- Course booklet with targeted guides for each subcontractor that focus on building code requirements, both from the IRC and IECC
- Real world scenarios with explanations of critical details, steps, and work processes to ensure successful field implementation User-friendly, cost-effective methods of insuring compliance
- Costs vary by location, \$25-\$75
- 3 CEUs for builders



The flyer features logos for SEEA, HBAG (Home Builders Association of Georgia), and Georgia Power. The title is "Success with 2009 IECC for Georgia Workshop". It lists the target audience as Builders, Code Officials, Architects, and HVAC Contractors. Below the title, there are two images: one showing a house and another showing construction details. The flyer lists benefits such as a course booklet, real-world scenarios, user-friendly methods, and costs ranging from \$25-\$75. It also includes a table of upcoming trainings and registration contacts.

Upcoming Trainings & Registration Contacts			
4/23	Greater Atlanta	David Ellis	770-938-9900
4/25	Paulding County	Griffin White	678-858-6461
5/9	Ellijay	Vee Burnham	706-889-3616
5/21	Valdosta	Jill Pope Maine	229-247-8422
5/22	Macon	Bunnie Coker	478-471-8293
5/28	Northeast	Cathy Eison	706-376-1658
5/29	Greater Atlanta	David Ellis	770-938-9900
6/5	Fayetteville	Sandy Boda	770-716-7109

For more information visit: <http://www.seealliance.org/Policy/BuildingEnergyCodes.aspx>

Updating Tennessee's Local and Statewide Codes

Tennessee adoption efforts are currently being strategized, with local and state level initiatives being targeted for the 2009 IECC and 2012 IECC in coordination with the American Chemistry Council and Southface. SEEA is working on the ground with the Tennessee Code Academy, Tennessee Fire Marshall's Office and Tennessee State Energy Office to facilitate more local adoption, along with a statewide effort.

Preventing 6-year Code Cycles in Louisiana

HB 411, 2009 IECC equivalent legislation, was pre-filed on March 28th. SEEA is working in close collaboration with the Louisiana Chemical Association on this initiative. SEEA is also working to prevent passage of HB 254, which tries to limit update authority of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code, and HB 580, which proposes an extension on code adoption cycles from two to five years.

Defending North Carolina

It is a defensive year in North Carolina. SEEA continues to work with local partners, including NCSEA, on preventing the adoption of three bills: an REPS rollback, 2009 IECC rollback and a three to six year adoption cycle extension.

Other Updates

- Continued participation on monthly national organization calls: National Energy Code Collaborative (NECC), Responsible Energy Code Alliance (RECA), and National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO). Sharing updates on the Southeast's efforts.
- Contributing to the 2015 IECC code development process. Participated in the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC) calls and the ICC Colorado chapter calls to review code change proposals.
- **Arkansas** – Work continues to move forward in adopting the 2009 IECC, with weekly calls, many check ins in between calls, coordinated stakeholder meetings with both utilities, home builders and state energy office. At the last stakeholder meeting, great conversations were held on how the appraisal industry can get more involved and what resources exist now.
- **Virginia** – With recommendations from the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association (VBCOA) Energy Conservation Committee, the Board of the Housing and Community Development has started to create its 2012 IECC draft code. The formally released draft code will come out late summer 2013 with a 60-day public comment period following, where SEEA will continue to participate and provide education and technical support for the adoption process.