

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

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From: DoNotReply@delaware.gov

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

Comments on Docket #2025-R-CCE-0008 -- State Energy Conservation Code Regulations

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Comments:

Hello, and thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Bryant Ahn and I'm the Director of ACC Home Remodeling, Inc. Remodeling General Contractor based in Maryland, operating actively here in Delaware. I would like to begin by expressing my alignment with many of the thoughtful concerns already raised today. Like others in the building and construction industry, I support the long-term goal of energy efficiency and sustainable development. However, I believe the proposed amendments to Delaware's energy code, which extend significantly beyond the 2024 IECC base standard, represent a disproportionate and premature shift—particularly given the current market conditions. As noted by both the NAHB and HBADE, the estimated \$15,000 to \$30,000 increase in construction costs per home is not a marginal adjustment. These added costs will place significant strain not only on builders, but also on subcontractors, suppliers like us, and—most importantly—on Delaware families already facing affordability challenges. For many prospective homeowners, this may mean the difference between securing housing and being priced out of the market. Furthermore, these changes would likely result in project delays, reduced building activity, and disruptions across the local supply chain. Small businesses such as mine—who rely on consistent project flow—are especially vulnerable to these ripple effects. Therefore, I respectfully urge DNREC to adopt only the base 2024 IECC at this time. This approach maintains a responsible trajectory toward energy efficiency without undermining the viability of housing development in our region. I appreciate the opportunity to provide input and to join the growing number of professionals across the industry calling for a more balanced and practical path forward. Thank you for your time and consideration.